

Irvine
Fall
2002

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER
Department of Sociology
Fall 2002

Introduction to Sociological Theory
SOCY 2001-01
Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-10:45
MCOL W100

Teaching Assistant: Alexis Cinnamon Office: Ketchum 33 Email: Alexis.Cinnamon@colorado.edu Office hours: Monday 1-2 Wednesday 11-12	Dr. Irvine Office: Ketchum 223 Phone: 492-7039 Email: irvinel@colorado.edu Office hours: Thursday 11-12 and by appointment
---	--

Course Description and Objectives

Sociological theory is a particular way of explaining and interpreting the social world. This course will introduce students to some of the major theoretical perspectives in sociology. As an introduction, it will *not* cover *all* aspects of sociological theory. It will provide a basis for students who want to take upper-division courses in sociology, and for those who do not take other sociology courses, it will nevertheless offer an introduction to some of the most important ideas in Western history.

The course will begin with a discussion of the Age of Enlightenment, the period of the eighteenth century that was pivotal for the birth of sociology. The course then offers an introduction into the themes and statements that motivated the work of Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim, and Max Weber. These three men are known as the "classical" theorists. By reading primary (original) writings and a secondary (interpretive) text, this course will show how the classics continue to have meaning today. The course will then explore the most recent attempts to explain social life in an age of globalization, high-speed communication, and related developments through postmodern theory.

Required Readings

The following books are available at both campus bookstores:
Berger, Arthur Asa. 1997. *Postmortem for a Postmodernist*. Walnut Creek CA: AltaMira.
Hadden, Richard W. 1997. *Sociological Theory: An Introduction to the Classical Tradition*. Peterborough Ontario: Broadview.

You will find additional required readings on reserve at Norlin Library. Plan to re-read each assignment, whether from the books or reserve material, more than once. Although none of the material is intrinsically difficult, it will require you to think after reading it, make some notes, and review it in order to understand it.

Course Requirements, Grading, and Assignments

You must attend class regularly and keep up with the readings in order to do well. If you miss a class, you should first get the notes from a classmate, review them, and then make an appointment with Dr. Irvine or Ms. Cinnamon to answer any questions about the material.

Grades for the course will be based on five quizzes and two essays. Half points will be rounded up. The final grade will be determined as follows:

A	= 90-100
B+	= 85-89
B	= 80-84
C+	= 75-79
C	= 70-74
D+	= 65-69
D	= 60-64
F	= below 60

Quizzes

The quizzes draw from the lectures, readings, class discussions, and any films shown in class. They will consist of ten questions each, for 10 possible points, and together, are worth 50% of your grade.

After each of the *first four* quizzes, you may earn additional points for submitting "learning statements" that demonstrate your efforts to master the material you missed on the quiz. The learning statement should reference the lecture, text, or both. Each correct statement earns one-half a point.

Example of a learning statement:

Original question (fill-in-the-blank format):

Karl Marx's work gave rise to the _____ perspective within sociology.

Your incorrect answer was "functionalist."

Your learning statement would say, "In class, we discussed that Marx's work influenced the conflict perspective because groups within a society come into conflict over the distribution of scarce and valuable resources."

To earn credit for learning statements, you must submit your original, graded quiz with the page of learning statements stapled to it. You must submit this in class *immediately following the class at which the quiz was returned*. In other words, if you get a quiz back on *Tuesday*, and you missed two questions, you

may submit the learning statements and graded quiz on *Thursday*. You would then earn an additional half point for each correct, documented statement. If you plan to submit learning statements but must miss class due to unforeseen consequences, send Dr. Irvine an email to this effect. You must act immediately on learning statements, for there are no extensions and no late submissions *unless you have a true emergency*, in which case you must inform Dr. Irvine as soon as possible. You may submit learning statements only *one time per quiz*.

The fifth quiz will serve as the final exam. It will be the same 10-question format as the other quizzes. In other words, there is no cumulative final exam in this course. If you have an exam date conflict, (i.e., two exams at once) please notify Dr. Irvine to make alternative arrangements.

Before each quiz, there will be an in-class review. If an emergency or illness causes you to miss a quiz, please notify Dr. Irvine by email to schedule a make-up quiz as early as possible. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, quizzes must be made up *within one week of the original quiz date*.

Essays

You must write two original essays responding to one of the questions given out in the second week of class. Essays are worth up to 25 points each, and combined, they are worth 50% of your grade. You may revise and resubmit your essays for a chance at a better grade. For example, let us say you wrote an essay that earned a grade of 18 points. If you wish to revise it, you must meet with Dr. Irvine or Ms. Cinnamon *within one week* to discuss revisions. You would then have an additional week to revise your essay, at which time you must submit your original, graded essay with the revised version stapled to it. If your grade on your revised essay is *still* lower than you wish, you may meet, discuss, revise, and resubmit until you are satisfied with your work. No revisions will be accepted after December 5.

Essays should be a *maximum* of three pages, double-spaced, with an 11 font. Put your name and ID number in the upper right-hand corner of the first page. Attach pages with a staple *before coming to class*. Do not use paper clips, clever folds, or sticky substances to hold your essays together. Do not place your essay in a folder or other type of cover. Make sure you number the pages of your essay. If you give direct quotes from the text, use quotation marks and put the page number along with the author's name in parentheses at the end of the sentence, inside the closing punctuation. For example: (Hadden, 42). If you quote indirectly, indicate that you have done so. For example: "As Hadden explains...." Essays that do not meet these requirements will be returned ungraded.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism and cheating will be grounds for receiving a failing grade on the relevant paper or quiz and possibly failing the course. Essays should be your original work and quizzes should assess your own knowledge. This course offers many opportunities for improving your grade without resorting to dishonesty.

The University defines *plagiarism* as "the use of another's ideas or words without acknowledgment. Examples of plagiarism include: failing to use quotation marks when quoting from a source; failing to document distinctive ideas from a source; fabricating or inventing sources; and copying information from computer-based sources."

If you are unsure of how to document material in your essays, please see Ms. Cinnamond or Dr. Irvine.

Cheating is defined as "using unauthorized materials or giving or receiving unauthorized assistance during an examination or other academic exercise. Examples of cheating include: copying the work of another student during an examination or other academic exercise (includes computer programming), or permitting another student to copy one's work; taking an examination for another student or allowing another student to take one's examination; possessing unauthorized notes, study sheets, or other materials during an examination or other academic exercise; collaborating with another student during an academic exercise without the instructor's consent; and/or falsifying examination results." See <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/acadinteg.html>

Honor Code

To ensure academic integrity, students in this course *must* observe the Honor Code and write the following statement on all quizzes and essays:

On my honor, as a University of Colorado student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this work.

For more information, see <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

Fall Religious Holidays

September 7-8: Rosh Hashanah, September 16: Yom Kippur, September 21-22: Sukkoth, November 30-December 7: Hanukkah

Students who have conflicts between religious observance dates (of the above or any other holidays) and quizzes, due dates, or attendance should see me at least two weeks before the relevant date so that we may make appropriate arrangements.

For the campus policy, see www.colorado.edu/policies/index.html

Classroom Behavior Policy

Please turn phones and pagers off before the start of class. Please refrain from sleeping, holding conversations, reading newspapers, balancing checkbooks, or reading material for other courses during lectures.

The CU campus has a new classroom behavior policy and associated procedures. An excerpt appears here:

What Constitutes Disruption?

"Disruption, as applied to the academic setting, means behavior that a reasonable faculty member would view as interfering with normal academic functions. Examples include, but are not limited to: persistently speaking without being recognized or interrupting other speakers; behavior that distracts the class from the subject matter or discussion; or in extreme cases, physical threats, harassing behavior or personal insults, or refusal to comply with faculty direction. Civil expression of disagreement with the course instructor, during times when the instructor permits discussion, is not in itself disruptive behavior and is not prohibited."

For the full text, go to www.colorado.edu/policies/index.html

Disability Policy

I encourage students with documented disabilities, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, attention deficit/hyperactive disorder, or psychiatric disabilities to see me after class or during my office hours (preferably during the first two weeks of class) to discuss possible reasonable accommodations. For more information, consult The Office of Disability Services, Willard 322 (303-492-8671).

For more information, see www.colorado.edu/sacs/disabilityservices

Important University Deadlines

September 4 (Wed.) Last chance to: add a course without instructor's signature (after 5 p.m., you need a signature form); add your name to a wait list.

September 11 (Wed.) Deadline to drop a course without the instructor's signature. After this, you need a signature on a "special action form."

September 13 (Fri.) Deadline to add a course without petitioning the Dean.

Instructor's signature is required, and you must have been attending the course already.

October 9: Deadline to drop a course without petitioning the Dean.

Course Schedule (subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class.)
H stands for Hadden (*Sociological Theory*); **B** for Berger (*Postmortem for a Postmodernist*); **R** indicates Reserve materials

Tuesday

Thursday

1	8/27 Introduction to the course	8/29 H: Preface and Introduction
2	9/3 H: up to 27	9/5 H: 27-38
3	9/10 Conclude discussion of Ch. 1 and review for quiz	9/12 First Quiz followed by introduction to Ch. 2
4	9/17 H: 39-47 R: Marx: "Contribution"	9/19 H: 47-62
5	9/24 H: 63-68 R: Marx & Engels: "Communist Manifesto"	9/26 H: 68-84 R: "Working Longer, Living Less"
6	10/1 First Essays due Conclude discussion & Review for Quiz	10/3 Second Quiz H 85-92
7	10/8 H: 92-104	10/10 <i>Fall Break</i>
8	10/15 H: 104-109 R: TBA	10/17 H: 109-113
9	10/22 H: 113-117 R: TBA	10/24 H: 117-124 Review for Quiz
10	10/29 Third Quiz followed by introduction to Ch. 4	10/31 H: 125-130 R: TBA
11	11/5 H: 131-136	11/7 Second Essays due
12	11/12 H: 136-143	11/14 H: 143-end of book
13	11/19 Review and Fourth Quiz	11/21 B: 8-30 R: TBA
14	11/26 B: 31-56 R: TBA	11/28 <i>Thanksgiving</i>
15	12/3 B: 57-106	12/5 B: 107-152 Last day to submit essay revisions
16	12/10 B: 153-end	12/12 Concluding discussion Review for final quiz

Fifth Quiz: Saturday 12/14, 1:30-4:00.