Our topic is the relation of economic and political order, or the economic basis of political liberty. We will explore three economic paradigms — the ancient household economy, modern capitalism, and modern socialism — and the regimes they support or require, proceeding more or less in the order of their historical development. Following James Booth's *Households: On the Moral Architecture of the Economy*, we will consider each economic paradigm in the light of the moral order it sought to support or promote, adding to his account a study of the theology of wealth in each period and its political implications.

Instructor: James Stoner  
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Office Hours: Mondays, 1:30-4:00  
Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:30-9:15  
and by appointment  

Course requirements:  

- Biweekly 4-5 page papers on topics in the readings [60%]  
- Class attendance and participation [10%]  
- Final take-home examination [30%]  

Books available for purchase:  

- Leo Strauss, *Xenophon's Socratic Discourse* (St. Augustine)  
- Aristotle, *Politics* [tr. Peter Simpson] (North Carolina)  
- John Locke, *Two Treatises of Government* (Cambridge)  
- Benjamin Franklin, *Autobiography* (Random)  
- Paul Tillich, *Political Expectations* (Mercer)  
- Friedrich Hayek, *The Road to Serfdom* (Chicago)  
- Michael Novak, *The Spirit of Democratic Capitalism* (Madison)  
- Pope John Paul II, *On the Hundredth Anniversary of Rerum Novarum: Centesimus Annus* (Daughters of St. Paul)  

Library Reserve:  

Many of the readings for the course will be made available on reserve in Middleton Library. In addition, I may from time to time place on reserve certain secondary works that I think you might find particularly useful in helping you interpret the authors we are studying. It should go without saying that secondary works are no substitute for the assigned reading; indeed, read without knowledge of the originals they are more apt to mislead than assist you.
SYLLABUS:

I. THE PARADIGM: HOUSEHOLD TO MARKET TO STATE

Wed., 8/26  Booth, *Households*, pp. 1-93

Wed., 9/2  *Households*, pp. 95-296

II. ANCIENT ECONOMICS & POLITICS


Wed., 9/23  Bible: Proverbs, Gospels (excerpts); Aquinas, selections

III. MODERN CAPITALISM & LIBERAL GOVERNMENT

Wed., 9/30  Locke, *Two Treatises of Government*, excerpts

Wed., 10/7  Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*, excerpts

Wed., 10/14  *The Wealth of Nations*, excerpts

Wed., 10/21  Franklin, *Autobiography*

IV. MODERN SOCIALISM & THE RATIONAL STATE

Wed., 10/28  Marx, selections

Wed., 11/4  Marx, selections

       [W. James Booth, Vanderbilt University: guest speaker]


Wed., 11/18  Pope Leo X, *Rerum Novarum*

       Paul Tillich, *Political Expectations*

V. REVIVAL OF FREE ENTERPRISE & DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTIONALISM

Wed., 11/25  Hayek, *The Road to Serfdom*

Wed., 12/2  Novak, *The Spirit of Democratic Capitalism*

       Pope John Paul II, *Centesimus Annus*