Sunday Morning at the Marxist Library
Every Sunday Morning, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
INFORMATION FOR PRESENTATIONS
(DRAFT, as of April 2, 2012)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Our Sunday morning discussions have been a regular feature at the Marxist Library for several years. Our sessions normally run from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. We ask that presenters or someone else who takes that responsibility provide a brief title of about ten words or less and a brief abstract of about a hundred words or less. (See the sample on the next page.) We will place this on our website and email it to our regular attendees. We don’t do additional advertising in any systematic way and suggest that our presenters take responsibility for other outreach, e.g. Indybay, KPFA, flyers, etc.

Normally, we arrange the chairs in a loose circle, but we can also arrange them in rows with a speaker’s podium, depending on nature of the presentation, the preferences of the speaker, the expected size of group, etc.

We try to start promptly as soon after 10:30 am as possible and ask our presenters to limit their talks to no more than about 45-50 minutes, to allow time for questions and comments from the audience.

We normally pass the hat about 11:30 am to support the Library.

We normally ask that questions/comments be limited to 3 minutes to give everyone an opportunity to speak, varying, of course, with the size of the group.

We try to end the question/answer session by about 12:15, to allow 5 or 10 minutes for any final comments by the presenter and about 5 or 10 minutes for brief (20 secs) announcements.

We are pretty firm about ending by 12:30 out of respect for people who have other commitments. This doesn’t mean everyone has to leave. The Library is usually open for informal discussion for another half hour or so, unless there is another event scheduled.

We are open to alternative modes of presentation (drama, film, music, small groups etc.) and simply ask that presenters discuss their plans with a member of the planning committee. Our objective is simply to have an interesting and enjoyable Sunday Morning at the Marxist Library as a place where the friendly and respectful exchange of ideas is welcomed.

(We have included a sample title and blurb below as a model.)
SAMPLE TITLE AND BLURB

Sunday Mornings at the Marxist Library

Sunday, September 18, 2011, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
The Peasant War in Germany
on-going dialog on the dialectic with Lew Finzel and Ron Kelch

A look back at the 16th century peasant war in Germany reveals a nexus between the modern capitalist era, the dialectic of Hegel rooted in the religious community and Marx's revolutionary dialectic which was multi-dimensional, especially in relation to the peasantry. Marx looked eagerly for a second edition of the peasant war to complement a revolutionary worker's movement. Long before Marx, themes emerged in the peasant revolt in 16th century Germany that later resonated in Marx. For example, before his execution the leading theological voice in the peasant revolt, Thomas Muntzer, said: "All property should be held in common and should be distributed to each according to his needs, as the occasion required." How does the underlying dialectic uniting these moments speak to today's global crisis with its multiple subjects in revolutionary opposition? Suggested reading: The Peasant War in Germany by Frederick Engels. (online at the Marx & Engels Internet Archive: http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/index.htm.)

Sponsored by The Institute for the Critical Study of Society
at the Niebyl-Proctor Marxist Library,
6501 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, Ca.
(Additional sponsor may be listed)

PROPOSALS

The planning committee meets following the talk on the first Sunday of every month (usually from 12:30 to 1 pm) to coordinate the schedule and review proposals. This is an open meeting. Everyone is welcome to help plan our future sessions. Please send your proposal to Gene Ruyle (Email: cuyleruyle@mac.com, Tel: 510-428-1578) who will forward it to known members of the planning committee so that it can be discussed at our next meeting.