What is ideology and does it have an aesthetic? Is ideological literature exclusively limited to regimes that instrumentalize Marxism in the name of socio-political revolution? Or does the literature of Western democracies not also evince its own ideological aesthetic? This course introduces students both to a world history of Marxist literature as well as to the long tradition of Marxist literary criticism. Authors include: Brecht, Breton, Dath, Gorki, Hughes, Ibsen, Lem, Mayakovsky, Sinclair, Wells. Marxist critics include: Adorno, Barthes, Jameson, Lifshitz, Lukács, Marcuse, Marx, Suvin & Williams.