

Topical Seminars
Friday, June 5 at 1:30 pm
on Zoom
The Green New Deal
Rick Grier-Reynolds, Facilitator

Registration Required:

To register for this event go to the Lewes Library Website and look for the event on the calendar:

<https://delawarelibraries.libcal.com/calendar/virtuallibraryevents/?cid=9904&t=m&d=2020-06&cal=9904&inc=0>

Question: What is the Green New Deal (GND)?

- The house resolution 109 for the "Green New Deal," 116th Congress outlines the bill and is a good place to start: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/109/text>

After reading the House and Senate resolution that reappeared via Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's and Sen. Edward Markey, please watch a Vox Video overview: "The Green New Deal Explained," [Vox Video, 6/12/19](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GxIDJWCbk6I&feature=youtu.be) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GxIDJWCbk6I&feature=youtu.be>)

The GND addresses the dual realities of economic inequality and climate change. In 2007, Thomas Friedman wrote a NYT Magazine piece calling for a "Green New Deal," and did so again in his book "Hot, Flat and Crowded." Read the article by Thomas Friedman, "The Green New Deal Rises Again," [NYTimes, 1/8/19](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/08/opinion/green-new-deal.html) <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/08/opinion/green-new-deal.html>

Question: What might it look like? The power of vision and imagination

- Kate Aronoff, "With a Green New Deal, Here's what the world could look like for the next generation," [The Intercept, 12/5/18](https://theintercept.com/2018/12/05/green-new-deal-proposal-impacts/) <https://theintercept.com/2018/12/05/green-new-deal-proposal-impacts/>

Question: What is the pushback against the GND?

- The neoliberal agenda. Naomi Klein states in her book, "This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs the Climate," "Indeed the three policy pillars of the neoliberal age—privatization of the public sphere, deregulation of the corporate sector, and the lowering of income and corporate taxes, paid for with cuts to public spending—are each incompatible with many of the actions we must take to bring our emissions to safe levels." (72)

- Myron Ebell, “Con: The Green New Deal Will be All Pain and No Gain,” Los Angeles Times, 2/14/19

<https://cei.org/content/con-green-new-deal-will-be-all-pain-and-no-gain>

- Rob Jordan, “Stanford energy and environmental experts examine strengths and weaknesses of the Green New Deal,” Stanford News, 3/28/19

<https://news.stanford.edu/2019/03/28/strengths-weaknesses-green-new-deal/>

Further readings

- Bill McKibben, "We Literally Need to Declare War on Climate Change," New Republic, August 15, 2016

<https://newrepublic.com/article/135684/declare-war-climate-change-mobilize-wwii>

- Jeffery Sachs, “Why America must revive its middle –class,” Time, 10/10/11

<http://www.earth.columbia.edu/sitefiles/file/Published%20Writing/Time%20Final.pdf>

About the Facilitator

Rick Grier-Reynolds, Trinity College, B.A History, Harvard University, M.ED, A longtime teacher/administrator at the Wilmington Friends School, he has been recognized for his innovative teaching in economics, international relations and peace studies. He was featured in the educational film, “The Stock Market Game” by the University of Delaware and Securities Industry Trade Association. Rick currently teachers at Osher/Lewes and will be offering a July course on “Income Inequality,” and a fall offering of “Creating a Green New Deal.”