

**SOCIOLOGY 321  
FALL 2011**

**SURVEY OF SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY**

Instructor: Hiro Saito  
Office: Saunders 206  
Office Hours: Tue 3-5pm  
Email: hs9@hawaii.edu

Lectures: Tue/Thu 10:30-11:45am  
KUY 209

Teaching Assistant: Sanna King  
Office: Saunders 218  
Office Hours: Tue 1:30-3pm  
Email: sannak@hawaii.edu

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

If you are not planning to go to graduate school in sociology, why do you have to study sociological theory? (Is sociological theory relevant to your life?) This simple but profound question motivates objectives of the course.

The first course objective is to understand how sociology has evolved historically. Having a sense of how sociology has developed helps you contextualize what you learn in other sociology courses. To accomplish this objective, you are going to read classical and contemporary sociological theories to understand core questions and controversies that generations of sociologists have grappled with.

The second and more important objective is to master theoretical concepts in sociology as heuristics to understand and explain phenomena in your everyday life. You are going to read sociological theories not simply to understand the history of sociology but also to acquire an intuition of what good sociological theories look like, so that you can start constructing your own.

**GRADING**

Pop Quizzes	20%
Attendance	10%
Three Response Papers	20% + 25% + 25% = 70%
Extra Credit Paper (TBA)	5%

Pop Quizzes

You will have a total of 20 pop quizzes about the assigned readings. Each pop quiz is worth 1%. You will complete and submit a pop quiz in class.

### Attendance

You will get your attendance point every time you complete and submit a pop quiz in class. Each attendance is 0.5%.

### Response Paper

You will write a short paper (5 pages, double-spaced) for each of the three sections of the course: “Classics,” “Self & Society,” and “Structure & Agency.” In your response paper, you are required to do the following: (1) summarize briefly the gist of arguments made by theorists in the section by focusing on how their arguments relate to each other (e.g. do they corroborate, complement, or contradict each other?); (2) assess strengths and weaknesses of their arguments in light of specific and real examples from current events found in local, national, or world news; and (3) attach a copy of newspaper/magazine articles that you used for your paper.

When you write a response paper, you must quote at least one specific passage from each theorist covered in the section. This is a crucial requirement. For the proper citation format, follow instructions regarding “references in the main text” at *Quick Style Guide*: <http://www.asanet.org/page.wv?name=Quick+Style+Guide&section=Sociology+Depts>

I will provide more specific instructions regarding each paper as a due date approaches.

The purpose of response paper assignments is to help you achieve one of the departmental student learning objectives (SLO): “Students will have clear and effective verbal and written communication skills.”

### Extra Credit Paper

You will write a short paper (2 pages, double-spaced) on one of the three films that you are going to watch in class. I will provide more specific instructions toward the end of the semester.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

If you feel you may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, please notify me privately or contact the KOKUA Program (808-956-7511) in room 013 of the Queen Lili’uokalani Center for Student Services. I would be happy to work with you and the KOKUA Program to ensure reasonable accommodations in my course.

## **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is representing the work of others as your own (including copying other students' work or using Internet resources without proper citation). Those who plagiarize will receive an F and any sanctions imposed by the university. For more details, review the UH-Manoa *Student Conduct Code* (1992).

## **CLASSROOM POLICIES**

Turn off cell phones during class.

## **REQUIRED TEXT**

Craig Calhoun, Joseph Gerteis, James Moody, Steven Pfaff, and Indermohan Virk. 2007. *Classical Sociological Theory* (Second edition). Wiley-Blackwell.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

### **Introduction**

August 21: Introduction (no reading)

August 23: "General Introduction." Pp. 1-14 in *Classical Sociological Theory (CST)*

### **Classics**

August 28: Karl Marx. "The German Ideology" & "Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844." Pp. 82-95 in *CST*

August 30: Karl Marx. "Manifesto of the Community Party" & "Wage-Labour and Capital." Pp. 96-111 & 122-129 in *CST*

September 4: Max Weber. "'Objectivity' in Social Science" & "Basic Sociological Terms." Pp. 211-227 in *CST*

September 6: Max Weber. "The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism." Pp. 228-246 in *CST*

September 11: Max Weber. "The Types of Legitimate Domination" and "Bureaucracy." Pp. 256-263 and 269-273 in *CST*

September 13: Emile Durkheim. “The Rules of Sociological Method” & “The Division of Labor in Society.” Pp. 139-147 & 158-178 in *CST*

September 18: Emile Durkheim. “The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life” & “Suicide.” Pp. 181-202 in *CST*

September 20 & 25: *The Corporation* (145 min)

**\*\* Response paper #1 due in class on September 27 (Thr)**

### **Self & Society**

September 27: George Herbert Mead. “The Self.” Pp. 282-294 in *CST*; “The Social Creativity of the Emergent Self.” Pp. 214-222 in *Mind, Self, and Society* [Laulima]

October 2: Sigmund Freud. “Civilization and its Discontents.” Pp. 315-322 in *CST*; “The Dissection of the Psychological Personality.” Pp. 74-92 in *New Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis* [Laulima]

October 4: Georg Simmel. “Group Expansion and the Development of Individuality.” Pp. 300-314 in *CST*; “The Metropolis and Mental Life.” Pp. 324-340 in *Georg Simmel on Individuality and Social Forms* [Laulima]

October 9: Erving Goffman. “The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life.” Pp. 52-66 in *Contemporary Sociological Theory* [Laulima]; “Conclusion.” Pp. 238-255 in *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life* [Laulima]

October 11: Erving Goffman. “Introduction.” Pp. 1-35 in *Asylums: Essays on the Social Situation of Mental Patients and Other Inmates* [Laulima]

October 16: Arlie Hochschild. “Managing Feelings.” Pp. 35-55 in *The Managed Heart: Commercialization of Human Feeling (TMH)* [Laulima]

October 18: Arlie Hochschild. “Feeling Management: From Private to Commercial Uses.” Pp. 89-126 in *TMH* [Laulima]

October 23 & 25: *Preschool in Three Cultures Revisited: Japan, China and the United States* (112 min)

**\*\* Response paper #2 due in class on October 30 (Tue)**

### **Structure & Agency**

October 30: Talcott Parsons. “The Position of Sociological Theory” & “An Outline of the Social System.” Pp. 407-439 in *CST*

November 1: Robert Merton. “On Sociological Theories of the Middle Range. “Social Structure and Anomie.” Pp. 448-469 in *CST*

November 6: Election Day

November 8: Anthony Giddens. “Agency, Structure.” Pp. 231-241 in *Contemporary Sociological Theory* [Laulima]; Pierre Bourdieu. “Structures, Habitus, Practices.” Pp. 277-289 in *Contemporary Sociological Theory* [Laulima]

November 13: Jay MacLeod. “Social Immobility in the Land of Opportunity” & “Social Reproduction in Theoretical Perspective.” Pp. 3-24 in *Ain’t No Makin’ It (ANMI)* [Laulima]

November 15: Jay MacLeod. “Leveled Aspirations” & “Reproduction Theory Considered.” Pp.113-153 in *ANMI* [Laulima]

November 20: Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno. “Traditional and Critical Theory” & “The Culture Industry: Enlightenment as Mass Deception.” Pp. 347-361 & 385-389 in *CST*

November 22: Thanksgiving

November 27: C. Wright Mills. “The Promise.” Pp. 3-24 in *The Sociological Imagination* [Laulima]

November 29 & December 4: *City of God* (133 min)

**\*\* Response paper #3 due in class on December 6 (Thu)**

December 6: Reflection & extra credit assignment to be announced

**\*\* Extra credit due 4:30PM on December 11 (Tue) in my mailbox in the sociology department**