Ronald Aronson
Wayne State University

Social Hope in the Time of Trump

Ronald Aronson is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of the History of Ideas at Wayne State University.

In his lecture, he will examine the current social/political moment, viewing the election of Donald Trump against the background of a generation of shrinking hope—deindustrialization, rising inequality, attacks on public education, and shredding of the social safety net. For Aronson, Trump’s tumultuous first months as president have set the stage for a stunning insurgency of resistance. Drawing on generations of political struggle as well as philosophy, especially the work of Jean-Paul Sartre, Aronson will argue for a unique conception of social hope.

His newest book, WE: REVIVING SOCIAL HOPE (University of Chicago Press) is scheduled for publication the week of his MTSU lecture.

Friday, April 21, 2017
at 5:00 pm,
COE, Room 164