

Marx and Engels, *The Holy Family* (1844)

Seminar of the NYC Marxist Studies Collective

Summer 2017 / Conducted by Russell Dale

This course will focus on the first work written by Marx and Engels together: *The Holy Family*. We will start the course with an 1843 essay by Marx called “On the Jewish Question,” which also has seminal thought in it from the maturing, but still young Marx.

These works by Marx and Marx and Engels are too little studied nowadays, but play a fundamental role in the development of Marxian thought, especially when seen from the perspective of his break from Hegel and the Young Hegelians. We will be particularly interested in the influence of Hegel and the Young Hegelians in this course and will work at tracing what is retained and what is being left behind from the Hegelian tradition.

We will also be particularly concerned with issues of gender, race, and white supremacy in these works as Marx's philosophy is emerging from a tradition that was deeply steeped in patriarchy and the growing racism and white supremacy of the 18th and early 19th centuries.

The course will run for 14 weeks on Friday evenings from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM starting on Friday, June 9, 2017 and continuing until Friday, September 8, 2017. Write to Russell Dale at russelleliotdale (at) gmail (dot) com for more information.

We will be reading (1) Marx's “On the Jewish Question” (1843) (in volume 3 of *Marx and Engels, Collected Works*, International Publishers), and (2) Marx and Engels' *The Holy Family* (1844) (translated by Richard Dixon and Clemens Dutt, Progress Publishers). Arrangements will be made for students who cannot buy a copy of these books.