University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Department of Sociology

Sociology 715
Systematic Sociology Theory
Wed 4:30-7:10 Fall 2015
Bolton
email: jajordan@uwm.edu

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Jordan
Office: Bolton 760
Office Phone: 229-5074
Office Hours: Weds 2:14-4:15 and by appointment

REQUIRED TEXTS:

The following books are available at the UWM bookstore. All other readings will be posted on D2L (and are indicated by underlining below).


Weber, Max. 1958. *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. New York: Routledge. \[**BE SURE THAT YOU HAVE THE ROUTLEDGE EDITION!! Other editions have different translations, different page numbers, etc., all of which will cause you (and me) great inconvenience!**\]

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 Sept. 2 Sociology, Modernity and Power: Introduction

Week 2 Sept. 9 Enlightenment and modernity

1. HarveyChapter2
2. HarveyChapter15

3. KernChapter5
4. KernChapter8

Week 3 Sept. 16 Marx

1. EngelsManchester
Week 3, CONTINUED

*Marx-Engels Reader*
2. xv-xxxviii, 3-18 (Introductions)
3. 146-188 (German Ideology)

**Week 4 Sept. 23** Marx

*Marx-Engels Reader*
1. 469-500 (Communist Manifesto)
2. 294-343 (Capital)
3. 66-81, 93-105 (Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts)

**Week 5 Sept. 30** Marx

*Introduction to Weber*

1. WeberClassStatusParty

2. WeberScienceasaVocation

**Week 6 Oct. 7** Weber, Protestant Ethic

*Protestant Ethic* xxviii-xlii, 3-50

**Week 7 Oct. 14** Weber: Conclusion

*Protestant Ethic*, 53-92, 102-125

**Week 8 Oct. 21** FIRST PAPER DUE (Marx and Weber)

*Durkheim: Labor and Solidarity*

Giddens1
Giddens2
Giddens3

The following readings can serve as an additional resources for Durkheim (they are all excerpts from the Division of Labor in Society), but they are not mandatory
Week 9 Oct. 28  Durkheim: Religion and Solidarity

Required:

DurkheimAnomie
LastDurkheim

Optional/additional resources:

DurkheimReligion1
DurkheimReligion2
DurkheimReligion3

Week 10 Nov. 4  Simmel
1. SimmelThe Stranger
2. SimmelConflict1
3. SimmelConflict2
4. SimmelConflict3

Week 11 Nov. 11  Simmel
1. SimmelFashion
2. SimmelTheMeal
3. SimmelMetropolis

Week 12 Nov. 18  Horkheimer & Adorno; Goffman
1. (D2L) Horkheimer and Adorno, “The Concept of Enlightenment,” 3-42
2. Goffman, Stigma (all)

Week 13 Nov. 25  [Thanksgiving holiday]

Week 14 Dec. 2  Foucault (Discipline and Punish and History of Sexuality)
1. Foucault1 (Docile Bodies)
2. FoucaultPanopticism
3. FoucaultHofS1
4. FoucaultHofS2
5. FoucaultHofS3
COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course seeks not only to explore the writings of sociological theorists, but also to consider how their insights might help us conduct research today, and to solve problems we see around us. The focus of the course will be on problems of modernity and power. We will examine different theories accounting for the dramatic social changes of the modern era, as well as different approaches to studying local and large-scale social transformation. The course will combine a grounding in classical sociological theory with more contemporary analyses of modernity and power. The majority of the course will focus on classical sociological theory, while the latter weeks will offer you an introduction to a selection of contemporary theorists and theoretical schools.

The readings are challenging, and it is vital that you come to class having completed that week’s readings. Ideally you will even have read the most difficult portions twice. The writing for this course will also be challenging and based on the readings assigned in the course (i.e. there will be no research papers).

Note: It is possible that we will fall slightly behind or get ahead of ourselves, so the dates on the syllabus may change slightly if we find it necessary.

Attendance and Participation are both essential for success in this course. More than one absence will seriously impact this portion of your grade, and it is vital that you participate actively in discussion each and every week. As a general rule, plan on talking at least twice each meeting—even if you are not particularly comfortable with class discussion, it is definitely important that you actively participate.

Reading Notes
You will be required to turn in a total of seven sets of reading notes over the semester. I would strongly recommend completing as many as possible early in the semester. This is designed to help you with comprehension and retention of these often challenging readings, AND to provide you material that should be helpful in writing your papers. The reading notes should highlight key points in the readings, and can also include questions that arise as you read. Please include page numbers when you refer to specific points in the readings. The reading notes must be emailed to me by Tuesday at 10 p.m.—plan ahead, as there WILL be penalties for late notes. You can send regular Word documents OR scans/good photos of handwritten notes. AND I only want one page—that is, even if you have taken 4 or 10 or 25 pages of notes, you only need to send me the first page of
notes—the main point of this exercise is to be sure you are taking notes throughout the semester, rather than for me to scrutinize your notetaking.

**Papers 1 and 2** These will both involve take-home questions about the course readings—you will not be expected to do any additional research beyond the assigned readings, and will be guided by specific essay questions. More details will follow.

**Grades**
- 10% Participation and Attendance
- 10% Reading Notes
- 40% Paper 1
- 40% Paper 2

**Warning**
Plagiarism and cheating of any kind are unacceptable, and will be penalized both with a 0 on the relevant assignment, and according to UWM Academic Disciplinary Procedures. If you have any doubts as to what constitutes plagiarism, feel free to ask me or to consult university regulations. I HAVE caught plagiarism cases in the past, and I am NOT interested in having to deal with that! ANY TIME that you use someone else’s words, those words MUST be in quotation marks and MUST be thoroughly cited—no exceptions.

Late papers will be penalized one-third grade for each day late (an A- paper will drop to a B+, for example). Incompletes will only be granted in extremely rare and severe cases and only with relevant documentation.

**********Please note: This syllabus is subject to revision.**********
You are responsible for keeping track of any changes to the syllabus. If for any reason you are not in class when a change is announced, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what has been changed by asking me or a classmate. It is very possible that we will fall slightly behind or get slightly ahead of ourselves in terms of the reading, so each week I will make clear what the next week’s readings will be.
WORKLOAD STATEMENT

The university has asked departments to break down for students how much time they will spend working on various aspects of their classes.

As the UW System assumes “that study leading to one semester credit represents an investment of time by the average student of not fewer than 48 hours” (UWS ACPS 4), a 3-credit course such as this one will require a minimum of 144 (3 x 48) hours of your time. You may find it necessary to spend additional time on a course; the numbers below only indicate that the course will not require any less of your time.

For this course, over the semester you will spend a minimum of

• 37.5 hours in the classroom
• 75 hours preparing for class, which may include reading, note taking, completing minor exercises and assignments, and discussing course topics with classmates and the instructor in structured settings
• 31.5 hours preparing for and writing major papers and/or exams.
The Secretary of the University maintains a web page that contains university policies that affect the instructor and the students in this course, as well as essential information specific to conduct of the course. The link to that web page is: http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/SyllabusLinks.pdf

**Students with Disabilities.** Verification of disability, class standards, the policy on the use of alternate material and test accommodations can be found at the following: http://www4.uwm.edu/sac/

**Religious Observances.** Policies regarding accommodations for absences due to religious observance are found at the following: http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S1.5.htm

**Students called to active Military Duty.** Accommodations for absences due to call-up of reserves to active military duty are found at the following: http://www4.uwm.edu/current_students/military_call_up.cfm

**Incompletes.** You may be given an incomplete if you have carried a course successfully until near the end of the semester but, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond your control, have been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of course work. An incomplete is not given unless you prove to the instructor that you were prevented from completing the course for just cause as indicated above. The conditions for awarding an incomplete to graduate and undergraduate students can be found at the following: http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S31.pdf

**Discriminatory Conduct** (such as sexual harassment). Discriminatory conduct will not be tolerated by the University. It poisons the work and learning environment of the University and threatens the careers, educational experience and well-being of students, faculty and staff. Policies regarding discriminatory conduct can be found at: http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S47.pdf

**Academic Misconduct.** Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Policies for addressing students cheating on exams or plagiarism can be found at the following: http://www4.uwm.edu/osl/dean/conduct.cfm

**Complaint Procedures.** Students may direct complaints to the Sociology Department Chair or the Associate Dean for Social Sciences in the College of Letters & Sciences. If the complaint allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the Sociology Department Chair, the Associate Dean for Social Sciences in the College of Letters & Sciences, or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy. Policies may be found at:
http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S49.7.htm

**Grade Appeal Procedures.** A student may appeal a grade on the grounds that it is based on a capricious or arbitrary decision of the course instructor. Such an appeal shall follow the established procedures adopted by the department, college, or school in which the course resides or in the case of graduate students, the Graduate School. These procedures are available in writing from the respective department chairperson or the Academic Dean of the College of Letters & Science. Procedures for undergraduate student grade appeal can be found at http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/upload/grievance_procedure.pdf

Procedures for graduate student grade appeal can be found at http://www.graduateschool.uwm.edu/students/policies/

**Final Examination Policy.** Policies regarding final examinations can be found at the following: http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S22.htm

**Book Royalties.** In accord with Department of Sociology policy, the royalties from the sale of faculty-authored books to students in their classes are donated to a UWM Foundation/Sociology Account to support future awards and activities for UWM students in Sociology.

Update 08/2015