

Sociology 201A: Classical Social Theory
Fall 2015, Tuesday 10:10-12:00, 402 Barrows
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The course is an introduction to classical social theory. Broadly speaking, we will focus on the double revolution of modernity: the rise of modern democracy and the emergence of industrial capitalism. In exploring these topics, I hope that the course will also enhance your basic scholarly skills of reading, thinking, talking, and writing.

Work

Class participation
Three short papers (due 20 October, 21 November, and 8 December)

Schedule

8 September:

Alexis de Tocqueville, The Ancien Regime and the French Revolution, trans. Arthur Goldhammer, Cambridge University Press, 2011 [1856].

15 September

Karl Marx, "The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte," Surveys from Exile, ed. David Fernbach, Verso, 2010 [1852].

Marx and Engels, "The Manifesto of the Communist Party" [1844]

<https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1848/communist-manifesto/>

---, "The German Ideology, part 1" [1845-6/1932]

<https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1845/german-ideology/ch01.htm>

22 September

Max Weber, Economy and Society, eds. Guenther Roth and Claus Wittich, University of California Press, 1978 [1922], chaps.10-11, 14-15

---, "Politics as a Vocation," in The Vocation Lectures, eds. David Owen and Tracy B. Strong, trans. Rodney Livingstone, Hackett, 2004 [1919].

29 September

Karl Mannheim, Ideology and Utopia, trans. Louis Wirth and Edward Shils, Harcourt, 1936 [1929], chaps.2-4.

6 October

Hannah Arendt, The Origins of Totalitarianism, Harcourt, 1951.

13 October

Oliver Cromwell Cox, Caste, Class, and Race, Monthly Review Press, 1948, part 3.

<https://archive.org/details/castecclassrace00coxo>

There is also the 2000 Monthly Review Press print edition of part 3 only.

20 October: Interregnum

27 October

Karl Marx, Capital, vol.1, trans. Ben Fowkes, Penguin, 1992 [1867].

3 November

Max Weber, The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism, trans. Peter Baehr, Penguin, 2002 [1904-5].

RECOMMENDED

Max Weber, Economy and Society, eds. Guenther Roth and Claus Wittich, University of California Press, 1978 [1922], pts.1-2.

10 November

Karl Polanyi, The Great Transformation, Beacon Press, 2001 [1944].

17 November

Emile Durkheim, The Elementary Forms of Religious Life, trans. Karen Fields, Free Press, 1995 [1912].

24 November: HOLIDAY

1 December

Max Weber, "Science as a Vocation," in The Vocation Lectures, eds. David Owen and Tracy B. Strong, trans. Rodney Livingstone, Hackett, 2004 [1919].

---. " 'Objectivity' in Social Science and Social Policy," in Methodology of Social Sciences, eds. and trans. Edward Shils and Henry Finch, Free Press, 1949 [1904].

Max Horkheimer, "Traditional and Critical Theory," Critical Theory, trans. Matthew J. O'Connell, Seabury Press, 1972 [1937].

<http://www.heathwoodpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/horkheimer-critical-theory-selected-essays-pdf>