

**University of Calgary
Department of Sociology**

*Classical Sociological Theory
(SOCI 331)
Fall 2017
Tue/Thu 12:30-1:45 pm
Classroom: SA121*

Instructor: Abdie Kazemipur
Office: SS924
Office Hours: After Class OR by Appointment
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Course Description and Objectives

This course provides you with an overview of some of the major theoretical works in the formative period of the discipline of sociology, stretching from early 19th- to early 20th-century. In addition to learning about the key ideas of some of the major social thinkers of this period, we will also discuss the social and intellectual environments in which they lived and developed their ideas.

The classical sociological theories were developed at a time of enormous social change, as efforts to make sense of those changes as well as influence them. Through engagement with those theories, you will a) develop a better appreciation of the circumstances in which sociology emerged as discipline; b) become more sophisticated in conceptualizing social issues; and c) view your social surroundings through a deeper conceptual lens and, hence, place them in a multi-variable perspective.

Despite their differences, the various social theories that we will learn about have borrowed immensely from each other, and have sometimes been developed in response to one another. The lectures, and the textbook, will provide some ways of organizing all these ideas through a single broad narrative. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary to remain continuously engaged with class discussions and be up-to-date with the assigned readings.

Textbook

Anthony Thomson (2010), *The Making of Social Theory* (2nd edition), Oxford University Press. The book is available at the University of Calgary bookstore.

Evaluation

As a part of the University policy for courses that will count as a pre-requisite, **you must achieve a final grade of C- or higher** in this course in order to proceed to SOCI 333.

Your final grade in the course will be composed of your performance in the following:

Midterm Exam: 30% (of your final grade)
Term-paper: 25%
Final Exam: 45% (NOTE: The Final Exam will be **Cumulative**)

To obtain the letter grades, I use the following key to translate your percentage grades:

A+	93 -100 %	C+	67 - 69.999 %
A	85 - 92.999 %	C	64 - 66.999 %
A -	80 - 84.999 %	C -	60 - 63.999 %
B+	77 - 79.999 %	D+	55 - 59.999 %
B	74 - 76.999 %	D	50 - 54.999 %
B -	70 - 73.999 %	F	0 - 49.999 %

The marks with a fraction of 0.5 or higher will be rounded up.

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.

Technology Use

Please note that the use of laptops or tablets in class is allowed, but **ONLY** for the purpose of taking notes or other class-related activities. The use of cell phone, however, is **NOT** allowed; so, please be sure to mute your cell phone and refrain from using it during class.

Email

Feel free to contact me over email at any time. 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. All emails violating customary email conventions will be ignored. All other emails will be answered normally within one business day. 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. Questions that can be answered by consulting the course outline will not be answered. Also, please e-mail me for administrative purposes only, for example to set up an appointment. Please do not use e-mail as a replacement for an office visit, if there is something you want to discuss. Questions about the course contents and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with in person during my office hours.

Recording lectures

Lectures should not be recorded without obtaining the instructor's permission.

Lecture slides

I will not be posting the lecture slides. Also, please keep in mind that the slides used during the lectures are meant to provide only an outline for the class discussions. A satisfactory performance in the course requires the knowledge of a lot more details than what the powerpoint slides would provide. Some of these details are given through direct lecturing, others through class discussions, questions and answers, group assignments, films, and guest lectures. So, please make sure that you will obtain class notes from a classmate for any classes you may miss.

Department and University Policy Information

Handing in Papers, Assignments [The Sociology Department's Policy]

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 provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Ethics 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 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.

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-5.html>

Deferrals

When possible, please provide advance notice 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, misreading the syllabus, and scheduling conflicts with other classes or employment 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: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-forms>

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://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/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).

Student Representation

The 2017-18 Students’ Union VP Academic is Tina Miller (suypaca@ucalgary.ca).

For more information, and to contact other elected officials with the Student’s Union, please visit this link: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/about/who-we-are/elected-officials/>

You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/contact>

Emergency Evacuations

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at **Social Science – Food Court**. Please check these assembly point locations for all of your classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

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

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.

Calendar of Class Activities

Below, you can find a tentative schedule of class activities.

Week 1: Sep. 11-15: Course Introduction/Outline
[No class on Thursday, Sep 14]

Week 2: Sep. 18-22: Transition from Pre-modern to Modern social thought
- *READING* – Chapter: Introduction – The Unmaking of Traditional Society

Week 3: Sep. 25-29: Social thought in the Modern era
- *READING* – Chapter 1

Week 4: Oct 2-6: Romanticism, Democracy, and Liberalism
- *READING* – Chapter 2 & Chapter 3

Week 5: Oct 9-13: Beginning of Social Sciences (Saint-Simon, Comte)
- *READING* – Chapter 4: pages 111-127

Week 6: Oct 16-20: Marx (1)
- *READING* – Chapter 4: pages 127-143 & Chapter 5

Week 7: Oct 23-27: Marx (2)
- *READING* – Chapter 4: pages 127-143 & Chapter 5

Week 8: Oct 30-Nov 3: Durkheim (1)

- *READING* – Chapter 7
- ***Midterm Exam: Tue, Oct 31***

Week 9: Nov 6-10: Durkheim (2)

- *READING* – Chapter 7

Week 10: Nov 13-17: Weber (1)

- *READING* – Chapter 8

Week 11: Nov 20-24: Weber (2)

- *READING* – Chapter 8

Week 12: Nov 27-Dec 1: American Sociology

- *READING* – Chapter 9
- ***Term paper due: Tue, Nov 28***

Week 13: Dec 4-8: 20th-century Marxism

- *READING* – Chapter 11
- ***Final Exam:*** During the examination period (for the date, see the final exams schedule posted by Registrar's Office!)