

**SOCIOLOGY 321  
SPRING 2013**

**SURVEY OF SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY**

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Lectures: Tue/Thu 10:30-11:45am  
KUY 306

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**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 Papers (TBA)	10%

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 Papers

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 Papers

You will write two short papers (2 pages, double-spaced each). I will provide more specific instructions over the course 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**

January 8: Introduction (no reading)

January 10: "General Introduction." Pp. 1-14 in *Classical Sociological Theory (CST)*

### **Classics**

January 15: Karl Marx. "The German Ideology" & "Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844." Pp. 82-95 in *CST*

January 17: Karl Marx. "Manifesto of the Community Party" & "Wage-Labour and Capital." Pp. 96-111 & 122-129 in *CST*

January 22: Max Weber. "'Objectivity' in Social Science" & "Basic Sociological Terms." Pp. 211-227 in *CST*

January 24: Max Weber. "The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism." Pp. 228-246 in *CST*

January 29: Max Weber. "The Types of Legitimate Domination" and "Bureaucracy." Pp. 256-263 and 269-273 in *CST*

January 31: Emile Durkheim. "The Rules of Sociological Method" & "The Division of

Labor in Society.” Pp. 139-147 & 158-178 in *CST*

February 5: Emile Durkheim. “The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life” & “Suicide.” Pp. 181-202 in *CST*

February 7 & 12: *The Corporation* (145 min)

**\*\* Response paper #1 due in class on February 14 (Thr)**

### **Self & Society**

February 14: 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]

February 19: 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]

February 21: Sigmund Freud. “Civilization and its Discontents.” Pp. 315-322 in *CST*; “The Dissection of the Psychical Personality.” Pp. 74-92 in *New Introductory Lectures on Psycho-Analysis* [Laulima]

February 26: Franz Fanon. “The Black Man and Psychopathology.” Pp. 121-157 in *Black Skin, White Masks* [Laulima]

February 28: 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]

March 5: Arlie Hochschild. “Managing Feelings.” Pp. 35-55 in *The Managed Heart: Commercialization of Human Feeling (TMH)* [Laulima]

March 7: Arlie Hochschild. “Feeling Management: From Private to Commercial Uses.” Pp. 89-126 in *TMH* [Laulima]

March 12 & 14: *Preschool in Three Cultures Revisited: Japan, China and the United States* (112 min)

**\*\* Response paper #2 due in class on March 19 (Tue)**

### **Structure & Agency**

March 19: Talcott Parsons. “The Position of Sociological Theory” & “An Outline of the Social System.” Pp. 407-439 in *CST*

March 21: Robert Merton. “On Sociological Theories of the Middle Range. “Social Structure and Anomie.” Pp. 448-469 in *CST*

March 26 & 28: Spring Recess

April 2: 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]

April 4: 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]

April 9: Jay MacLeod. “Leveled Aspirations” & “Reproduction Theory Considered.” Pp.113-153 in *ANMI* [Laulima]

April 11: Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno. “Traditional and Critical Theory” & “The Culture Industry: Enlightenment as Mass Deception.” Pp. 347-361 & 385-389 in *CST*

April 16: Dorothy Smith. “The Conceptual Practices of Power.” Pp. 318-326 in *Contemporary Sociological Theory*; Patricia Hill Collins. “Black Feminist Epistemology.” Pp. 327-336 in *Contemporary Sociological Theory* [Laulima]

April 18: C. Wright Mills. “The Promise.” Pp. 3-24 in *The Sociological Imagination* [Laulima]

April 23 & 25: *City of God* (133 min)

**\*\* Response paper #3 due in class on April 30 (Tue)**

April 30: Reflection & extra credit assignment to be announced

**\*\* Extra credit due 4:30PM on May 7 (Tue) in my mailbox in the sociology department**