

Spring 2023  
TuTh 2:00-3:30  
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, practice theorists, neo-Marxists, and poststructuralists have handled (or refused to answer) these issues and 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 nation. 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 21, 11 am

Final Exam: Due on May 8, 11:30 am

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:

<https://copycentral.redshelf.com/app/ecom/book/2228857/soc-102-sociological-theory-ii-2228857-none-cihan-tugal>

**Evaluation:**

Midterm Exam: 30%

Final Exam: 35%

Reading memos: 24%

Section participation: 10%

Bonus for surviving the semester: 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.

**TEXTS****January 17**

Introduction

No readings assigned

**GRAND SYNTHESSES IN POST-WAR THEORIZATION****January 19-24. 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 26-31. Dramaturgy**

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

### **February 2-7. Practice and Reproduction**

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

### **February 9-14. 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.

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

### **February 16-21. 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.

### **February 23. 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”)

### **February 28-March 2. Neo-Marxism: State and Civil Society**

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

### **March 7-9. 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 14. REVIEW**

### **March 16-21. 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**

#### **March 23-April 4. 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 6-11. Race and Nation**

Fanon, Frantz. 2008 [1952]. *Black Skin, White Masks*. Pp. vii-23, 89-119, 185-197.

Balibar and Wallerstein. 1991. *Race, Nation, Class: Ambiguous Identities*. London: Verso. Pp. 1-13 (skim), 71-106 (read), 228-232 (skim).

#### **April 13-18. Gender and Sexuality**

MacKinnon, Catharine A. 1982. "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 20. Labor and Feminism**

Watkins, Susan. 2018. "Which Feminisms?" *New Left Review* 109: 5-76.

#### **April 25-27. Ecology, Race/Nation, and Feminism**

Fraser, Nancy. 2021. "Climates of Capital: For a Trans-Environmental Eco-Socialism." *New Left Review* 127: 94-127.