

Frantz Fanon's *The Wretched of the Earth*

Seminar of the NYC Marxist Studies Collective on Zoom

Summer 2023 / Conducted by Russell Dale (rdale@mail.mayfirst.org)

This class will be a study of Frantz Fanon's classic work of anticolonial radicalism *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961). This work studies the situation of colonized peoples around the world, composed largely of people of color who are colonized by white people, Europeans and the United States. How can and do the colonized struggle against the colonial powers? This is the subject of Fanon's astonishing work.

Fanon not only looks at the possible and actual goals, strategies, and tactics of the colonized, but also at the psychologies of both the colonists and the colonized. Fanon himself was a psychiatrist who worked helping people in an Algerian hospital during the uprising of the Algerian people against the French in the 1950s where he gained insight into the psychologies of both Algerians and French colonists.

Fanon's work plays a really fundamental part in what the writer Cedric Robinson has called "the Black Radical tradition" and it is not only useful in itself to read, but will be useful for our study of Robinson's great work, *Black Marxism*, in the Fall 2023 term.

The course will run for 14 weeks on Friday evenings from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM starting on Friday, May 26, 2023 and continuing until Friday, August 25, 2023. We will be reading the Richard Philcox translation of the work on Grove Press, 2004, with commentary by Jean-Paul Sartre and Homi K. Bhabha. (Arrangements will be made for students who cannot buy a copy of this book.)

All are welcome! And it is free!

Write to rdale@mail.mayfirst.org if you have any questions.