SOC 102
SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY II

In this course, we will discuss the works of major theorists of the 20th century, 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, if such a thing exists, be improved? We will look at how functionalists, symbolic interactionists, 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 the world system, race and 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 two midterm papers (7 pages each) and one final paper (9-10 pages) for this course. More specific guidelines about the papers will follow.

First paper: Due on February 23, 2pm
Second paper: Due on April 3, 2pm
Final paper: Due on May 7, 2:30pm

Evaluation:
Paper 1: %25
Paper 2: %25
Final paper: %30
Section participation: %20
Functionalism


Dramaturgy and Symbolic Interactionism


Critical Theory (1.5 weeks)

Lukács, György. 1923. “Reification and the Consciousness of the Proletariat” from *History and Class Consciousness*

Marcuse, Herbert. 1964. “The New Forms of Control” from *One-Dimensional Man*


Poststructuralism (2 weeks)


Neo-Marxism


The Market and Social Policy

Practice and Reproduction (3 weeks)


The World Systems Perspective


Race and gender


Post-Colonialism


Limits of sociological theory?
