

**Department of Sociology
University of Calgary**

**SOCI 331
Classical Sociological Theory
Fall 2010**

Instructor: Dr. Liza McCoy
Office: SS 934
Email: mcco@ucalgary.ca
Phone: 403-220-6856
Office hours: Wednesdays 1:00 - 3:00 pm; and by appointment

Course Description

This is a core course for students majoring in Sociology. It has several objectives:

- 1) to provide you with an introduction to the intellectual history of the discipline (How and when did it become possible to study “society”? What topics were important to early social theorists and sociologists? How did these topics emerge from the social, political and economic context at the time?);
- 2) to acquaint you with the key ideas of some of the most influential sociological theorists of the period 1830-1940, and to consider how these ideas have contributed to the development of sociology;
- 3) to provide you with practical experience in reading and responding to original works of social theory and analysis;
- 4) to provide you with an opportunity to examine contemporary issues and ideas through the lens of classical theory, thereby evaluating the continuing relevance of the theory.

Course Readings

George Ritzer, *Classical Sociological Theory*, 6th ed. New York: McGraw Hill, 2011.

A collection of excerpts from the original works of the theorists (available from Bound & Copied in MacEwan Student Centre).

Course Communication

Blackboard will be used to post course documents and assignments and for electronic communication outside of class.

Assessment

Assignment: one essay (4-5 pages) due November 22. Both content and writing will be assessed. Guidelines for the assignment are posted in Blackboard in the Assignments section.

Tests: Two in-class midterm tests (October 15 and November 10) and a registrar-controlled final (date to be determined). These tests/exam will include multiple choice, matching, short answer and essay questions. They are not cumulative. A small card of notes may be used for the essay portion of the final exam (guidelines will be provided at the final review session).

Grading

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Midterm Test #1 | 20 % |
| Midterm Test #2 | 20 % |
| Essay | 30 % |
| Final exam | 30 % |
| Total | 100 % |

Achieving a passing grade in the course does not require a passing grade in all of the course components. Your final letter grade will be determined according to the following schedule:

| | | | |
|--------|----|------------|----|
| 95-100 | A+ | 67-69 | C+ |
| 90-94 | A | 63-66 | C |
| 85-89 | A- | 60-62 | C- |
| 80-84 | B+ | 55-59 | D+ |
| 75-79 | B | 50-54 | D |
| 70-74 | B- | 49 or less | F |

Instructor's Policies

1. Essays must be submitted in class, in hard copy, on or before the due date.
2. I do not distribute or post copies of my lecture notes and slides. If you miss class, you will need to get notes from another student.
3. In accordance with University policy, I report all cases of plagiarism. Plagiarized essays get an automatic grade of 0; this includes essays that are only partially plagiarized. The easy way to avoid this? *Don't download material from the Internet; write your essay in your own words.*

Department and University Policy Information

Emergency evacuations:

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point by the food court located on the lower level of the Professional Faculties Building.

Deferrals:

If at all possible you must provide *advance* notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay 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 physical or emotional problem 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 Sociology Department.

Please note that requests to defer a final examination or to defer term work past the end of a term go through the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) and must be processed by the deadlines that are established in the U of C Calendar. You can find the forms you need online:

Deferred Final Exam Application:

http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM_0.pdf

Deferred Term Work Form:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

You must submit these deferral forms to the Faculty of Arts Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre. Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term. Instructors are not involved in such decisions. To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

Ethics in 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.

Academic Misconduct: Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offences. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor's office or the Department main office. Written assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor's office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

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 with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, phone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. **It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.**

Handing in papers outside of class, return of final papers, and release of final grades:

1. When students are unable to submit papers in class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant. Papers will not be accepted in the main Sociology Department office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the main Sociology Department office. The Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place (i.e. outside an instructor's office, the department office etc.) Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will be available for pick-up only during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or at the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are available only online.

Course Schedule of Topics, Readings, Assignments and Tests

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Week 1 Sept. 13, 15, 17 | Ritzer, ch. 1, pp. 1-12 (Read ch. 1 pp. 13-39 and ch. 2 in your own time) |
| Week 2 Sept. 20, 22, 24 | Ch. 4, Comte; Comte reading Ch. 10, pp. 294-299, Martineau; Martineau reading |
| Week 3 Sept. 27, 29, Oct. 1 | Ch. 5, Spencer Spencer reading |
| Week 4 Oct. 4, 6, 8 | Ch. 6, Marx Marx reading |
| Week 5 Oct. 13, 15 | Review for test Test #1 – October 15 |
| Week 6 Oct. 18, 20, 22 | Ch. 7, Durkheim Durkheim reading |
| Week 7 Oct. 25, 27, 29 | Ch. 8, Weber Weber reading |
| Week 8 Nov. 1, 3, 5 | Ch. 9, Simmel Simmel reading |
| Week 9 Nov. 8, 10 | Review for test Test #2 – November 10 |
| November 11-14, Reading Days | |
| Week 10 Nov. 15, 17, 19 | Ch. 10, Early Women Sociologists Gilman reading |
| Week 11 Nov. 22, 24, 26 | Ch. 11, Du Bois Du Bois reading Essay due Nov. 22 |
| Week 12 Nov. 29, Dec. 1, 3 | Ch. 2, pp. 47-52; Cooley reading Ch. 15, Mead; Mead reading |
| Week 13 Dec. 6, 8, 10 | Wrap-up Review for final exam Final exam – date to be announced |