

Spring 2020  
TuTh 9:30-11:00  
Dwinelle 145

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## **SOC 102 SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY II**

In this course, we will discuss the works of major late 20<sup>th</sup> century (and early 21<sup>st</sup> century) theorists, their analyses, the methodologies they use and their social prescriptions. How do they study social processes? What are their major findings and arguments? How does the social world work? How can society be improved? We will look at how functionalists, micro-sociologists, poststructuralists, neo-Marxists, and practice theorists have answered these questions in conflicting ways.

After completing two thirds of the course, we will ask: how does all of this theorization apply outside of mainstream Western society? This will bring us to theories of race, gender, and postcolonialism. Class and section discussion will highlight how we might use these theories to think about our own lives and recent events and processes.

### **Assignments:**

You will write eight reading responses (300 words each) and three papers (5 pages each) for this course. (The reading responses will be graded as S/US only). More specific guidelines about the assignments will follow.

First paper: Due on February 20, 11 am

Second paper: Due on March 19, 11 am

Final paper: Due on May 13, 2:30pm

**Texts:** The reader is available at Copy Central (Telegraph Ave.).

### **Evaluation:**

Paper 1: %25

Paper 2: %25

Final paper: %25

Section participation and reading responses: %25

## **Academic honesty**

Before you embark on any assignment for this course, check the code of academic integrity at <http://students.berkeley.edu/uga/conduct.pdf>.

The standard penalty for violations of academic integrity in this course will be an F grade for the course.

Written assignments must include complete bibliographies and follow proper citation practices (including page numbers for direct quotes from scholarly texts). Avoid verbatim repetition (or even repetition through slight altering) of the texts we are reading, as much as possible. When you feel you have to use direct quotes, make sure you use quotation marks.

## **TEXTS**

### **January 21**

Introduction

No readings assigned

## **GRAND SYNTHESSES IN POST-WAR THEORIZATIONS**

### **January 23-28. Functionalism**

Parsons, Talcott. 1951. *The Social System*. New York: Free Press. Pp. 26-36.

Merton, Robert. "Manifest and Latent Functions." Pp. 328-334 in Charles Lemert (ed.) *Social Theory: The Multicultural and Classic Readings*.

### **January 28-30. Dramaturgy**

Goffman, Erving. 1959. *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*. New York: Anchor Books. Selections. Pp. 1-30, 77-85.

### **February 4-11. Practice and Reproduction**

Bourdieu, Pierre. 1990 [1979]. *The Logic of Practice*. Stanford University Press. Pp. 52-97, 112-121, 215.

### **February 13-18. Practice and Reproduction**

Bourdieu, Pierre. 1987 [1980]. *Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Pp. 1-32, 54, 92-96, 106-176, 479-481.

### **February 20. First Midterm.**

## **II. HISTORICIZING THEORY (AND THE LIMITS OF HISTORICIZATION)**

### **February 25 - 27. The Market and Counter-Movements**

Polanyi, Karl. 2001 [1944]. *The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time*. Boston: Beacon Press. Pp. 71-80, 136-209, 298-299.

### **March 3. Neo-Marxism: Council Communism**

Gramsci, Antonio. 1977. *Selections from Political Writings, 1910-1920*. New York: International Publishers. Pp. 34-37, 260-264. (“The Revolution against “Capital”,” “The Factory Council”)

### **March 5-10. Neo-Marxism: State and Civil Society**

Gramsci, Antonio. 1971. *Selections from the Prison Notebooks*. Pp. 206-276.

### **March 12-17. (Sociologizing) Neo-Marxism**

Burawoy, Michael. 2003. “For a Sociological Marxism: The Complementary Convergence of Antonio Gramsci and Karl Polanyi,” *Politics and Society* 31/2: 193-261.

Wright, Erik Olin. 2010. *Envisioning Real Utopias*. London: Verso. Pp. 110-149.

### **March 19. Second Midterm.**

### **March 30-April 3: TBD**

### **April 7-9. Post-structuralism**

Foucault, Michel. 1980 [1976]. “Two Lectures” in *Power/Knowledge: Selected Interviews and Other Writings 1972-77*. Brighton: Harvester. Pp. 78-108.

Foucault, Michel. 1995 [1975]. *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*. New York: Vintage Books. Pp. 135-228.

## **III. THEORIZING FROM THE MARGINS**

### **April 14-16. Race and Racialization**

Bonilla-Silva, Eduardo. 2004. “From Bi-racial to Tri-racial: Towards a New System of Racial Stratification in the USA.” *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 27: 931–950.

Wacquant, Loïc. 2005. "Race as Civic Felony." *International Social Science Journal* 181: 127-142.

**April 21-23. Gender and Sexuality**

MacKinnon, Catharine A. "Feminism, Marxism, Method, and the State: An Agenda for Theory." *Signs* 7/3: 515-544.

Hill Collins, Patricia. 1986. "Learning from the Outsider Within: The Sociological Significance of Black Feminist Thought." *Social Problems* 33/6: S14-S32.

**April 28-30. Post-Colonialism**

Guhin, Jeffrey and Jonathan Wyrzten. 2013. "The Violences of Knowledge: Edward Said, Sociology, And Post-Orientalist Reflexivity." pp. 231-262 in *Postcolonial Sociology*, edited by Julian Go. Bingley, England: Emerald.

Decoteau, Claire Laurier. 2013. "Hybrid Habitus: Toward a Post-Colonial Theory of Practice." pp. 263-294 in *Postcolonial Sociology*.