

SYA 4110: Development of Sociological Thought (Sociological Theory/Social Theory)

Class #21375 and Class #21376

Spring Semester 2024

Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

University of Florida

Gainesville, Florida

January – May 2024

Professor: Dustin Garlitz (Adjunct Lecturer in Sociology) – dustingarlitz@ufl.edu

Class Meeting Location: Norman Hall 1037 (UF College of Education)

Class Meeting Days and Times: Period 4 - Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10:40 AM – 11:30 AM

Class Discussion / Lab Sections: Periods 5 and 6 - Fridays, 11:45 PM – 12:35 PM and 12:50 PM – 1:40 PM

Class Discussion / Lab Sections Meeting Location: Architecture 0423

Teaching Assistant: Ryan Howard – ryanhoward@ufl.edu

Office Hours and Office Locations:

Professor Dustin Garlitz: Mondays Turlington 3349 – 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Professor Dustin Garlitz: Wednesdays Turlington 3347 – 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Office Phone: (352) 392-0264

Teaching Assistant Ryan Howard: Wednesdays Turlington 3349 – 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Teaching Assistant Ryan Howard: Thursdays Turlington 3349 – 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Prerequisites

You **MUST** have taken SYG 2000, Principles of Sociology (or equivalent), and have at least 90 semester credit hours.

Course Description

NEVER MIND METHODS, *THIS* IS THE COURSE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR! This is the course where we will sharpen up your analytical and critical thinking skills. "Theory" takes us on the odyssey that is the "Development of Sociological Thought", about the people and the ideas that have influenced the discipline since its origins. In the process, we will examine the context, the key concepts, and the central arguments of key theorists and schools of thought. Along the way, we will also constructively critique their assumptions, their strengths and their oversights and limitations. As we go, we will also see how sociological theory has changed, and you can decide where we need to go next. This will require you to read and reflect on sociological thought, not just in the abstract but in relation to contemporary sociological problems and other courses in the sociology curriculum. Crucially, "Theory" is intended to help you develop your ability to critically analyze all manner of arguments in terms of their strengths and weaknesses and implications. In an information economy filled with dubious arguments run amok, there is hardly a more valuable skill. Critical analysis done respectfully has applications far beyond sociology and even academia.

Required Readings

Textbook and Reader:

Scott Appelrouth and Laura Desfor Edles - 2020 - *Classical and contemporary sociological theory text and readings* 4th edition Los Angeles: Sage/Pine Forge. ISBN: 9781506387994 (paperback)

Steven Best and Douglas Kellner – 1991 – *Postmodern Theory: Critical Interrogations*. New York: The Guilford Press. ISBN: 0-89862-418-5 (paperback)

Monday, Jan. 8th, 2024 - Friday, May 3rd, 2024

Student Learning Outcomes in this Course:

1. Relate the context, key concepts and central arguments of diverse sociological theorists and schools of thought.
2. Identify the assumptions, oversights and limitations of diverse sociological theorists and schools of thought.
3. Constructively critique sociological theorists in both written and oral expression.
4. Apply a sociological theory to a contemporary social issue or phenomenon in order to interpret and/or critique it.

Graded Course Assignments:

Seminar Papers (3):

Seminar Paper #1: 25 Points, Due Monday, Jan. 29th

Seminar Paper #2: 25 Points, Due Monday, March 4th

Seminar Paper #3: 35 Points, Due Thursday, May 2nd

Each Seminar Paper should be 5 pages long and engage a topic in sociological theory that I will post to Canvas on the Assignments Page. The first seminar paper will need to engage the classical sociological theory of Marx, Durkheim, and Weber, while the second and third seminar papers will need to focus on more contemporary issues in sociological theory.

Reflection Papers (3):

Reflection Paper #1: 5 Points, Due Monday, Jan. 22nd

Reflection Paper #2: 5 Points, Due Monday, February 26th

Reflections Paper #3: 5 Points, Due Monday, April 22nd

Reflection Papers are short 500 word essays based on topics in sociological theory that I will post to Canvas on the Assignments Page. The first reflection paper will need to focus on Marx's classical sociological theory, while the second and third reflection papers can focus more on contemporary sociological theory, or the classical sociological theory of Durkheim, Weber, and Simmel (namely, in the Second reflection paper)

Assignment of Grades. Based on your performance, I will assign letter grades as shown in the table below. More on UF grading policies can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>.

Percentage	Letter	Percentage	Letter
90.0+	A	70.0-<77.5	C
87.5-<90.0	B+	67.5-<70.0	D+
80.0-<87.5	B	60.0-<67.5	D
77.5-<80.0	C+	<60.0	E

Course Policies

Attendance. Attendance is not strictly mandatory in the sense that I will not take a roll call for lecture or discussion sessions. We will have lectures that directly bear on the seminar paper content. Lectures will also reinforce your understanding of material from the notes and readings. There is no make-up for missed discussion sessions. UF attendance policies as regards university activities, religious observances and other absences can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

Late Work, I will not accept late work unless you can provide written documentation and I accept the justification. Then we need to agree on the deadline for the late submission. If you know you will miss class the day of the deadline for graded work, it is your responsibility to turn it in before the deadline. More on UF attendance and make-up policies can be found at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.

University Policies and Services:

Course Evaluations. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>.

Health and Wellness Policies: Class and Discussion Sessions. Current UF guidance on COVID and other communicable viruses is available at <https://coronavirus.ufl.edu/university-updates/august-26-the-campus-brief.html> and at <https://coronavirus.ufl.edu/>. Per UF guidance, masks are encouraged inside UF facilities. If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. COVID-19 testing remains available both on and off campus. If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine per CDC guidelines. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Continue to watch for updates to UF guidance on COVID.

Accommodation for students with disabilities: Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. More information is available at <https://disability.ufl.edu/>.

UF Health and Wellness Resources:

1. U Matter, We Care: if you or someone you know is in distress, please contact 392-1575, umatter@ufl.edu
2. University Counseling Center: crisis and non-crisis services, personal and career counseling: 392-1575, <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>
3. Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center: personal counseling: 392-1575, <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
4. University Police Department, 392-1111, 911 for emergencies, police@ufl.edu

5. UF Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: for medical emergencies, please call 733-0111, <https://ufhealth.org> or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road;
6. GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit <https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/> or call 352-273-4450.

Online Communication Etiquette: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all online communications. More information is available at <http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>.

UF Academic Resources:

1. UF Technical Support: Please contact the UF Help Desk at <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/> or 352-392-HELP (4357), Option 2.
2. Career Connections Center: career assistance and counseling services: 392-1601 or <https://career.ufl.edu/>
3. Teaching Center: general study skills and tutoring: Broward Hall, 392-2010 or to make an appointment 392-6420 or <https://academicresources.clas.ufl.edu/>.

Academic Honesty: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: 'On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.' The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions." The conduct code is available at <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>.

Turn in your own, original work! Even though you will work in groups in discussion sessions, you are expected to take your own notes. For this course, I will be employing online software which scans all work submitted to me by students for unoriginal in order to detect plagiarism. This software scans billions of websites as well as previous assignments to compare content. I will make decisions about plagiarism based on data from the software. I reserve the right to give no credit for work determined by the software to have plagiarized. I am not interested in who copied from whom. FOR YOUR SAKE, TURN IN YOUR OWN WORK.

In-class Recordings: Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topics	Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
Mon, 8 Jan	Introduction	Syllabus
Mon, 8 Jan	NO DISCUSSION	NO READINGS
Wed, 10 Jan	On Theory	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 1
Fri, 12 Jan	Marx, part 1	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 2: Marx, author comments
Mon, 15 Jan	NO DISCUSSION - MLK DAY	NO READINGS
Mon, 15 Jan	NO CLASS - MLK DAY	NO READINGS
Wed, 17 Jan	Marx, part 2	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 2: Author introductions and Marx, <i>Communist Manifesto</i> and <i>Capital</i>
Fri, 19 Jan	Durkheim, part 1	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 3: Durkheim, author comments
Mon, 22 Jan	Discussion 1: Marx and Durkheim	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 2,3: Marx, Durkheim, author comments
Mon, 22 Jan	Durkheim, part 2	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 3: Author introductions and Durkheim, <i>Suicide</i> and <i>Elementary Forms of the Religious Life</i>
Wed, 24 Jan	Weber, part 1	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 4: Weber, author comments
Fri, 26 Jan	Weber, part 2	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 4: Author introductions and Weber, <i>Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism</i> and <i>Bureaucracy</i>
Mon, 29 Jan	Discussion 2: Weber and Simmel	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapters 4 and 6: Weber and Simmel, author comments
Mon, 29 Jan	Simmel	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 6: Simmel, author comments and <i>Metropolis and Mental Life</i>

Wed, 31 Jan.	Mead	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 8: Mead, author comments and <i>Self</i>
Fri, 2 Feb	Perkins Gilman	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 5: Perkins Gilman, author comments and <i>Women and Economics</i>
Mon, 5 Feb	Discussion 3: Mead, Perkins Gilman, Du Bois	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapters 5,7,8: Mead, Perkins Gilman, Du Bois, author comments
Mon, 5 Feb	Du Bois	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 7: Du Bois, author comments and <i>The Souls of Black Folks, The Souls of White Folks</i>
Wed, 7 Feb		NO READINGS
Fri, 9 Feb		NO READINGS
Mon, 12 Feb	Discussion 4: Structural Functionalism	
Mon, 12 Feb	Structural Functionalism	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 9: Parsons; author comments on SF and Parsons, <i>Categories of the Orientation of Organizations of Action</i>
Wed, 14 Feb	Critical Theory, part 1: Adorno	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 10: Adorno; author comments and <i>Culture Industry Reconsidered</i>
Fri 16 Feb	Critical Theory, part 2: Marcuse	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 10: Marcuse; author comments and <i>One-dimensional Man</i>
Mon, 19 Feb	Discussion 5: Critical Theory	
Mon, 19 Feb	Symbolic Interactionism, part 1: Goffman	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 12: Goffman; author comments on SI and Goffman, and Goffman, <i>Presentation of Self in Everyday Life</i>
Wed, 21 Feb	Symbolic Interactionism, part 2: Hochschild	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 12: Hochschild; author comments and Hochschild, <i>The Managed Heart</i>

Fri, 23 Feb	Phenomenology	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 13: Schutz; author comments and <i>Phenomenology of the Social World</i>
Mon, 26 Feb	Discussion 6: Symbolic Interactionism, and Phenomenology	
Mon, 26 Feb	Phenomenology	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 13: Berger and Luckmann; author comments and <i>The Social Construction of Reality</i>
Wed, 28 Feb	Feminism, part 1: Smith	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 13: Smith; author comments and <i>Institutional Ethnography</i>
Fri, 1 Mar	Feminism, part 2: Hill Collins	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 10: Hill Collins; author comments and <i>Black Feminist Thought</i>
Mon, 4 Mar	Discussion 7: Feminism	
Mon, 4 Mar	Feminism, part 3: Butler	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 15: Butler; author comments and Butler, <i>Gender Trouble</i>
Wed, 6 Mar	Feminism, part 3 continued	
Fri, 8 Mar	Feminism, part 3 continued	
Mon, 11 Mar	NO DISCUSSION - SPRING BREAK	NO READINGS
Mon, 11 Mar	NO CLASS-SPRING BREAK	NO READINGS
Wed, 13 Mar	NO CLASS-SPRING BREAK	NO READINGS
Fri, 15 Mar	NO CLASS-SPRING BREAK	NO READINGS
Mon, 18 Mar	Discussion 8: Race & Racism	

Mon 18 Mar	Race and Racism, part 1	Readings TBA
Wed, 20 Mar	Race and Racism, part 2	Readings TBA
Fri, 22 Mar	Race and Racism, part 3	Readings TBA
Mon, 25 Mar	Discussion 9: Post-structuralism and Post-modernism	
Mon, 25 Mar	Post-structuralism	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 14: Foucault, author comments and Foucault, <i>Discipline and Punish</i>
Wed, 27 Mar	Post-modernism	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 15: Baudrillard, author comments and Baudrillard, <i>Simulacra and Simulations</i>
Fri, 29 Mar	Contemporary Syntheses	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 14: Bourdieu, author comments and Bourdieu, <i>Social Space and the Genesis of Social Groups</i>
Mon, 1 Apr	Discussion 10: Contemporary Syntheses	
Mon, 1 Apr	Contemporary Syntheses	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 10: Habermas, author comments and Habermas, <i>Civil Society, Public Opinion, and Communicative Power</i>
Wed, 3 Apr	Contemporary Syntheses	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 16: Giddens, author comments and Giddens, <i>The Consequences of Modernity</i>
Fri, 5 Apr	Globalization	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 16: Wallerstein, author comments and Wallerstein, <i>The Modern World-system as a Capitalist Worldeconomy</i>
Mon, 8 Apr	Discussion 11: Globalization	

Mon, 8 Apr	Globalization	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 16: Beck, author comments and Beck, <i>Climate for Change</i>
Wed, 10 Apr	Post-colonial Theory	Appelrouth & Edles, Chapter 14: Said, author comments and Said, <i>Orientalism</i>
Fri, 12 Apr	Post-colonial Theory	Said, continued
Mon, 15 Apr	Discussion 12: Post-colonial Theory	
Mon, 15 Apr	Postmodern Theory	Best and Kellner, Chapters 1 and 2
Wed, 17 Apr	Postmodern Theory	Best and Kellner, Chapters 3 and 4
Fri, 19 Apr	Postmodern Theory	Best and Kellner, Chapters 5 and 6
Mon, 22 Apr	Postmodern Theory	Best and Kellner, Chapters 7 and 8
Wed, 24 Apr	Course Wrap-up	Summary of Theory Readings from Semester
Wed, 1 May, 12:30-2:30 PM		NO READINGS