

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

COURSE OUTLINE

FALL 2014  
SOCIOLOGY 631-SO1  
SEMINAR IN CLASSICAL SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

INSTRUCTOR: V. A. Haines

OFFICE: Social Sciences 946

PHONE: 220-7605

EMAIL: [haines@ucalgary.ca](mailto:haines@ucalgary.ca)

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

SEMINAR: F 9:00 AM -11:45 AM SS 921

REQUIRED READINGS: Max Weber. *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*.

All other readings will be available in the Sociology Graduate Student Library or the University of Calgary Library.

MARK DISTRIBUTION: Composition of Final Grade

Assignment One (Oct. 14)	25%
Examination (Nov. 7)	40%
Assignment Two (Dec. 15)	35%

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 <

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers a history of sociological theory from its nineteenth-century origins to World War II. Its objectives are (1) to engage critically with established classical sociological theorists and texts and (2) to use these engagements as points of entry into ongoing debates about the nature and contemporary significance of classical sociological theory--debates about what constitutes a "classic" in sociological theory, how to study the classics and processes of canon formation.

## LECTURE OUTLINE AND REQUIRED READINGS

The following is a brief summary of the writers we will cover and dates when their work will be discussed. Minor departures from this outline should be expected.

- I. Introduction (Sept. 12, 19)
- II. Emile Durkheim (Sept. 26, Oct. 3)
- III. Karl Marx (Oct. 10, 17)
- IV. Max Weber (Oct. 24, 31)
- V. Talcott Parsons (Nov. 14, 21)
- VI. The Debate on Canonicity in Sociology (Nov. 28, Dec. 5)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The required readings should be completed before each seminar. Please bring the current readings to the seminar.

Assignment One will be handed out on October 3, 2014. It is due at 1200 on October 14, 2014. Assignment Two will be handed out on December 5, 2014. It is due at 1200 on December 15, 2014. Late assignments will not be accepted. All instructions for the assignments must be followed.

The examination on November 7, 2014 will be written in SS 921 during the seminar period (9:00 AM to 11:45 AM).

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.

The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.

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>

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."

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.

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](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).

Student Representation: The 2014-15 Students' Union VP Academic's email is: Hana Kadri [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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](mailto:arts1@ucalgary.ca),  
[arts2@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@ucalgary.ca), [arts3@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@ucalgary.ca)