

**Department of Sociology
University of Calgary**

**SOCI 331.02
Classical Sociological Theory
Fall 2013**

Instructor: Dr. Liza McCoy

Office: SS 934

Email: mcco@ucalgary.ca

Phone: 403-220-6856

Office hours: Mondays 9:00-10:00 am; Wednesdays 2:00-3:00 pm; and by appointment

Course Description

This is a required course for students majoring in Sociology. It has several objectives:

1) to provide you with an introduction to the intellectual history of the discipline (How and when did it become possible to study “society”? What topics were important to early social theorists and sociologists? How did these topics emerge from the social, political and economic contexts of the time?);

2) to acquaint you with the key ideas of some of the most influential sociological theorists of the period 1830-1940, and to consider how these ideas have contributed to the development of sociology;

3) to provide you with practical experience in reading and responding to original works of social theory and analysis;

4) to provide you with an opportunity to examine contemporary issues and ideas through the lens of classical theory, thereby evaluating the continuing relevance of the theory.

Course Readings

Kenneth Allan, *Explorations in Classical Sociological Theory: Seeing the Social World*, 3rd edition (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 2013).

A collection of excerpts from the original works of the theorists (available from the Book Store).

Course Communication

Blackboard will be used to post course documents and assignments and for electronic communication outside of class.

Activities and Assessment

Tests: The course is organized into three units, with test after each unit. There are two midterm tests (October 7 and November 8) and a registrar-controlled final exam (date to be determined). Tests will cover material from all components (lectures, textbook, and the theorists' original works), and will include fixed choice (e.g., multiple choice, matching), short answer and essay questions.

All tests will include a take-home portion that you either hand in on the day of the test (Test #1 and Final) or a few days after the test (Test #2). The take-home question(s) will be posted at least one week before the test. Before each in-class test I will also post a study guide, and I will go over in class the types of questions you can expect.

Midterm tests #1 and #2 are not cumulative. Some parts of the final are cumulative (these involve essay questions that you will either write at home or have the chance to prepare prior to in-class writing).

Group presentation: Working in groups of 4-5, you will prepare a short oral and visual presentation on the life and ideas of one theorist. Team presentations will involve a timed slide-show format that will last for 8-10 minutes and comprise 16-20 slides plus a title slide. The group as a whole is responsible for deciding the focus and sequence of the presentation. Each individual team member is responsible for developing and presenting four (4) slides. Detailed instructions and assessment criteria will be posted in Blackboard and discussed in class.

Presentations will be given at the end of each unit (see attached schedule). You will have the opportunity to bid for the theorists you want to work on, and most people will get their first, second or third choice, but I can't guarantee that, so be prepared to be assigned to any one of the theorists we will cover.

Grading

Presentation	10 % (75 % individual work; 25 % group)
Midterm Test #1	25 %
Midterm Test #2	30 %
Final exam	35 %
Total	100 %

Achieving a passing grade in the course does not require a passing grade in all of the course components. Please be aware, however, that you must achieve a final grade of 60% or higher in order to register in SOCI 333, the second required theory course for Sociology majors.

Your final letter grade will be determined according to the following schedule:

95-100	A+	67-69	C+
90-94	A	63-66	C
85-89	A-	60-62	C-
80-84	B+	55-59	D+
75-79	B	50-54	D
70-74	B-	49 or less	F

Instructor's Policies (Please read!)

1. Laptop computers and tablets are permitted for the purpose of making notes or doing course-related work. If you are using your device for non-course related purposes and this is distracting to me or to other students, you will be courteously asked to bring your use in line with course policy. Permission to use a computer or other electronic device in class may be revoked for students who continually flout class policy.
2. Please ask permission before making any visual or audio recordings of class proceedings. Permission to record will only be granted for personal use, which includes sharing with other students currently enrolled in SOCI 331.02. Images or recordings must be deleted before December 31, 2013. They should not be shared with anyone outside the class.
3. I will answer email within 24 hours during the school week (usually much quicker); I may not respond to email over the weekend, unless it is an urgent matter.
4. Please check the course outline and the Blackboard site before emailing me with questions about due dates, requirements, test formats, etc. I am happy to answer your questions, in person or electronically, but not in cases where the information sought is already available to you.
5. Some lecture slides will be posted in Blackboard after the lecture. I do not post my lecture notes, so if you miss class, you will need to get notes from another student. I highly recommend that you set up a note-sharing arrangement with one or more of your classmates.
6. In accordance with University policy, I report all cases of plagiarism. Plagiarized essays get an automatic grade of 0; this includes essays that are only partially plagiarized (a few sentences or parts of sentences). The easy way to avoid this? *Don't download material from the Internet and don't crib directly from the textbook: write your essays in your own words and properly cite all quoted material.*

7. Make-up tests will be scheduled according to the Sociology Department's schedule for invigilated make-up tests. Please note the University guidelines below concerning deferrals. If you are ill or unable to complete an assignment or write a test, *contact me before the due date or test*. Be aware that you may be required to bring documented proof of illness.
8. Electronic submission of take-home essays will only be accepted in cases of illness or affliction; remember to contact me first for permission to submit electronically (see above).

Department and University Policy Information (*I don't write this part*)

1. Grade Reappraisal: Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a reconsidered mark may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.
2. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
3. Academic Misconduct: Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>
4. Protection of Privacy: The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. "If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment."
5. Ethical Research: Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.
6. Deferrals: If possible, please provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to write an exam or complete/turn-in assignments on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the health issue rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student. If you

have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology. Deferred Final Exam Form: Please note that requests to defer a Registrar scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar’s Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at: http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Sp_Su_DFE_App.pdf Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It’s available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

7. Student Representation: The 2013-14 Students’ Union VP Academic is [name]; email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca. The Faculty of Arts has four SU representatives who may be contacted at any of the following email addresses: arts1@ucalgary.ca, arts2@ucalgary.ca, arts3@ucalgary.ca, and arts4@ucalgary.ca. You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds/role>
8. Emergency Evacuation: In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at the Professional Faculties Food Court. Please check these assembly point locations for your other classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>
9. Safewalk: The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.
10. Academic Accommodation: Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, must register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 293, phone 403-220-8237). Please provide academic accommodation letters to the instructor as early in the semester as possible and no later than two weeks after the course begins.

Course Schedule of Topics, Readings, Presentations, and Tests

Note: Test and presentation dates are fixed; dates for covering theorists and readings are approximate and will be updated throughout the course.

Week 1	Sept. 9, 11, 13 Allan, ch. 1 (Historical antecedents & Comte)
Week 2	Sept. 16, 18, 20 Allan, ch. 2 (Spencer) Spencer reading
Week 3	Sept. 23, 25, 27 Allan, ch. 3 (Marx) Marx reading
Week 4	Sept. 30, Oct. 2, 4 Marx, continued Presentations (Comte, Spencer and Marx – Oct. 2) Review and preparation for test
Week 5	Oct. 7, 9, 11 <i>Test # 1 on October 7</i> Allan, ch. 4 (Durkheim) Durkheim reading
Week 6	Oct. 16, 18 (No class Monday – Thanksgiving) Durkheim, continued
Week 7	Oct. 21, 23, 25 Allan, ch. 5 (Weber) Weber reading
Week 8	Oct. 28, 30, Nov. 1 Allan, ch. 6, pp. 237-253 (Simmel section) Simmel reading
Week 9	Nov. 4, 6, 8 Durkheim, Weber, Simmel wrap-up Presentations (Durkheim, Weber & Simmel – Nov. 4) & review <i>Test #2 on November 8</i>

- Week 10 Nov. 13, 15 (no Monday class – Reading days)
Test #2 take home portion due November 13
Allan, ch. 7, pp. 264-282
Martineau reading
- Week 11 Nov. 18, 20, 22
Allan, ch. 7, pp. 282-295
Gilman reading
Allan, ch. 8, pp. 310-322 (recommended to read full chapter)
- Week 12 Nov. 25, 27, 29
Du Bois reading
Allan, ch. 6, pp. 220-237 (Mead section)
Mead reading
- Week 13 Dec. 2, 4, 6
Allan, ch. 9
Presentations: (Martineau & Gilman – Dec. 4) (DuBois & Mead – Dec. 6)
Review
- Final exam TBA (2 hours + take home portion)