

Sociological Theory II

Christopher Muller

Sociology 102

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 AM – 10:59 AM, 390 Hearst Mining

Office hours: <http://sociology.berkeley.edu/faculty-office-hours>

Course website: <https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1471654>

This course is the second half of the Sociology Department's year-long sequence in Sociological Theory. Last semester, we focused on the works of Marx, Du Bois, Weber, and Durkheim, as well as scholars who applied and extended their writings. This semester we will read a broader range of scholars, all of whom can claim some influence from the four we studied in the Spring.

Although the list of authors we'll read this semester is longer, we'll concentrate on two main themes. First, we'll discuss how different authors approach what is called in sociology the micro-macro (or macro-micro) link—that is, how the actions of individual people combine to create social institutions and how those institutions, in turn, affect the actions of individual people. Second, we'll discuss several different ways of thinking about power. Many students of sociological theory ask why sociology is so consumed by diagnosing problems rather than posing solutions. To address this question, we'll close out the semester with some readings on social transformation.

On average, the texts this semester will be easier to read than the texts we read last semester. But some will be harder. If you are confused, it is not your fault. Like last semester, we'll spend time in class translating difficult texts into plainer English together.

Although this class is formally a lecture, I would like us to interact as much as possible. I hope you will continue to interrupt me if you are confused or have a question. And I hope even more of you will join the conversation this semester.

Ground rules

I will insist that you not use any devices—laptops, phones, ipads, etc.—during lecture. Your cell phones should be turned off, not just set to vibrate. I promise that I am not doing this to be mean or punitive. Even if you are trying hard to pay attention, devices will distract you and your classmates. If I attend a lecture on campus that I really want to focus on, I won't bring a laptop because I know it will be hard to resist the temptation to use it to do something other than take notes. Recent research has shown that students

learn less when they take notes on a laptop than when they take notes by hand. If you have special reasons for needing to take notes on a laptop, please discuss this with me in office hours. If, because of a true emergency, you need to keep your phone on during a particular class, let me know before I start lecturing.

To make up it up to you, I will post the lecture slides on the bcourses website the night before class. I suggest that you print the slides, with four (2 × 2) slides on a page, double-sided. That way, you won't waste time in class jotting down what is on the slides. Take notes on what is being said about a given slide in the margins of your printout. Many students have told me that they have kept their annotated lecture slides and used them when they wrote papers for other sociology courses. If you cannot print the slides, you can take notes directly on the texts, since my slides will include page numbers. I will also number each slide, so you could take notes in a notebook, numbering your notes to correspond to the number of each slide.

Required readings

All readings are in the course reader available at Copy Central on Telegraph.

Sections

In addition to attending lecture, you must register for one of the following six sections:

Days	Time	Location	GSI
Tuesday and Thursday	8:00 AM – 8:59 AM	174 Barrows	Xuan Jin
Tuesday and Thursday	11:00 AM – 11:59 AM	102 Latimer	Xuan Jin
Tuesday and Thursday	12:00 PM – 12:59 PM	104 Barrows	Liana Prescott
Tuesday and Thursday	1:00 PM – 1:59 PM	106 Wheeler	Liana Prescott
Monday and Wednesday	8:00 AM – 8:59 AM	174 Barrows	Margaret Eby
Monday and Wednesday	9:00 AM – 9:59 AM	174 Barrows	Margaret Eby
Monday and Wednesday	10:00 AM – 10:59 AM	179 Stanley	Alicia Sheares
Monday and Wednesday	11:00 AM – 11:59 AM	102 Latimer	Alicia Sheares

Sections begin on Tuesday, September 4th. Section is mandatory. Your GSIs will take attendance. If there is still a waitlist on the 4th and 5th, we will determine enrollment partly based on your attendance in section those days. If you want to switch your section, you will need to find a person in the section you want to join who wants to join your section. GSIs will announce their office hours in section on the 4th and 5th.

Assignments and Grading

Your grade will be based on two memos, two exams, your participation in section, and quotes from the reading you will submit before each class.

Assignment	Value	Date
Memo 1	10%	September 25, due at the beginning of class
Midterm exam	20%	October 16, in class
Memo 2	10%	November 13, due at the beginning of class
Final exam	25%	December 11, 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Quotes	10%	Due each week by 4 PM the day before class
Section attendance and participation	25%	Consult with GSI

- Each memo will consist of 1,000 words you write at home in response to a prompt.
- The exams will consist of essays and short answer questions about the reading material and lectures. These are closed-book tests. You will not be allowed to use any devices or books while taking the exams.
- By 4 PM the day before each class, you will submit a quote from the reading to the bcourses website. This quote should consist of a passage you believe is especially important or a passage that confused you and that you would like to discuss. You should include the page number the quote came from in parentheses directly after it. Your GSIs will use the quotes you submit to help organize your discussion in section. You will get .475 of a point for each quote just for submitting it. The first quote is due at 4 PM on August 27th. You do not need to submit a quote when there is no reading assigned for the next day's class. You only need to submit one quote per class, even if there are several different readings assigned that day.
- Your GSI will assign you a grade based on your attendance and participation in section.

Should you fail to show up for an exam or turn in a paper for any other reason, I will record 0% for that assignment. Please put the course assignment and exam dates in your calendar right away so that you don't forget. If you have questions about submitting work, ask your GSI well before it is due. We will not grant extensions on the due date of the memos.

Email

Xuan Jin is the head GSI for the course this semester. Please send all course-related email to him. Before emailing Xuan or your GSI with a question about the course, please first make sure that your question is not already answered here in the syllabus. Almost everything you need to know about the course can be found here. If you have longer questions about the course material, sign up for office hours at the link on the first page of this syllabus. For section questions, please consult your GSI (amsheares@berkeley.edu; lkprescott@berkeley.edu; margaret.eby@berkeley.edu; xjin@berkeley.edu).

Academic honesty

You must in no way misrepresent your work or be party to another student's failure to maintain academic integrity. If you have questions about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism, you should consult Berkeley's code of academic integrity:

<http://sa.berkeley.edu/student-code-of-conduct>. It is much better to hand in a bad paper, or not to hand in a paper at all, than to hand in a paper that is plagiarized or that does not otherwise reflect your own work. Written assignments must include a bibliography and follow proper citation practices. If you have questions about proper citation, please consult your GSI. The standard penalty for violations of academic integrity in this course will be a grade of 0% on the assignment and reporting to Student Judicial Affairs.

Grievances

If you wish to contest a grade, you must first submit to your GSI a one-page statement explaining why you believe the grade is unfair. Only if you are still dissatisfied should you come to me. Before I will listen to your case, I will consult your GSI. I will not change your grade without first consulting your GSI. Please bear in mind that your grade could move upwards or downwards should I decide to re-grade your paper.

Accommodation

If you have an accommodation letter from the Disabled Students Program (DSP), please contact Xuan or sign up for office hours in the next two weeks so that we can make early arrangements for these accommodations.

August 23

Course overview

August 28

Coleman, James, S. 1990. *Foundations of Social Theory*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Pp. 1–23.

Watts, Duncan J. 2011. *Everything Is Obvious*. New York: Crown Business. Pp. 61–71.

August 30

Mead, George H. 1934. *Mind, Self, and Society*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp. 6–7; 42–51; 65–69; 135–144.

September 4

Mead, George H. 1934. *Mind, Self, and Society*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp. 154–155; 173–182; 197–198.

September 6

Goffman, Erving. 1967. *Interaction Ritual: Essays in Face-to-Face Behavior*. New York: Pantheon. Pp. 1-3.

Goffman, Erving. 1959. *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*. New York: Anchor. Pp. 17–76; 252–255.

September 11

Goffman, Erving. 1961 *Asylums: Essays on the Social Situation of Mental Patients and Other Inmates*. New York: Anchor. Pp. 3–25; 146–169.

September 13

Hochschild, Arlie Russell. 1979. “Emotion Work, Feeling Rules, and Social Structure.” *American Journal of Sociology* 85:551–575.

Hochschild, Arlie Russell. 1983. *The Managed Heart: Commercialization of Human Feeling*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 3–23.

September 18

Butler, Judith. 1990. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. New York: Routledge. Pp. 134–141.

September 20

Berger, Peter L. and Thomas Luckmann. 1966. *The Social Construction of Reality: A Treatise in the Sociology of Knowledge*. New York: Anchor. Pp. 1–6; 53–62.

September 25

Granovetter, Mark. 2017. *Society and Economy: Framework and Principles*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Pp. 1–25.

September 27

Bourdieu, Pierre. 1985. "The Social Space and the Genesis of Groups." *Theory and Society* 14:723–744.

October 2

Bourdieu, Pierre. 1986. "The Forms of Capital." Pp. 241–258 in John G. Richardson, ed. *Handbook of Theory and Research for the Sociology of Education*. New York: Greenwood Press.

Bourdieu, Pierre and Loïc J. D. Wacquant. 1992. *An Invitation to Reflexive Sociology*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp. 94–115.

October 4

Bourdieu, Pierre. 1980. *The Logic of Practice*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. Pp. 52–65.

Bourdieu, Pierre. 1996. "On the Family as a Realized Category." *Theory, Culture & Society* 13:19–26.

October 9

Bourdieu, Pierre. 1979. *Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste* Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Pp. 169–225; 44–47.

Elster, Jon. 1981. "Snobs." *London Review of Books* 3:10–12.

October 11

Midterm review

October 16

Midterm exam in class

October 18

Lukes, Steven. 1974. *Power: A Radical View*. London: Macmillan.

October 23

Patterson, Orlando. 1982. *Slavery and Social Death: A Comparative Study*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. Pp. 1–34.

October 25

Scott, James C. 1990. *Domination and the Arts of Resistance: Hidden Transcripts*. New Haven: Yale University Press. Pp. 70–107.

October 30

Foucault, Michel. 1975. *Discipline & Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. New York: Vintage. Pp. 200–228.

November 1

Foucault, Michel. 1976. *The History of Sexuality, Volume 1: An Introduction*. New York: Vintage. Pp. 3–26; 150–159.

November 6

Scott, James C. 1998. *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*. New Haven: Yale University Press. Pp. 1–8.

Fourcade, Marion and Kieran Healy. 2017. “Seeing Like a Market.” *Socio-Economic Review* 15:9–29.

November 8

Collins, Patricia Hill. 2007. “Pushing the Boundaries or Business as Usual? Race, Class, and Gender Studies and Sociological Inquiry.” Pp. 572–604 in Craig Calhoun, ed., *Sociology in America: A History*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

James, Joy. 1996. *Resisting State Violence: Radicalism, Gender & Race in U.S. Culture*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. Pp. 24–37.

November 13

Go, Julian. 2016. *Postcolonial Thought and Social Theory*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Pp. 1–38; 118–131.

November 15

Wright, Erik Olin. 2010. *Envisioning Real Utopias*. London: Verso. Pp. 273–307.

November 27

Wright, Erik Olin. 2010. *Envisioning Real Utopias*. London: Verso. Pp. 308–365.

November 29

Review for final exam