SOC 101
SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY I

In this course, we will discuss the works of major late 19th century and early 20th 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 Marx, Du Bois, Weber, and Durkheim have answered these questions in conflicting ways. De Beauvoir’s theorization will bridge this semester and the next.

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 two take home exams for this course. The midterm exam will be 5 double-spaced pages. The final exam will be 6 double-spaced pages. More specific guidelines about these (take home) exams will follow.

Midterm Exam: Due on March 4
Final Exam: Due on May 10

Reading response memos: Students will write 300-word responses to the texts. You will write eight of these memos. You will write them after you hear the professor lecture on the text. They will be uploaded on bcourses. Each response memo will be worth three points. Further guidelines on memos will follow.

Texts: The reader is available at Copy Central (Telegraph Ave.). It is also available digitally:

Evaluation:
Midterm Exam: 30%
Final Exam: 35%
Reading memos: 24%
Section participation: 10%
Uploading a pre-Soc 101 writing sample: 1%
**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.

**All meeting are on Zoom**

**TEXTS**

**January 19**
Introduction
No readings assigned

**MARX AND ENGELS**

**January 21: Background on Marx and Engels**


**January 26. Labor and Alienation**


**January 28-February 2. Classes and Class Struggle**


**February 4-9. History and Ideology**


**February 11-16. Capitalist Social Relations**


**February 18-23. The Paris Commune**


Film showing

**February 25. Review of Marx and Engels.**

**II. DU BOIS**

**March 2. Racial Capitalism**


**III. WEBER**

**March 4. Beyond Class**


**March 9. Specificity of the West; Religion and Capitalist Stratification**

**March 11. Calvinism**


**March 16. Rationalization; The Iron Cage**


**March 18. Bureaucracy and Efficiency**


**March 30. Bureaucracy, Equality, and Democracy**


**April 1. Politics, Centralization, and Disenchantment**


**IV. DURKHEIM**

**April 6. Mechanical and Organic Solidarity**

Durkheim, *The division of labor in society*, pp. 31-44, 60-64, 68-72, 77-87.

**April 8. NO CLASS**

**April 13. Causes of Social Change**


**April 15. Religion and Effervescence**


**April 20. Rituals; The Future of Religion**


**V. DE BEAUVIOR**
April 22. Male Domination

Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*, pp. 3-17.

April 27. Women’s Liberation


April 29. Review.