Introduction to Ideology – Marxism

[**8-Bit Philosophy (3:51)**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vz3eOb6Yl1s)

Summarize the historical process – dialectical materialism.

Summarize the ways in which workers are alienated – both from labor, from fellow workers, and from human nature.

[**A Brief Introduction to Marxism (4:26)**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0GFSUu5UzA)

What is the basis of conflict within Marxism?

Who are the bourgeoisie and the proletariat?

The video consistently refers to private property:

What is the private property referred to in the video?

How do we differentiate ownership of private property in capitalism vs communism?

**Synthesis**

Using the ideas expressed in both videos - make a prediction about the importance of Marxist ideology to the U.S.S.R., China, and Germany given what you know about their societies prior to the establishing of their respective authoritarian regimes. To help you, think about these questions (you do not have to answer them outright).

In what way will Marxism be the vehicle for change?

What conditions existed that would attract people living in these locations to believe in Marxism?

What opposition to Marxism will arise within these locations?

What threat does Marxism pose for existing social and economic divisions?

Be sure to answer for each location – even if you know only a little, make a guess. It will give me a sense of what we are working with prior to delving into content for the rest of the semester.