Sociology 313
Spring 2013
MW 3:20-4:40

Professor: Phaedra Daipha
Email: pdaipha@rci.rutgers.edu
Office hours: M 12:00-1:30, and by appt

Teaching Assistant: Eunkyung Song
Email: esong@sociology.rutgers.edu
Office hours: M 2:00-3:00, and by appt

DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

This course is expressly designed for students majoring or minoring in sociology. It serves as an advanced introduction to the main themes and thinkers considered today foundational for the development of the discipline. Its first aim, then, is to ensure thorough familiarization with a number of classical statements in social theory- through a close reading and analysis of original sources as well as through critical commentaries, which provide further insight into the intellectual and sociopolitical milieu that led to the institutionalization of the field of sociology. Yet the ultimate aim is to make the connection between the hopes and challenges facing a modernizing Europe at the end of the 19th century and the hopes and challenges facing us, as sociology scholars and as citizens, at the beginning of the 21st.

COURSE LOGISTICS

Readings
Most required texts will be posted on the course's website on Sakai (log in at http://sakai.rutgers.edu). The rest are to be found in the following book, available at the University Bookstore or any online bookseller:

Turner, Jonathan, J., Beeghley Leonard, and Charles H. Powers. 2007. *The Emergence of Sociological Theory, 6th Edition.* Belmont, CA: Thomson.

Course Requirements and Evaluation
- Your grade for this course will be based on the following requirements:
  (a) Class Attendance and Participation (10%)
  Needless to say, the readings in this course are abstract and challenging, written in a dated style furthermore. It will thus be very difficult to do well in this course if you do not regularly attend class. In case you do need to miss a session, it is your responsibility to make arrangements with one of your classmates to get lecture notes.

Not only are you expected to regularly attend lectures and recitations, you are expected to read the assigned material PRIOR to class, and come in prepared to discuss, question, debate, and generally contribute to the production of knowledge and the overall class experience. To help you prepare, I will be posting lecture outlines on Sakai before class meets. (Note also that I will be taking attendance regularly and, if it drops appreciably, I may decide to stop posting lecture outlines on Sakai.)

(b) Weekly Response Memos (20%)
At the end of each recitation period, you are to submit a one-page memo (400 words minimum) on a topic previously assigned by Eunkyung Song, the Teaching Assistant for this course, in consultation with me. The purpose of these weekly response memos is to help you engage critically with the assigned texts, develop a more thorough understanding of the issues at hand, and be better prepared to contribute to the class discussion. The format and other logistics of the memos will be discussed at length by the Teaching Assistant during your first recitation session, but bear in mind that you will be graded on ONLY FIVE out of the nine or so response memos you are expected to hand in.

(c) Midterm Exam (20%)
A closed-books, closed-notes exam, to be held in class on Wednesday, March 13th. It will include multiple choice questions, true/false statements, short answers, and a bluebook essay.

(d) Short Paper (20%)
A typed (double-spaced) five-page paper, due on April 24th, on a topic circulated two weeks in advance.

(e) Final Exam (30%)
The final has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 15th, 12:00-3:00 PM. It will consist of short answers and essays, and it will be based on the entire course material.

- Final grades are absolutely non-negotiable and will be assigned according to the following scale:
  A = 90-100; B+ = 85-89; B = 80-84; C+ = 75-79; C = 70-74; D = 60-69; F ≤ 59

- Cheating, plagiarism, or any other kind of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. It will result in a failing grade and a referral to the Dean of Students. The University Policy on Academic Integrity is at
  http://wp.rutgers.edu/courses/201/plagiarism_policy/

- Just as your grade depends on your adhering to certain basic rules of academic integrity, so, too, will it depend on your adhering to certain fundamentals of appropriate classroom behavior, as follows:

> The Department of Sociology encourages the free exchange of ideas in a safe, supportive, and productive classroom environment. To facilitate such an environment, students and faculty must act with mutual respect and common courtesy. Thus, behavior that distracts students and faculty is not acceptable. Such behavior includes cell phone use, surfing the internet, checking email, text messaging, listening to music, reading newspapers, leaving and returning, leaving early without permission, discourteous remarks, and other behaviors specified by individual instructors. Courteous and lawful expression of disagreement with the ideas of the instructor or fellow students is, of course, permitted, and encouraged.
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> If a student engages in disruptive behavior, the instructor, following the University Code of Student Conduct, may direct the student to leave class for the remainder of the class period. Serious verbal assaults, harassment, or defamation of the instructor or other students can lead to university disciplinary proceedings. The University Code of Student Conduct is at http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~polcomp/judaff/ucsc.shtml.

CLASS SCHEDULE*

*This schedule is subject to change. Changes, if necessary, will be announced well in advance during class and on the course website on Sakai.

January 23 **Introductions**

EARLY MODERN THEORIES OF SOCIETY

January 28 **Thomas Hobbes**

Readings: * Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan* (introduction, chapters 13, 14 (excerpt), and 17)
* Turner et al., *The Emergence of Sociological Theory* (thereafter *EST*), chapter 1

January 30 **Jean-Jacques Rousseau**

Reading: Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, Book I

February 4 **Adam Smith**

Reading: Adam Smith, *The Theory of Moral Sentiments* (selections)

THE DISCIPLINE OF SOCIOLOGY EMERGES

February 6 **Auguste Comte**
Reading: Turner et al, *EST*, chapters 2 and 3

February 11 **Herbert Spencer**
Reading: Turner et al, *EST*, chapters 4 and 5

KARL MARX

February 13 **On the Phenomenon of Capitalism**
Readings: * Karl Marx, *Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844* (selections)
* Karl Marx, "The Fetishism of Commodities and the Secret Thereof"
* Turner et al, *EST*, Chapter 6 and pp. 138-151

February 18 **On the Historical Process**
Readings: * Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The German Ideology* (selections)
* Turner et al, *EST*, pp. 116-124

February 20 **On Class Struggle**
Readings: * Marx and Engels, The Communist Manifesto (selections)
* Turner et al, *EST*, pp. 124-138

ÉMILE DURKHEIM

February 25 **On How to Conduct Sociological Research**
Readings: * Émile Durkheim, *The Rules of the Sociological Method* (selections)
* Turner et al, *EST*, Chapter 12 and pp. 292-297

February 27 **On Social Cohesion**
Readings: * Émile Durkheim, *The Division of Labor in Society* (selections)
* Turner et al, *EST*, pp. 280-292

March 4 **On the Role of Religion in Society**
Readings: * Émile Durkheim, *The Elementary Forms of Religious Life* (selections)
* Turner et al, *EST*, pp. 302-311

March 6 **On the "Social Fact" of Suicide Rates**
Readings: * Émile Durkheim, *Suicide* (selections)
* Turner et al, *EST*, pp. 297-302 and 311-316

March 11 **Wrap-up and review session**

March 13 **-MIDTERM EXAM-**

March 18-20 **-SPRING BREAK: ENJOY!-**

MAX WEBER

March 25 **On the Objectivity of Social Science Research**
Readings: * Max Weber, ""Objectivity" in Social Science and Social Policy"
* Max Weber, "Science as a Vocation" (selections)
* Turner et al, *EST*, Chapter 7 and pp. 170-176

March 27 **On Charisma and Authority**
Readings: * Max Weber, *Economy and Society* (selections)
* Turner et al, *EST*, pp. 180-185

April 1 **On Social Stratification**
Reading: * Max Weber, "Class, Status, Party"
* Turner et al, *EST*, pp. 185-191

April 3 **On the "Iron Cage" of Bureaucracy**
Reading: Max Weber, *Economy and Society* (selections)

April 8 **On the Rise of Modern Capitalism**
Readings: * Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (selections)
* Turner et al, *EST*, pp. 196-210

April 10 **Coda: Weber's Relevance to Contemporary Sociology**
Reading: George Ritzer, "The Weberian Theory of Rationalization and the McDonaldization of Contemporary Society"

-PAPER TOPICS HANDED OUT-

GEORG SIMMEL

April 15 **On the Formal Properties of Social Life**
Readings: * Georg Simmel, "The Metropolis and Mental Life"
* Georg Simmel, "The Stranger"

April 17 **On the Structure of Social Interactions**
Readings: * Georg Simmel, "The Triad"
* Turner et al, *EST*, pp. 230-235

April 22 **Coda: Simmel's Relevance to Contemporary Sociology**
Readings: * Georg Simmel, "Fashion",
* Eviatar Zerubavel, "Generally Speaking"

BEYOND THE "FOUNDING FATHERS"

April 24 **George Herbert Mead**

Readings: * George Herbert Mead, *Mind, Self and Society* (selections)
* Turner et al, *EST*, pp. 339-364 and 370-371 [if you have time, go over Chapter 14 as well]

-PAPER DUE-

April 29 **W.E.B. Du Bois**

Reading: W.E.B. Du Bois, *The Philadelphia Negro* (selections)

May 1 **Karl Mannheim**

Reading: Karl Mannheim, *Ideology and Utopia* (selections)

May 6 **Wrap-up and review session**

May 15 **– FINAL EXAM –**
12:00-3:00PM