

**San José State University
Department of Sociology & Interdisciplinary Social Science
SOC 101-01, Social Theory, #47698, Fall 2023**

Instructor: Preston Rudy, Ph.D.
Office Location: Dudley Moorehead Hall (DMH) 222
Telephone: 408-924-5333
Email: Preston.rudy@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: M/W-4:20 -5pm; T-10:30-11am and 8:45-9:15pm, Th 10:15-10:40
Class Days/Time: Mondays & Wednesdays 15:00 – 16:15 (3 - 4:15pm)
Classroom: DMH 231
Prerequisites: SOCI 1 and SOCI 100W

SEE Full syllabus in enrolled in the course

Course Description

Catalog Description: Comparative analysis of micro and macro sociological theories and their origins, including, but not limited to, conflict theories, consensus theories, structural functionalism, symbolic interaction and recent theoretical developments. Required for majors.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

Course Content Learning Objectives

1. To develop basic knowledge of some of the major theorists in the sociological tradition;
2. To expand your conceptual skills and learn new ways of thinking;
3. Practice reading abstract texts and interpreting them;
4. Learn to express yourselves orally and in writing about concepts, ideas and explanations;
5. Develop skills of applying concepts to explain and understand social life.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Roberta Garner and Black Hawk Hancock, editors, *Social Theory: Continuity and Confrontation – A Reader 3rd edition*, Broadview Press (2014).

You will be expected to be informed about current events in the US, California, and our local communities. This is best accomplished by regular attention to at least one news source.

Assignments and Grading Policy

PARTICIPATION – 16%

Half of your participation grade (8%) will be determined by how well I get to know you and the quality of your effort in participating in class discussion.

The **other half** of your grade (8%) will consist of your reading **two quotes from two** theorists assigned to you, and participating in a group presentation of one of the readings. The quotes must be roughly 3-5 lines in the text, or 2-4 sentences in length.

REFLECTION PAPERS & WRITING – 15%

You must complete all the written assignments to pass this class.

You will be required to write **two papers**, 2-3 pages in length.

THREE IN-CLASS ESSAY EXAMS – 23% each

These will be essay exams with a selection of 2 or 3 essay questions in addition to definitions of specific concepts from the readings and lecture. Unless you inform me before the exam, there will be **no make-up exams**. If you miss the exam you will get a zero as a grade.

GRADE SCALE:

A+ ≥ 97 < 100	B+ ≥ 87 < 90	C+ ≥ 77 < 80	D+ ≥ 67 < 70
A ≥ 93 < 97	B ≥ 83 < 87	C ≥ 73 < 77	D ≥ 63 < 67
A- ≥ 90 < 93	B- ≥ 80 < 83	C- ≥ 70 < 73	D- ≥ 60 < 63

SOCI 101 / Social Theory, Fall 2023, Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	21 August	Introduction, words, concepts and theories
	23 August	Sociology as study of groupness and the social causes of action and inaction READ: General Introduction by Garner pp. xix-xxiii
2	28 August	Karl Marx – Division of Labor, Capitalism and Power READ: Classical Theory introduction by Garner pp. 33-37
	30 August	Karl Marx – Division of Labor, Capitalism and Power Karl Marx – Capitalism, Commodities and Social Class READ: Marx and Engels –Garner pp. 37-47
3	4 September	NO CLASSES – LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
	6 September	Karl Marx — Alienation & Commodity Fetishism READ: Marx –in Garner pp. 48-58
4	11 September	A Marxian Explanation for Contemporary Capitalism READ: David Harvey –in Garner pp. 62-70
	13 September	Émile Durkheim – Social Facts, Social Solidarity, & Suicide READ: Introduction to Durkheim by Garner pp. 73-76
5	18 September	Émile Durkheim – Social Facts, Social Solidarity, & Suicide READ: Durkheim — pp. 76-85
	20 September	Robert Merton–Anomie & “deviance” in the US READ: Merton in Garner pp. 90-98
6	25 September	IN-CLASS EXAM (bring an exam book, Blue or Green)
	27 September	Max Weber - The Protestant Ethic READ: Introduction to Weber by Garner pp. 101-104
7	2 October	Marx Weber: Divisions in Society READ: Weber —in Garner 105-108
	4 October	Max Weber – Power, Forms of Authority and Bureaucracy READ: Weber — in Garner pp. 108-110 PAPER #1 DUE
8	9 October	Max Weber – Power, Forms of Authority and Bureaucracy READ: Ritzer in Garner pp. 110-116
	11 October	American Sociology & George Herbert Mead - Self & Society READ: Mead in Garner p. 173-181
9	16 October	American Sociology & George Herbert Mead - Self & Society READ: Adlers — in Garner pp. 181-189
	18 October	W.E.B. DuBois – Social Theory of Race READ: DuBois in Garner pp. 189-192
10	23 October	W.E.B. DuBois – Social Theory of Race READ: DuBois — in Garner pp. 192-196
	25 October	The Chicago School – Ethnography, Race & Urban Ecology READ: Garner pp. 196-207
11	30 October	IN-CLASS EXAM (bring an exam book, Blue or Green)
	1 November	Antonio Gramsci –Social Class, Culture, Consent & Hegemony READ: Introduction by Garner pp. 221-222 AND Antonio Gramsci 248-260
12	6 November	Jean Anyon – Hegemony and Schools READ: Anyon pp. 260-76.
	8 November	A Theory of Power: C. Wright Mills READ: Mills pp 279-302
13	13 November	Howard Becker - Symbolic Interactionism READ: Introduction to Becker by Garner pp. 302-311 PAPER #2 DUE
	15 November	Erving Goffman READ: Goffman pp. 339-349
14	20 November	Michel Foucault - Post-Structuralism & Social Control READ: Foucault pp. 365-386 AND

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	23 November	No Class — Thanksgiving Vacation
15	27 November	Sociologies of Race & Ethnicity: Fanon and Omi & Winant READ: pp. 455-7, Fanon pp. 458-62. AND Omi & Winant pp. 468-73
	29 November	Gender, Power and Capitalism: Dorothy Smith READ: Smith pp. 485-94
16	4 December	Judith Butler – Bodies that Matter READ: Butler 494-502
	6 December	Gender, Power and Capitalism: John D’Emilio READ: D’Emilio pp. 517-25 PAPER #3 DUE
Final	Tuesday 8 December	FINAL EXAM

The California Faculty Association (the labor union of Lecturers, Professors, Coaches, Counselors, and Librarians across the 23 CSU campuses) is in a difficult contract dispute with California State University management. It is possible that we will call a strike or other work stoppage this semester. I promise to promptly inform you of any schedule disruption. Our working conditions are your learning conditions; we seek to protect both.

For further information go to www.CFAbargaining.org.