

PRACTICAL ANARCHISM

Winter 2023, Jichao Yang

1 Introduction to Anarchism

We will be spending most time with Branson's book *Practical Anarchism*, and other readings will touch on history of anarchism, anarchism in feminism, environmental justice, and racial struggles. The accent of this course will be Anarchism as a **complex living force**, but we will not of course be neglecting the history of anarchism.

Other books and resources listed outside of the required readings might be useful for affinity group researches:

1. *No Gods, No Masters*, discusses the history and anthology of revolutions and political Anarchism.
2. *Pierre-Joseph Proudhon*, who famously said 'property is theft,' will be lightly discussed. But his anti-semitism and advocacy for patriarchy makes him not so fit for discussions of anarcho-feminism.
3. *Mikhail Bakunin* raises vehement objections against orthodox marxism. See more of his work in *Roads to Freedom*, *Betrand Russell*.
4. *Peter Kropotkin* similarly attacks the Marxist theory of *dictatorship of the proletariat* and argues a social movements should aim at the end result: his rejection of the orthodox Marxist version of dialectics entails a rejection of Marx's vision of a classless society. He also was interested in late Darwin focusing on natural mutual aid, and later studied geology and nature in eastern siberia and manchuria.
5. *Emma Goldman* brought the discussion of gender and sexual identity into the discussion of anarchism. More information on her can be found on PBS:
www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/goldman-1869-1940