

San José State University
Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Department
Soc. 101: Social Theory, Spring 2023

Instructor(s):	Hien Duc Do, Ph.D.
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Office Hours:	Wednesday 10:30– 11:30 AM and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Monday/Wednesday 12:00 – 1:15 PM
Classroom:	DMH 162
Prerequisites:	SOCI 01 and SOCI 100W

Course 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.

Instructor's Description

Social Theory is often misunderstood by people. In this course, we will explore the definition of social theory, its role in providing a lens through which we will analyze how societies have been studied and why. We will attempt to explain: What is theory for? Why do we have it? Why/how do we use it? We will begin from the early (“core”) to the more contemporary periods of sociological thought. As a result, we will study both the theories and the theorists that helped to build the field of sociology and the discipline of social science. We will read what look they had to say, their role in their society and the global context of the time.

We will begin with an exploration of “core” sociological theory that emerged from intellectual debates and social conflict over the meaning and implications of the rise of industrial capitalism in the 19th century. We will then move from the classic core theorists (Durkheim, Marx, Weber) to the work of sociological theorists in the 20th and 21st centuries that critiqued, expanded on, and departed from these early models. These later theorists are not as well-known but are important in their contribution to our current understanding of the social world and will challenge us to think about our society and world impact our relationships to many social, political, economic, racial, etc. institutions.

MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/firstname.lastname> and/or on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](http://sjsu.instructure.com) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](http://one.sjsu.edu) on [Spartan App Portal](http://one.sjsu.edu) <http://one.sjsu.edu> (or other communication system

as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources page](http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources) (http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources)

Course Goals

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of the course students will be able to:

1. (CLO1) Identify and describe the traditionally central bodies of sociological theory and many of their founding scholars.
2. (CLO2) Demonstrate an understanding of the role of theory in scholarship and research.
3. (CLO3) Demonstrate a substantive familiarity with specific bodies of political and sociological theory as they apply to contemporary debates and social problems.
4. (CLO4) Demonstrate the ability to engage with complex theories in conversation with intellectual peers (one focus of intellectual life).

Required Texts/Readings

1) Lemert, Charles. 2021. Social Theory: The Multicultural, Global, and Classic Readings. Routledge; New York: (ISBN 978-0-367-27268-5).

2) Additional articles will be sent and posted on Files in CANVAS and periodic class handouts.

Library Liaison

For help with library resources and library research (including the use of databases and online research materials—such as journal search engines), students are strongly encouraged to contact the Sociology Subject Librarian: Kathryn Blackmer Reyes, Kathryn.BlackmerReyes@SJSU.edu.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Course Assignments:

- 1) Participation and discussion of the readings. As an upper division course, the emphasis on this class is on class discussion and interchange that requires all students to participate in class discussions. Students will complete all the assigned readings prior to class to facilitate meaningful discussion.
- 2) Students will work in groups and participate in discussions of assigned readings. Discussions will include a summary to report out to the class.
- 3) A research paper (of a social theorists) is required. This paper requires library research. The term paper involves an in-depth study and explanation of the theorist and their theory. The paper length is a minimum of 3,000 words (6 pages). Time permitting, there will be an oral presentation of the paper toward the end of the semester. Students are required submit the following as parts of the research paper: a) identification of theorist and the reason why they chose the person as well as at least 5 references to be integrated in the paper 15 points, c) biographical references 5 points, d) preliminary draft 20 points, e) final draft 20 points. Students will be
- 4) Journal Assignments

You are required to submit 3 journal assignments. The journals will be submitted through Canvas throughout the semester. More information will be provided in class.

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practical. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Final Examination or Evaluation

The final examination will be the presentation of your project at the end of the semester.

Grading Information

GRADES:

You will be evaluated on:

1. Participation and discussion of the readings	100 points (in class discussion)
2. Reading Summary & Questions	75 points (15 each worth 5 points)
3. Critical Journal (3)	100 points (J1 =20 points and J 2 - 3 = 40 points)
4. A Research Paper (min. 3000 words) and in-class presentation	200 points (see assigned points in assignment description)
	total: 475 points

Grading Scale:

90% +	A
87%	A-
83%	B+
80%	B
77%	B-
73%	C+
70%	C
67%	C-
63%	D+
60%	D
57%	D-
Below 53%	F

Classroom Protocol

I expect you to attend class regularly and participate in class discussions. Class will generally be a combination of short lecture and discussion. All activities during class time will be part of your final grade evaluation.

You are expected to do all the assigned reading for the week before class. You are also expected to bring that day's readings and your notes to class ready for discussion. You will be expected to submit 2 questions regarding the reading each week as part of your class evaluation. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to contact another student.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. are available here at the Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>.

Credit Hours

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found here at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

Academic Integrity

Students should be familiar with the University's Academic Integrity Policy that is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html. 9 Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Plagiarism

Please keep in mind that plagiarism is the use of someone else's language, images, data, or ideas without proper attribution. It is a very serious offense in both academic and professional environments. In essence, plagiarism is both theft and lying: you have stolen someone else's ideas, and then lied by implying that they are your own. At the very least, plagiarism will result in grade penalties. It can also result in failing the course and having the incident noted in your SJSU student records. If you are unsure of what constitutes plagiarism, it is your responsibility to educate yourself or ask for clarification before you turn in written work. Examples of plagiarism: If you use a sentence (or even a part of a sentence) that someone else wrote and do not reference the source, you have committed plagiarism. If you paraphrase somebody else's theory or idea and do not reference the source, you have committed plagiarism. If you use a picture or table from a web page or book and do not reference the source, you have committed plagiarism. If your paper incorporates data that someone else has collected and you do not reference the source, you have committed plagiarism.

A tutorial to explain how to identify and avoid plagiarism is available here:

<http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/plagiarism/index.html>

For examples of paraphrasing and quotation, please see the following:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/overview.html>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/examples.html> <http://www.indiana.edu/~frick/plagiarism/item1.html>

For the SJSU policy on plagiarism, please read the "Academic Integrity Policy" at

<http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbggen/narr/soc-fall/rec-369.html>

Dropping and Adding

If you would like to add this class and the class is not you full, you must attend the first day of class and approach the instructor before or after class. You will not be guaranteed a seat, but your chances of getting in will be high if you continue to attend and check in with your instructor every day for two full weeks. Any absences in the meantime will automatically void this informal contract. It is your responsibility to confirm your continued registration in the course. If you decide not to continue in the course, it is your responsibility to formally withdraw from the course. Failure to withdraw can result in a U for the course that will turn into an F grade. Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. Information on add/drops is available at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html>. Information about late drop is available at <http://wwwsjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course. "Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material." In order to gain the instructor's permission, you must submit a written request, identifying the period of recording, whether for the whole term or on a class by class basis. In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well. "Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

Academic Resources and Accommodations

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center to establish a record of need.

Student Technology Resources Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

Peer Connections

Peer Connections is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The website is located at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu>.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at <http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>.

ACCESS SJSU Social Sciences Success Center: Clark Hall 240

ACCESS provides advising for undergraduate students majoring or want to major in any in the Department of Social Sciences. Students can find academic tutoring and advising in critical areas such as writing and statistics in a quiet, comfortable study environment. Students can talk with a professional advisor about requirements for their major, general education courses, changing majors and much more. 11 Students can get advice on developing study strategies, improve time management, and general information on how to navigate the SJSU experience. For any student needs, problems or situations, this Center can provide a start for a solution.

SOCI 101 Social Theory, Spring 2023

Course Schedule

This Schedule is subject to change with fair notice from the instructor via email

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	
1	1/26	Introduction and Overview Readings: Introduction: pp. 1 - 19	
2	1/30	Part 1 Modernity’s Classical Age: 1690 - 1919 Readings. Section 1 Social Foundations of Modern Democracy (pp. 35- 51)	
	2/3		
3	2/6	Readings: Section 2 The Unthinkable: Two Sides of Society (pp 53 - 167)	
3	2/10		
4	2/13	Readings: Section 3 Split Lives in the Modern World (pp 169 – 198)	

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	
4	2/17		
5	2/20	<p>Part 2: Social Theories and World Conflict: 1919 - 1945</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Section 4: Action and Knowledge in a Troubled World (pp 213 – 248)</p>	
5	2/24	<p>FIRST JOURNAL DUE</p>	
6	2/27	<p>Part 3: The Golden Moment: 1945 – 1963</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Section 5: Unavoidable Dilemmas (pp 251 – 270)</p>	
6	3/3		
7	3/6	<p>Readings:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Section 6 The Golden Age (pp 275 – 320)</p>	
7	3/10		
8	3/13	<p>Readings:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Section 7 Doubts and Reservations. (pp 320 – 338)</p>	

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	
8	3/17		
9	3/20	Readings: Section 8 Others Object (pp 339 – 358)	
9	3/24		
	3/27	SPRING BREAK	
	3/31		
10	4/3	Part 4 Will the Center Hold? 1963 – 1979 Readings: Section 9 Experiments at Renewal and Reconstruction (pp 373 – 396)	
10	4/7		
11	4/10	Readings: Section 10 Breaking with Modernity (pp 397 – 424)	
11	4/14	SECOND JOURNAL DUE	
12	4/17	Part 5 After Modernity: 1979 – 2001 Readings: Section 11 The Idea of the Postmodern and its Critics (pp 425 – 474)	
12	4/21		
13	4/24	Readings: Section 12. Reactions and Alternatives (pp 455 – 474)	

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	
13	4/28		
14	5/1	<p>Readings:</p> <p>Section 13. new Cultural Theories After Modernity (pp 475 – 534)</p> <p>Part 6 Global Realities in Uncertain Times</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Section 14 Global Uncertainties (pp 553 – 584)</p>	
14	5/5		
15	5/8	<p>Readings:</p> <p>Section 15 Global Uncertainties (pp 553 – 584)</p>	
15	5/11	<p>Readings:</p> <p>Section 16 Is the Modern Democratic Order Unravelling? (pp 615 – 641)</p> <p>FINAL JOURNAL DUE</p>	
		Summary and Conclusion	
Final Exam		FINAL EXAM IS YOUR CLASS PRESENTATION	