Karl Marx is one of the most influential writers in history. Despite repeated obituaries proclaiming the death of Marxism, in the 21st century Marx’s ideas and theories continue to guide vibrant research traditions in sociology, economics, political science, philosophy, history, anthropology, management, economic geography, ecology, literary criticism, and media studies.

Due to the wide influence and reach of Marxist theory, including over 150 years of historical debates and traditions within Marxism, finding a point of entry can be daunting. The Oxford Handbook of Karl Marx provides an entry point for those new to Marxism. At the same time, its chapters, written by leading Marxist scholars, advance Marxist theory and research. Its coverage is more comprehensive than previous volumes on Marx in terms of both foundational concepts and empirical research on contemporary social problems. It also provides equal space to sociologists, economists, and political scientists, with substantial contributions from philosophers, historians, and geographers.

The Oxford Handbook of Karl Marx consists of seven sections. The first section, “Foundations,” includes chapters that demonstrate that the core elements of Marx’s political economy of capitalism continue to be defended, elaborated, and applied to empirical social science including historical materialism, class, capital, labor, value, crisis, ideology, and alienation. Additional sections include “Labor, Class, and Social Divisions,” “Capitalist States and Spaces,” “Accumulation, Crisis, and Class Struggle in the Core Countries,” “Accumulation, Crisis, and Class Struggle in the Peripher al and Semi-Peripheral Countries,” and “Alternatives to Capitalism.”