

## Analysis Paper

The neoliberal economic market (NEM) is the dominant global economic system. It determines how, why, and where stuff gets produced and has even determined for whom, due to the economic divide of the GN and GS. Yet this system is not sustainable as it currently operates.

Your objective is to consider where you fit in the capitalist sustainability dilemma to understand how you are directly connected to and impact this system. This analysis should help you to see why this system prevails and the challenges advocates face in attempting to counter the NEM. To make your points, you need to provide concrete examples from the course readings/media/FT cooperative Powerpoints.

1. How are you part of consumer culture, sucked in by commodity fetishism? How could you change your impact? What changes are you willing to make or not?

2. How do your consumption choices affect the planet and the people on it? How could you change your impact? What changes are you willing to make or not?

In addition to reviewing what you wrote in your Response assignments, when answering these questions, it'll be helpful for you to refer to this basic outline of the concepts and issues we discussed this semester:

- Consumerism and commodity fetishism (CF)
  - Who are the biggest consumers of food, water, stuff and why
    - Where plastic credit cards fit into this equation
- Where/how stuff is produced and the consequences
  - External, indirect costs to the planet/humanity of production (externalities)
  - Resource usage- food, water, resources that go into making products and the packaging that contain/transport these goods (plastic/paper bags, plastic bottles)
- Who are the biggest producers of waste and why
- Strategies to deal w/ waste
  - Reduce consumption
  - The catchall term 'recycling' v. the actual process (collecting, harvesting, reuse, recycling)
- How and why different advocates challenge the NEM
  - Fair trade
  - Local food
  - Organic food
  - Entomophagy
  - Plant-based diets
  - Degrowth

## Writing/Submitting Details

Feel free to either write this as you would a paper (intro, body, conclusion) or with #1, #2 as just answering questions. Either way, be absolutely certain that you **write in paragraphs**.

When you discuss the readings and other materials as examples, rather than formally introducing a title, just refer to them informally such as "with the livestock industry", "the situation in Peru", or "plastic bottles relate to xxx". Focus on discussing the significance of the readings to the course concepts rather than giving summaries of them. Unless you quote or paraphrase sources (which you shouldn't- this is about you putting together your ideas), you do not need citations.

Be sure to follow the *Standard Format for Written Work* in your course syllabus. You have a **1600 word maximum** (about 5 1/2 pages). If you exceed the word limit, you will lose 10% from your grade for each block of up to 50 words, so grading would begin at 90%. List your word count at the end of your paper.

Submit your paper via Blackboard no later than 5:00 pm, Monday, 5/1 (this is the end of final exam time). No papers will be accepted if the timestamp is after 12:10 pm.

Uploaded file name should be last **name, analysis**, or will result in grade deduction. If I cannot open your file, you will receive a zero.