



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 331.02		
Pre/Co-Requisites	Soci 201		
Instructor Name	V. A. Haines	Email	haines@ucalgary.ca
Office Location	Social Sciences 946	Office Hours	TuTh 1100-1130 or by appointment
Telephone No.	[403-220-7605]		
Class Dates	Sept. 5-Dec. 5		
Class Times	TuTh 0930-1045		
Class Location	PF 110		

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.

Course Objectives/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.

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources

Required readings are posted on D2L under Content..

Schedule of Lectures and 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. 5)

Central Problems in Sociological Theory.

II. POSITIVISM AND CLASSICAL EVOLUTIONARY THEORIZING (Sept. 10-17)

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. 19-Oct. 3)

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. 8-22)

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 (Oct. 24-Nov. 7)

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. 19-26)

The Structure of Social Action.

Reading 15 Introduction and Preface

Reading 16 The Theory of Action

VII. THE DEBATE ON CANONICITY IN SOCIOLOGY (Nov. 26-Dec. 5)

The Sociological Canon.

Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

Reading 17 Early Women Sociologists and Classical Sociological Theory

Reading 18A The Yellow Wallpaper

Reading 18B Women and Economics

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

All examinations will be cumulative. Examinations will cover material that is presented in the lectures and required readings. Type of examination: multiple choice and short answer.

Composition of Final Grade

Examination One (October 1)	25%
Examination Two (October 31)	35%
Final Examination	40%

Examination One and Examination Two

Examination One and Examination Two will be written during scheduled lecture periods. These examinations can be written only as scheduled on the course outline.

Final Exam Information

There will be a two-hour final examination scheduled by the Registrar's Office. Unless a Deferred Final Examination is granted by the Registrar's Office, this examination can be written only as scheduled by the Registrar.

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+	90 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	85 – 89%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	80 – 84%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	77 – 79%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	73 – 76%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 72%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	60– 62%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 59%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
D	50 – 54%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	49% or <	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Fractions of 0.5% or higher are rounded up.

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

Absences: Students who are absent from class assessments (examinations) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Evidence in the form of documentation must be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, then upon receipt of written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar, 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.** 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](https://www.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.