

WWP Lesson Plan – Democratic Centralism, Party Organization & Comradely Conduct

This template was created to help people planning and teaching Workers World Party classes to make those interactive, interesting and consistent. Some of the classes are part of the curriculum for WWP candidates—and all are posted here online for personal and collective revolutionary communist development. Adapt and enhance the class as needed for your particular location and group.

<p>*Teacher Preparations and</p> <p>*Essential Understandings</p>	<p>*Consider accessibility and accommodation needs: Everyone will not necessarily have access to a computer.</p> <p>Class leader should print out a few copies of the class materials being used to circulate for read-aloud. Also have some recent copies of WW newspaper on hand for the discussion on organizing.</p> <p>*Before teaching, identify the most important lessons people should learn on this topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democratic centralism in a communist party organization--a synthesis of centralism and proletarian democracy • Democratic centralism as applied in Workers World Party • The strengths of democratic centralism compared to multi-tendency or multi-issue organizations • The process of resolving political issues within a democratically centralized organization
<p>Overview of Class</p>	<p>This class is a power point presentation with questions to be read and discussed by the class.</p>
<p>Motivating Questions</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why are we building a vanguard party? Isn't that elitist? 2. What is the difference between proletarian democracy and bourgeois democracy?
<p>Readings, Materials, Links</p>	<p>Power Point: “Democratic Centralism, Party Organization & Comradely Conduct”</p> <p>Supplemental readings: 1) Sam Marcy, Excerpt “From Ideological Tendency to Political Party of the Working Class,” 1972 https://www.workers.org/wp-content/uploads/WWP_Marcy_Tendency_ToPoliticalParty_Excerpt1972.pdf</p>

<p>Readings, Materials, Links (contd.)</p>	<p>2) V.I. Lenin, "Guidelines on the Organizational Structure of Communist Parties, on the Methods and Content of their Work," Third Congress of the Comintern, 1921 https://www.marxists.org/history/international/comintern/3rd-congress/organisation/guidelines.htm</p>
<p>Methods of learning</p>	<p>Power Point slideshow Reading out loud together Discussion</p>
<p>Discussion Questions</p>	<p>Questions are included in the slideshow.</p>
<p>Organizing</p>	<p>What are some recent examples of resistance to capitalist state power that you have observed or participated in? What tactics were strongest? less successful?</p>
<p>Skill Building</p>	<p>Break up into pairs and each take turns explaining to your partner why a vanguard party is important in relation to mass struggles.</p>
<p>Reflection</p>	<p>Save some time at the end for participants to answer questions about the class: 1. What will you remember/be useful for you? 2. What would you change, spend less time on, or make less confusing?</p>