

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

COURSE OUTLINE
SOCIOLOGY 331.02 FALL 2016

CLASSICAL SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

- INSTRUCTOR: V. A. Haines
Office: Social Sciences 946
Phone: 403-220-7605
Email: haines@ucalgary.ca
- OFFICE HOURS: Tu 1100-1200, Th 1100-1130 or by appointment
- LECTURES: TuTh 0930-1045 EDC 057
- REQUIRED READINGS: SOCI 331.02 *Classical Sociological Theory*
Haines
- MARK DISTRIBUTION: A. Composition of Final Grade
- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Examination One (Oct. 6) | 25% |
| Examination Two (Nov. 8) | 35% |
| Final Examination | 40% |
- B. Examinations One and Two
- Examination One and Examination Two will be written during scheduled lecture periods.
- C. Final Examination
- There will be a three-hour final examination scheduled by the Registrar's Office.

LETTER GRADE CONVERSIONS:

A+	90% or >
A	85-89%
A-	80-84%
B+	77-79%
B	73-76%
B-	70-72%
C+	67-69%
C	63-66%
C-	60-62%
D+	55-59%
D	50-54%
F	49% or <

Fractions of 0.5% or higher are rounded up.

COURSE OBJECTIVE/LEARNING OUTCOMES

The objective of this course is to introduce students to classical sociological theory. After completing this course, students will be familiar with key texts of classical sociological theorists who traditionally have been included in, and excluded from, the sociology canon. Students will understand central problems in sociological theory and the ways in which classical sociological theorists grappled with these problems. They will have experience reading excerpts from texts written by classical sociological theorists and publications about these theorists written by their successors, including contemporary sociologists.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers an historical reconstruction of sociological theory from its nineteenth-century origins to World War II. It focuses on the works of Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim, Max Weber, and Talcott Parsons. It introduces the main ideas of the theories and situates them in their social and intellectual contexts. It moves beyond description to analysis by examining alternative solutions to three central problems in sociological theory: (1) agency, (2) method, and (3) change. It concludes by bringing in Charlotte Perkins Gilman to explore the current debate on canonicity in sociology.

LECTURE OUTLINE AND REQUIRED READINGS

The following is a brief summary of the dates when the major topics will be covered and the topic-specific readings. Minor departures from this outline should be expected.

I. INTRODUCTION (Sept. 13)

Central Problems in Sociological Theory.

II. POSITIVISM AND CLASSICAL EVOLUTIONARY THEORIZING (Sept. 15-22)

Comte and Positivism.

Reading 1 Auguste Comte

Reading 2 The Nature and Importance of the Positive Philosophy

Spencer's Evolutionary Social Theory.

Reading 3 Herbert Spencer

III. KARL MARX (Sept. 27-Oct. 11)

Alienation.

Reading 4 Estranged Labour

Sociology of Capitalism.

Reading 5 Manifesto of the Communist Party

Reading 6 Commodities and Money

Reading 7 Production of Relative Surplus-Value

Historical Materialism.

Reading 8 Marx's Historical Sociology

IV. EMILE DURKHEIM (Oct. 13-27)

Social Solidarity.

Reading 9 Division of Labour in Society

Rules of Sociological Method.

Moral Integration.

Reading 10 Sociological Method: Its Application to Suicide

V. MAX WEBER (Nov. 1-17)

Subjective Understanding.

Reading 11 The Definitions of Sociology and Social Action

Ideal Types.

Reading 12 The Ideal Type

The Origins of Modern Capitalism.

Reading 13 The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism

Rationalization.

Reading 14 The Spread of Secular Rationalism

VI. TALCOTT PARSONS (Nov. 22-29)

The Structure of Social Action.

Reading 15 Introduction and Preface

Reading 16 The Theory of Action

VII. THE DEBATE ON CANONICITY IN SOCIOLOGY (Nov. 29-Dec. 8)

The Sociological Canon.

Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

Reading 17 Early Women Sociologists and Classical Sociological Theory

Reading 18 The Yellow Wallpaper and Women and Economics

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Required reading should be completed before each class.

All examinations will be cumulative. Examinations will cover material that is presented in the lectures and required readings.

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **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.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Ethics 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 Faculty 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.

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>

Deferrals

When possible, please provide advance notice 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, misreading the syllabus, and scheduling conflicts with other classes or employment 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 percentage weight of a missed examination will be transferred to the other course components. **NOTE: There are no “make up” tests for Examination One or Examination Two.**

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: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-forms>

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 https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred_termwork15_0.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).

Student Representation

The 2016-17 Students' Union VP Academic is Alicia Lunz (suypaca@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>

Emergency Evacuations

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at Scurfield Hall-Atrium.

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.

Academic Accommodation

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services (MC 293, phone 403-220-8237) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf. 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.