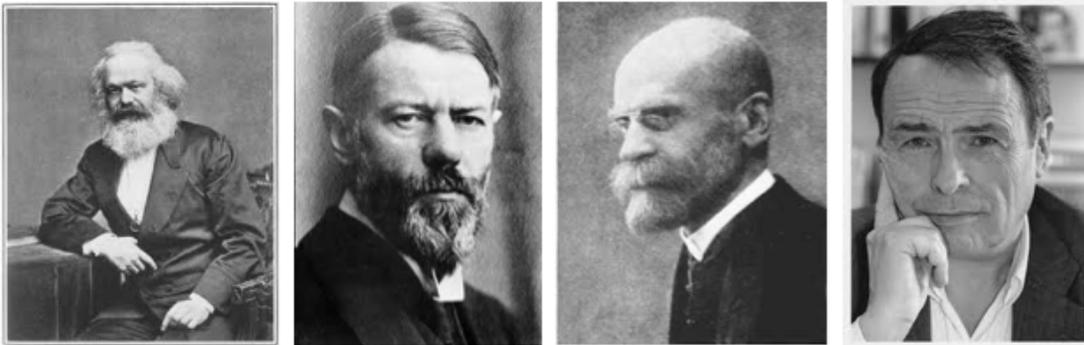


Soc316: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY

Fall 2015, T-Th 11:30-1:20, Anderson Hall room 223



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Sign up for office hours: <http://www.meetme.so/SarahQuinn>

TAs: TBD

This is an introduction to sociological theory with an emphasis on the writings and intellectual legacies of Karl Marx, Max Weber, and Émile Durkheim. Over the course of the quarter we will review how these theorists understand power and inequality, economic change, culture and knowledge, and why social forces are so often overlooked and misunderstood. We will end with a discussion of how the insights of Marx, Weber, and Durkheim are synthesized in the work of Pierre Bourdieu. Our goals are: (i) to understand the main points of each author, (ii) to understand similarities and differences among the authors, (iii) to apply their theories to current events and everyday practices, and (iv) to advance students' critical reading and writing skills.

READINGS

A book and a coursepack are required for this course.

- The coursepack is available at Rams Copy Center (4144 University Way NE)
- A textbook is available at the University bookstore and is on reserve at Odegaard: Ritzer, George. 2014. *Sociological Theory* (9th edition). New York: McGraw-Hill.

CANVAS

I will use a Canvas webpage to send updates about the course. You will need to sign up for Canvas immediately and check it regularly to keep up. To do this, log in to myuw.edu, and select "Teaching" from the menu bar on the left. Then under "Tools, Services, and Resources," select the link for Canvas.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Your grade will be based on a combination of papers, a midterm, a final exam, and class participation.

Requirement	Points	Date
Total Class Participation	15	
<i>reading responses (section)</i>	5	
<i>overall participation</i>	10	
Midterm	15	
Paper 1	20	Thurs, October 22 nd (in lecture)
Paper 2	30	Tues, December 8 th (in lecture)
Final Exam	20	Wed, Dec. 16, 4:30-6:20 in AND 223

PAPERS

These will be two 5 to 7 page papers on assigned topics. Additional instructions will be handed out in class.

MIDTERM

A multiple choice, scantron-based midterm will be given in class. This is a closed-book test.

FINAL EXAM

The final exam will be cumulative and will consist of a mix of word definitions, multiple choice, short answer, and longer answer questions. You will need to bring blue books and scantron sheets to the exam.

READING RESPONSES

Throughout the quarter you will have short memos and activities due in section. These are worth a total of five points, and you will receive more information about them in section.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Your TA will assign this grade based on your performance in section, and overall participation in class, and will give you additional instructions on their requirements in section. Please note that whenever you are **using your cell phone, texting, or surfing the web** during section or lecture, you are not fully participating in class, and this **will be reflected in your class participation grade** accordingly.

LATE PAPERS

Unexcused late papers will receive a 5% deduction for each day late (so an A paper would become an A- if turned in during the first 24 hours after the deadline, and so on). If your paper is late you must submit a printed copy to the Sociology Advising Office (203 Savery Hall) and let your TA know you have done so via email. Please note that we do not accept emailed papers. I excuse late papers only in cases of documented illness or loss.

REGRADING POLICY

If you believe a mistake has been made in the grading of one of your assignments you may request that the paper be re-graded. To request a re-grade, you must write a 1-2 page memo explaining the error you believe has been made, and responding to any comments you've been given on your work. If you are unsatisfied after your TA has taken a second look, you may then bring the paper to me during office hours. Please note that when re-grading a paper I may adjust the grade up or down as I see fit.

EMAIL POLICY

You are welcome to send me an email at slquinn@uw.edu. I will answer most emails within 48 hours. If I receive an email over the weekend I typically answer it on Monday. I keep email messages short so if you have a question that merits an in-depth answer or longer discussion it is best to sign up for my office hours.

MISSED CLASSES

While I post copies of my Prezi slides on Canvas, I do not share additional lecture notes with students, nor do I provide recaps of important points from class. If you have missed class you should check with another student for notes, news, and announcements.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

If caught plagiarizing or cheating, you will receive a zero for the assignment and the violation will be formally reported to the University. You are responsible for understanding the University's guidelines for plagiarism and academic integrity. If you have questions about this, please speak with either your TA or with me. You may also consult guidelines posted on the Sociology Department's [webpage](#).¹

ACCOMODATIONS

I want students to learn as much as possible and do well in this course, and I will work with you to accommodate learning-related needs. If you have already established accommodations with Disability Resources for Students (DRS), please share your approved accommodations either with me or with your TA in the first three weeks of class. If you have not yet established services through DRS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations, you are welcome to contact me or contact DRS at 206-543-8924 or uwdrs@uw.edu.

¹<https://www.soc.washington.edu/undergraduate/student-info-on-academic-honesty-and-plagiarism>

Course Schedule

October 1 (Week 1, Thursday): Introduction to the Course

- Ritzer, Pp. 1-42 (Chapter 1)

October 6 (Week 2, Tuesday): Introduction to Marx and Engels: Species Being and Alienation

- Ritzer, Pp. 43-56 (end at section break)
- Reader
 - Selections from Adam Smith, *Wealth of Nations*
 - Friedrich Engels, "Speech at the Graveside of Karl Marx," Pp. 681-2
 - "Speech at the Anniversary of the People's Paper," Pp. 577 (Starting half way through the first paragraph with "There is one great fact . . .") to 578

October 8 (Week 2, Thursday): Capitalism and History

- Reader
 - "Estranged Labour," Pp. 71 (From "We proceed from an actual economic fact . . .") to page 80 (stop at " . . . their human status and dignity.")
 - "German Ideology," selected pages

October 13 (Week 3, Tuesday): Commodities and Catastrophes

- Ritzer, Pp. 56-75
- Reader
 - Karl Marx, *Capital, Vol. I.* (fetishism of commodities), Pp. 319-329
 - Karl Marx, *Manifesto of the Communist Party*, Pp. 473-483, 499-500
 - "Marx on the History of his Opinions," Pp. 4 (Start in the middle of the second paragraph "The general result at which I arrived . . ." to 5 (until " . . . society to a close")

October 15 (Week 3, Thursday): Applying Marx

- Screening & Discussion: Scenes from *Roger & Me*

October 20 (Week 4, Tuesday): Marx's Legacy

- Ritzer, "Antonio Gramsci" Pp. 282-283, and "Emotions and Feelings," Pp. 368-372
- Reader
 - Fanon, Frantz, "Colonial War and Mental Disorders." Pp. 181-192 in *The Wretched of the Earth*. New York: Grove Press. [1963] 2004.

October 22 (Week 4, Thursday): Max Weber on Rationalization and Disenchantment

- **PAPER 1 IS DUE AT THE START OF LECTURE**
- Ritzer, Pp. 112-127 in Chapter 4.
- Reader: Max Weber, Types of Action. Pp. 289-290 in *Classical Sociological Theory*, Calhoun

October 27 (Week 5, Tuesday): Max Weber, Domination and Bureaucracy

- Ritzer, Pp. 127 (starting with the section on "Class, Status, and Party") to 151 in Chapter 4
- Reader
 - Max Weber, Forms of Legitimate Domination. Pp. 212-216 in *Economy and Society*. Roth and Wittich (eds). Berkeley: University of California Press, 1978
 - Max Weber, Bureaucracy. Pp. 196-199 (through "...ideologically hallowed"), 214-216, in *From Max Weber*
 - Max Weber, Class, Status Groups, and Parties. Pp. 43-56 in *Max Weber - Selections*, Runcimen (ed.) Cambridge University Press, 1978.

October 29 (Week 5, Thursday): Weber's Legacy

- Ritzer, "Criticisms" and "Summary," Pp. 154-157 and "McDonaldization," Pp. 581-584

November 3 (Week 6, Tuesday): Midterm

- **MIDTERM: BRING SCANTRON TO CLASS**

November 5 (Week 6, Thursday): Durkheim on Social Facts and Solidarity

- Ritzer, Pp. 76-97
- Reader
 - Social Facts, selections
 - Suicide, selections

November 10 (Week 7, Tuesday): Sacred and Profane

- Ritzer, Pp. 97-101
- Reader – Selections from Émile Durkheim's *Elementary Forms of Religious Life*
 - "Introduction," Pp. 1 to 21
 - Beliefs and rites/sacred and profane. Pp. 35 (From "Setting these definitions . . .") to 46.

November 12 (Week 7, Thursday): Applying Durkheim

- Screening: *Devil's Playground*

November 17 (Week 8, Tuesday): Knowledge and Society

- Ritzer, Pp. 101-103
- Reader – Selections from Émile Durkheim's *Elementary Forms of Religious Life*
 - Totemism, Pp. 153 -162
 - The purpose of religion, Pp. 169-177 (until '...moral life'),
 - Rites, Pp. 285-288
 - Conclusion, Pp. 310-343

November 19 (Week 8, Thursday): Gifts and Bodies

- Ritzer, Pp. 107-11
- Reader: Selections from the work of Marcel Mauss
 - "Techniques of the Body." Pp. 77-83
 - *The Gift*. Pp. 3-5 (Prestation, Gift, and Potlatch), 8-12 (The Spirit of the Thing Given, The Obligation to Give and the Obligation to Receive), Pp. 69 -70 (Political and Economic Conclusions, until " . . . it is a kind of hybrid."), 76-79 (Sociological and Ethical Conclusions, until " . . . in its total behavior.")

November 24 (Week 9, Tuesday): Self and Rituals

- Ritzer, Pp. 355-364 ("The Self and Work of Erving Goffman" in Chapter 9)
- Reader, Goffman, Erving. "On Face Work," Pp. 5-14, 27-33

November 26 (Week 9, Thursday): AUTUMN BREAK

- No class

December 1 (Week 10, Tuesday): Introduction to Bourdieu: Habitus, Field, Capital

- Ritzer, Pp. 520 (starting with the section on "Habitus") to 529 (stop at the page break)
- Reader
 - Fields. Pierre Bourdieu and Loïc Wacquant. 1992. *An Invitation to Reflexive Sociology*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp. 98 (from "You often use the analogy . . .") to 101
 - The Relationship Between Habitus and Field. Pp. 126 (from "Doesn't the notion . . .") to 135 (until " . . . in which they operate.")

December 3 (Week 10, Thursday): Difference and Distinction

- Reader
 - Social Space and Symbolic Space. Review the chart on p. 338 and then start reading on p. 339 ("This formula . . .") to 344.
 - Pierre Bourdieu. Symbolic Violence (p. 167-8 "In that paper . . ." to "the order of things.") in *An Invitation to Reflexive Sociology*

December 8 (Week 11, Tuesday): Bourdieu's Legacy

- **PAPER 2 IS DUE AT THE START OF LECTURE TODAY**
- Reader: Rivera, Lauren. Selections from *Pedigree*.

December 10 (Week 11, Thursday) Course Wrap Up

FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, December 16th, from 4:30-6:20 in Anderson Hall room 223
