



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Fall 2019

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: Classical Sociological Theory			
Course Number	SOCI 331		
Pre/Co-Requisites	Sociology 201 or consent of the Department.		
Instructor Name	Dr. Dean Curran	Email	dcurran@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	Feel free to contact me over email. Please put your course number and section in your email's subject line, and include a proper salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in the body of your email. Emails will be answered within two business days, though usually shorter than this – though I do not answer emails over the weekend. Please take that into account when emailing me questions pertaining assignments or exams. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline first. Email is primarily for administrative purposes and does not fit well as a replacement for an office visit. Questions about the course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with in person during my office hours.		
Office Location	SS918	Office Hours	Monday, Friday 11:00-12:00
TA Name	Carieta Thomas	TA Email	carieta.thomas1@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Location	SS 911	TA Office Hours	TBA
Class Dates	Monday, Wednesday, Friday		
Class Times	10:00am-10:50am		
Class Location	SA 104		

Course Description

This is a required course for students majoring in Sociology. This course is intended as an introduction to classical sociological theory. In addition to serving as a prerequisite for SOCI 333, Contemporary Sociological Theory, classical sociological theory provides an introduction to: research areas, issues of concern, theories, methods, and concepts that continue to significantly influence contemporary sociology more generally.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students should have knowledge and understanding of:

- The dominant theoretical approaches in classical sociological theory.
- How these different approaches relate to each other and to developments in contemporary society.

This course should also enhance students' ability to:

- To theorize in a critical and analytical manner about social life.
- Write clearly and cogently about classical social theory.
- Make a contribution to existing debates in classical sociological theory by fashioning and defending their own arguments

Theory and Theorizing

In this course it is essential that students engage in a theoretical manner with the course material in their participation and writing. It is essential that students not merely describe and summarize the readings. A theoretical analysis seeks to abstract certain key ideas, arguments, concepts from the specific content of a text and then reconstructs the arguments, ideas, or concepts in such a way that we are able to better grasp the relations between different ideas and concepts. This process of abstraction and reconstruction may be for the purpose of: better understanding a specific concept of a theorist (such as Weber's "rationalization" or Durkheim's "anomie"); better understanding the relation between the different concepts of a specific thinker (such as how Marx's theory of class relates to his theory of value); or better understanding the relation between two thinkers' conception of social reality (such as the connection between Marx's understanding of "alienation" and Durkheim's "social facts"). This improved understanding through the process of abstraction and reconstruction may be for such purposes such as: (1) helping to better understand the theorist's work in their own terms, (2) critiquing the work of the thinker, or (3) identifying how to apply the basic theories of a thinker to a very different context than the one for which they were originally formulated.

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

- Craig Calhoun, Joseph Gerteis, James Moody, Steven Pfaff, and Indermohan Virk (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell. [This book is available at the UCalgary Bookstore].
- Ian Craib (1997) *Classical Social Theory: An Introduction to the Thought of Marx, Weber, Durkheim, and Simmel*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. [This book is available at the UCalgary Bookstore].
- Some Readings on D2L

Students are expected to bring the readings to the lectures to discuss the material.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Week 1: Introduction to course and precursors to Classical Sociological Theory

Sept 6, 2019

- I. Kramnick (1995) "Introduction" *The Portable Enlightenment Reader*. Ed. I. Kramnick. Penguin, pp. ix –xxiii [on D2L]

Week 2: Sept 9, 11 & 13, 2019: Introduction to Course Continued & Marx I: Early Marx

- Tan Chee Beng (2007) “Confucianism” in Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology [on D2L]
- Hobbes, T. ([1651]) “Of the Natural Condition and the Commonwealth” in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 30–7.
- Marx, K. “The Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844” in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 146–155.

Week 3: Marx II: Marx on Alienation and Class

Sept 16, 18 & 20, 2019

- Karl Marx ([1843] 1983) From “The Kreuznach Manuscripts: Critique of Hegel’s Philosophy of Right” in E. Kamenka (ed.) *The Portable Karl Marx*, London: Penguin, pp. 87–90 [on D2L].
- Ian Craib (1997) “Was Marx a Marxist?” *Classical Social Theory: An Introduction to the Thought of Marx, Weber, Durkheim, and Simmel*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 88–112.

Week 4: Marx III: Historical Materialism

Sept 23, 25 & 27, 2019

- Marx, K. “The German Ideology” and “Manifesto of the Communist Party” in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 142–45, 156–171.
- Ian Craib (1997) “Marx and the Meaning of History” *Classical Social Theory*. Oxford, pp. 204–229.

Week 5: Durkheim I: The Rules of Sociological Method

Sept 30, Oct 2 & Oct. 4, 2019

- Durkheim, E. “The Rules of Sociological Method” in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 201–19.
- Ian Craib (1997) “Durkheim: The Discovery of Social Facts?” and “Karl Marx: the primacy of production”, *Classical Social Theory*. Oxford, pp. 25–41.

Week 6: Durkheim II: The Division of Labour

Oct 7, 9 & 11, 2019

- Durkheim, E. “The Division of Labour in Society” in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 220–242.
- Ian Craib (1997) “Durkheim: drunk and orderly” and “Durkheim’s organic analogy”, *Classical Social Theory*: Oxford, pp. 63–69, 187–203.

Week 7: Durkheim III: On Religion

Oct 14, 16 & 18, 2019

- Durkheim, E. “The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life”, in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 243–252.

- Ian Craib (1997) “Durkheim: drunk and orderly” *Classical Social Theory*. Oxford, pp. 70–82.

Week 8: Midterm (Midterm October 21st, 2019) and Weber I: Methodology

Oct 23 & 25 2019

- Weber, M. “Objectivity in Social Science” and “Types of Social Action”, in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 273–279, 289–290.
- Ian Craib (1997) “Max Weber: the primacy of social action” and ‘The liberal Weber’ *Classical Social*. Oxford, pp. 43–52, 119–123.

Week 9: Weber II: Rise of Capitalism

Oct 28, 30 & Nov 1, 2019

- Weber, M. “The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism” in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 291–309.
- Ian Craib (1997) “Weber as a tragic liberal: the rise of the West” *Classical Social Theory*: Oxford, pp. 233–56.

Week 10 Weber III: Power and Domination

Nov 4, 6 & 8, 2019

- Weber, M. “The Distribution of Power within the Political Community” and “The Types of Legitimate Domination” in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 310–327.

Nov 11, 13 & 15, 2019

No class, Fall Break

Week 11: Simmel (Paper Due Nov 20, 2019 in class)

Nov 18, 20 & 22, 2019

- Simmel “Group Expansion and the Development of Individuality” in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 366–81.
- Ian Craib (1997) “Simmel: the social and the personal” *Classical Social Theory*. Oxford, pp. 147–71, 177–9.

Week 12: The Excluded

Nov 25, 27 & 29, 2019

- Du Bois “The Souls of Black Folks” in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 404–409.
- C. Lemert “W.E.B. Du Bois” in G. Ritzer (eds) *The Blackwell Companion to Major Classical Social Theorists*. Malden: Blackwell, pp. 333–54. [on D2L].
- Wollstonecraft, M. “Introduction” *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*. New York: Penguin, pp. 71–75. [on D2L]

Week 13: Mead

Dec 2, 4 & 6 2019

- Mead, G.H. "The Self" in in Calhoun et al. (eds) (2012) *Classical Sociological Theory*, 3rd Edition, pp. 347–360.

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

Participation: 5%

Mid-term: 30% (**October 21st, 2019**)

Term Paper: 35% (**Due Nov 20, 2019 in class**)

Final Exam: 30% (**December 13th, 2019 at 4pm via D2L**)

Course Participation

Students are expected to regularly attend the lectures and to have completed the readings prior to the Friday lecture. It is important that each student be prepared to contribute to the discussion of the readings, both for their own learning and for the benefit of the class as a whole.

Mid-Term (in-class)

The mid-term will take place during class and will be on the readings and lectures of the first seven weeks of the course.

Theory Paper

The final term paper is a core component of assessment for this course. The term paper assignment is intended to enable students to develop a substantive theoretical paper and to further develop the skills associated with this task. The readings in this course are intended to provide an in-depth introduction to many of the key debates in classical sociological theory. The final term paper involves a comparison or contrast of the key ideas of two key thinkers in this course. This paper is due in the eleventh week of class. Students are heavily encouraged to plan ahead and consult with the instructor regarding their proposed essay topic. The paper involves a comparison or contrast of the key ideas of two key thinkers in the course). This paper should be 2000 words with 10% (i.e. 200 words allowance) on either side. In comparing the two thinkers students are encouraged not just find differences in terms of focus, but in particular points of agreement and disagreement which in turn generate similarity or differences in the respective theorists.

Submission and Late Policy

The term paper is to be handed in as a hard copy in class to the course instructor the day of class that it is due. The paper will receive a late penalty of FIVE (5) MARKS PER FULL OR PART DAY (a weekend counts as two full days). Any paper more than one (1) week late without a valid extension will receive a mark of zero (0). Accommodations are unlikely to be allowed for late

entry other than illness or another serious and documented situation – talk to me prior to the deadline. Take-home exams that are late will receive a mark of F.

Final Exam

The final exam will be a take-home. It will cover the entire course material, both readings and lectures. Proper citation practice must be used in the take-home essays. The questions will be placed on D2L on December 6th by 4pm and will be due one week later on D2L, **December 13th, 2019 at 4pm via D2L**. Take-home exams that are late will receive an F grade. **Students are responsible for checking that they have uploaded the correct file – there will be no exceptions for incorrectly uploaded submissions.**

Class Etiquette

Use of cell phones or internet on laptops distracts other students and the instructor and hence is not permitted. Based on previous feedback from students, the policy for this class will be that laptops without the use of internet is permitted, but that if laptops are used for other than taking notes, permission to use a laptop will be withdrawn.

Office Hours: During office hours you are free to drop by without an appointment at any time. If you are unable to make that time, please contact me in advance so that we can try to arrange an appointment. Office hours are a very effective and efficient way of providing help and I encourage all students to make use of my office hours.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	95 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 94.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

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 re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

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 can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Research Ethics

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.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

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.html>

Absences and Deferrals

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

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 can be found at:

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://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/1/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).

Academic Accommodation

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Success

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use

any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.