About the Course
This course will provide you with foundations in classical sociological theory. We focus on just a few authors, building an in-depth knowledge of their work, and reading their originally works in detail. I don’t use a textbook, as I think it’s quite useful to simply read what these authors had to say themselves. These theories are rooted in the 19th century, but students find them to be very illuminating in terms of contemporary social issues as well.

Advice and Policies
Please be sure to ALWAYS consult the syllabus as the first step toward answering any questions that might come up. I am happy to field questions, but first see if the answer lies in this document. I should also note that I generally do not answer email in the evenings or on the weekends, but you should expect a response from me within two business days (and often sooner).

This should be obvious, but no phones may be used during class, for texting or calling or whatever else. In addition, laptops are strongly discouraged and may be banned if they become a distraction. There is sound research that if you are distracting yourself on your computer, you are also distracting the students sitting around you. We will be discussing challenging material this semester, and it requires your full attention.

READINGS:
You are responsible for ALL readings listed here except for those marked as OPTIONAL. All readings are available on D2L (listed below on the corresponding date in the syllabus), EXCEPT for the Protestant Ethic, which you must buy or read on traditional reserves at the library. PLEASE NOTE: THERE ARE OTHER VERSIONS OF THE PROTESTANT ETHIC, BUT YOU MUST PURCHASE THE ROUTLEDGE VERSION. Any other versions will only cause terrible confusion and unhappiness!!

COURSE SCHEDULE

Writing in **bold** indicates the titles listed on D2L.

*This schedule is approximate and subject to change:* It is very probable that we will move slightly ahead of or fall slightly behind the schedule listed here. It is your responsibility to be aware of any changes to the schedule.

Jan. 26  Lecture 1: Enlightenment and Modernity: An Overview

Jan. 28  Lecture 2: Enlightenment


Feb. 2  Lecture 3: Modernity


Feb. 4  Lecture 4: Modernity and Sociological Questions


Feb. 9  Lecture 5: Introduction to Marx

Feb. 11, 16  Lectures 6 and 7: Marx: Communist Manifesto


MarxCommunistManifesto
Feb. 18, 23  Lectures 8 and 9: Marx: Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts  

MarxEconomicPhilosophic

Feb. 25, March 2  Lectures 10 and 11: Marx: German Ideology  

MarxGermanIdeology

**FIRST PAPER DUE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4**

March 4  Lecture 12: Weber: Introduction

March 9  Lecture 13: Weber  

WeberClassStatusParty

March 11  Lecture 14: Weber  

WeberScienceasaVocation

SPRING BREAK MARCH 16, 18

March 23  Lecture 15: Weber: Introduction to the Protestant Ethic  
*Protestant Ethic*, Author’s Introduction, xxviii-xlili

March 25  Lecture 16: Weber, Protestant Ethic continued  
*Protestant Ethic*, Religious Affiliation 3-12  
*Protestant Ethic*, The Spirit of Capitalism, 13-38

March 30  Lecture 17: Weber, Protestant Ethic, continued  
*Protestant Ethic*, Luther’s Conception of the Calling, 39-50

April 1, 6, 8  Lectures 18, 19, 20: Weber, Protestant Ethic continued  
*Protestant Ethic*, The Religious Foundations 53-80  
*Protestant Ethic*, Asceticism and the Spirit of Capitalism 102-125

**SECOND PAPER DUE MONDAY, APRIL 13**
April 13  Lecture 21: Simmel: Introduction

April 15, 20  Lectures 22, 23: Simmel: “The Metropolis and Mental Life”

April 22  Lecture 24: Simmel: Conflict

April 27  Lecture 25: Simmel, continued
Simmel, Conflict, continued

April 29  Lecture 26: Durkheim: Introduction

(All Durkheim readings come from this reader. The section named “Giddens1” is the introduction written by Anthony Giddens. All other sections were written by Durkheim, but selected and edited by Giddens.)

Giddens1

DurkheimMorality

REWRITES are due in class Monday, May 4
May 4        Lecture 27: Durkheim: The Division of Labor and Forms of Solidarity and Morality

DurkheimSolidarity

DurkheimAnomie

May 6        Lecture 28: Durkheim: Religion and the Collective Conscience

DurkheimReligion

FINAL EXAM: TUESDAY, MAY 12, 12:30-2:30
A Study Guide for the Final Exam will be handed out May 6

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the works and lives of four central sociological theorists: Karl Marx, Max Weber, Georg Simmel and Emile Durkheim. The course begins from the premise that these thinkers have made major contributions to how we understand our modern world. They offer incomparable tools for analyzing society, and particularly for charting the transition to industrialization and urbanization. We will watch them grapple with new social forms that challenged traditional ideas about the relationship between the individual and society, the city and the countryside, and the public and private spheres. While these theorists masterfully analyzed many aspects of their world, they clearly neglected fundamental elements of social change, including colonialism and the role of women. Thus in this course you will be expected to develop a thorough understanding of the four theorists’ contributions to the study of our world, but you should also be able to offer cogent criticisms based on your close reading of the assigned texts.

Assignments
Your grade will be based on a variety of assignments designed to encourage close readings of the course materials. It is absolutely vital that you do all of the assigned reading. Lectures are a supplement to the readings, but in no way do they take their place. Class meetings will be a combination of lecture and discussion. Throughout the semester I will provide reading questions to help to clarify the readings and to prepare you to participate in class discussion.

Quizzes/In-Class Assignments

Throughout the semester there will be quizzes and in-class assignments. These are designed to provide added incentive to keep up with the reading. You will be allowed to drop your lowest score, and I will announce some of the quizzes/assignments in advance (but others will not be announced, so be sure to always keep up with the reading).
Papers

The two Papers will answer questions that I will hand out approximately 7-10 days before the due date. Papers will be graded on analytical skill as well as clarity. It is vital that you proofread your paper before handing it in. Each paper will be 5-6 pages long. Papers should be typed, double-spaced, in a reasonable (Calibri or Times New Roman) 12-point font ONLY. The best papers will answer the essay questions clearly, drawing directly on the readings. I cannot emphasize enough how essential it is that you cite your sources, and that your writing be clear and well-organized. Before the first paper is due I will provide a handout with more detailed information concerning the format and style of papers for this course. You will also be able to re-write one of the papers if you receive below an A-. The re-write will not automatically improve your grade, but it will also not be lower than the initial grade. Details of the re-write will be circulated before the first paper is due. I would strongly suggest that you also visit the writing center with your paper. Finally I also want to emphasize that plagiarism will not be tolerated, and the consequences for plagiarism will be extremely serious, according to university policy.

Final Exam
There will be an in-person final exam, completed without notes and in a blue book. You will have a study guide to help you prepare for the exam.

Grades
25% Quizzes/In-Class Assignments
20% Paper 1
30% Paper 2
25% Final Exam

Attendance and Advice
Attendance will be taken from time to time, although not every day, and it is not calculated as part of your grade. I take attendance in order to learn students’ names, and to encourage people to attend class on a regular basis.

I also cannot emphasize enough the importance of doing the reading before you come to class. If you have not completed the reading, you will be unable to participate sufficiently in discussion, or even to make sense of lectures. If you are heading into a busy stretch of the semester, then read ahead. I also highly recommend taking reading notes, which will greatly aid you in writing your papers.

I hold office hours regularly, and strongly encourage you to come to my office hours at least once during the semester, particularly if you are struggling in any way with the course materials. Even if you are not struggling I would urge you to attend office hours. My students in the past have found office hours to be extremely helpful, and I am sure you will as well.
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. Students in my courses who have turned in plagiarized work in the past have paid a very high price—do not repeat their mistakes.

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.

************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.

WORKLOAD

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.

As this is a traditional, or face-to-face course, 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://www.uwm.edu/Dept/DSAD/SAC/SACltr.pdf

**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 06/2012