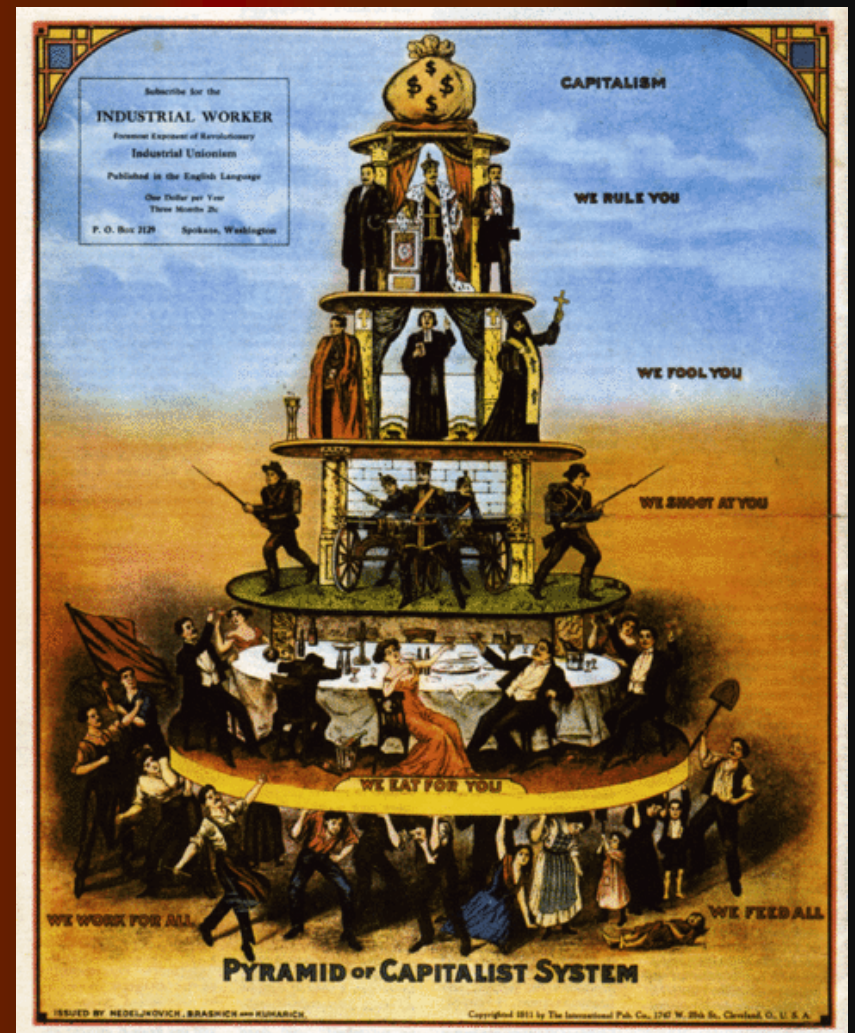


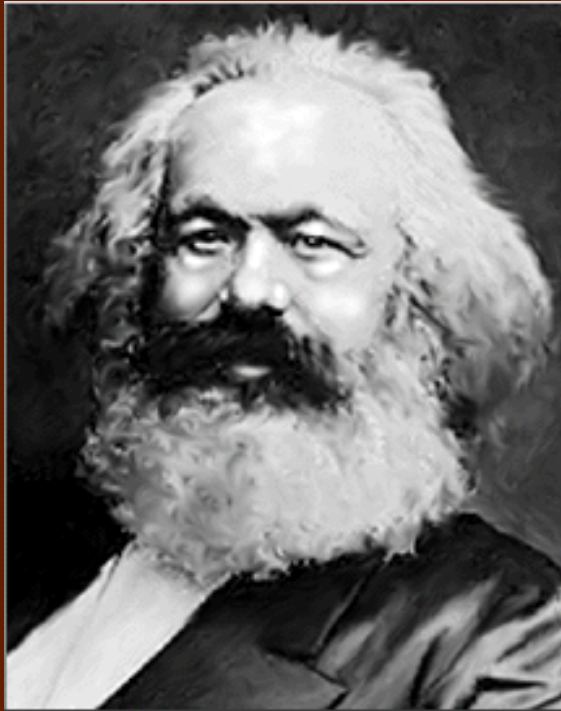
# Structuralism

- I. Basic Principles of Marxism
- II. Three Questions
- III. Strengths and Weaknesses
- IV. The Theories Compared



# Key Marxist Thinkers

- Karl Marx (1818-83)
- V.I. Lenin (1870-1924)



# Basic Marxist Principles

- **Dialectical Approach**
  - Thesis ↔ antithesis ⇒ synthesis
  - Economic development is dynamic and conflictual
- **Materialism**
  - Structure and Superstructure
  - Economics primary over Politics
- **Historicism**
  - Primitive communism ⇒ Ancient Empires ⇒ Feudalism ⇒ Capitalism ⇒ Socialism ⇒ Communism
  - Historical contradictions of Capitalism
  - Lenin and Imperialism
- **Normative Commitment to Marxism**
  - Egalitarianism over efficiency

# Marxist View of Society

Ideas, Values, Beliefs, Laws  
(Ideological 'Superstructure')

Social Relations (Modes) of Production  
(Base or 'Structure')

Forces of Production  
(Material Resources and Technology)

# Structuralism: Three Questions

- What is the economy for?
  - Normative: To help the masses
  - Empirical: To serve the wealthy by exploiting the masses
- How does the economy work?
  - Dependency Theory (Terms of Trade and dependent development)
  - World System Theory (Core, Periphery and Semiperiphery)
  - Antonio Gramsci and "Intellectual Hegemony"
- Relationship between Politics and Economics?
  - Political organization derives from economic organization

# Structuralism: Strengths

- Highlights Nature of Inequality in IPE
- Relates National Development to International Economy
- Marx and the Current Crisis



Occupy Wall Street movement

# Structuralism: Weaknesses

- Failure of Communism
- Poorly Developed Concepts
- Influence of International versus Domestic in National Economic Development

Chiapas rebels  
in Mexico



# The Theories Compared

<b>THEORY</b>	<b>BASIC UNIT OF ANALYSIS</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY</b>	<b>UNDERLYING LOGIC OF ECONOMIC INTERACTION</b>	<b>NATURE OF ECONOMIC INTERACTION</b>	<b>RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POLITICS AND ECONOMICS</b>	<b>POLICY GUIDANCE</b>
<b>Liberalism</b>	Private Actors (Individuals and Firms)	Promote individual welfare (by maximizing efficiency and growth)	Markets driven by prices (Laws of Supply and Demand)	Harmonious between individuals/ States (absolute gains; everyone wins)	Separate (Economics should be kept separate from politics)	<b>DOMESTIC:</b> free market and minimal govt. interference <b>INTERNATIONAL:</b> free trade and capital flows
<b>Mercantilism</b>	State (National Economy as Economic Tool of State Power)	Promote state power (via national economic development [producer interests])	Markets driven by (state) market power	Conflictual across states (relative gains; some win more than others)	United (Economics alters state power; economics subordinate to politics)	<b>DOMESTIC:</b> Industrial policies [sectoral intervention] <b>INTERNATIONAL:</b> strategic trade [limited protection]
<b>Structuralism</b>	Class (Domination of classes within Capitalism)	Promote class interests (domestic or core vs. periphery)	Markets driven by class interests, both domestic and international (uneven development)	Conflictual across classes and states (system serves interests of dominant group)	Politics derives from economics (politics subordinate to economics; structure and superstructure)	<b>DOMESTIC:</b> protectionism and 'import substitution' <b>INTERNATIONAL:</b> reform of IPE/ closed economies