REQUIRED TEXTS:

The following books are required. All other readings will be posted on Canvas (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. 4  Sociology, Modernity and Power: Introduction

Week 2 Sept. 11  Enlightenment and modernity


1. HarveyChapter2
2. HarveyChapter15


3. KernChapter5
4. KernChapter8

Week 3 Sept. 18  Marx


1. EngelsManchester
Marx-Engels Reader
2. xv-xxviii, 3-18 (Introductions)
3. 146-188 (German Ideology)

Week 4 Sept. 25 Marx

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

Week 5 Oct. 2 Introduction to Weber

   1. WeberClassStatusParty

   2. WeberScienceasaVocation

Week 6 Oct. 9 Weber, Protestant Ethic

Protestant Ethic xxviii-xlii, 3-50

Week 7 Oct. 16 Weber: Conclusion

Protestant Ethic, 53-92, 102-125

Week 8 Oct. 23 FIRST PAPER DUE (Marx and Weber)
Durkheim: Labor and Solidarity

Giddens1
Giddens2
Giddens3

Week 9 Oct. 30 Durkheim: Religion and Solidarity

DurkheimAnomie
LastDurkheim
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.
UNIVERSITY AND SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT POLICIES

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 page is: https://uwm.edu/secu/wp-content/uploads/sites/122/2016/12/Syllabus-Links.pdf

**Students with Disabilities.** In the pursuit of equal access and in compliance with state and federal laws, the University is required to provide accommodations to students with documented disabilities. To learn more, please visit: http://uwm.edu/arc/

**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: https://uwm.edu/active-duty-military/

**Incompletes.** A notation of "incomplete" may be given in lieu of a final grade to a student who has carried a subject successfully until the end of a semester but who, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond the student's control, has been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of term work. https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_31_INCOMPLETE_GRADES.pdf

**Discriminatory Conduct.** 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: https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discrimina_duct_Policy.pdf

**Title IX/Sexual Violence.** Title IX is a federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education program or activities, and UWM policy prohibits such conduct (see Discriminatory Conduct, above). This includes sexual violence, which may include sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, and/or stalking in all educational programs and education-related areas. UWM strongly encourages its students to report any instance of sex discrimination to UWM’s Title IX Coordinator (titleix@uwm.edu). Whether or not a student wishes to report an incident of sexual violence, the Title IX Coordinator can connect students to resources at UWM and/or in the community including, but not limited to, victim advocacy, medical and counseling services, and/or law enforcement. For more information, please visit: https://uwm.edu/sexual-assault/

**Academic misconduct.** Cheating on exams or plagiarism are violations of the academic honor code and carry severe sanctions, including failing a course or even suspension or dismissal from the University. http://uwm.edu/academicaffairs/facultystaff/policies/academic-misconduct/

**Complaint procedures.** Students may direct complaints to the head of the academic unit or department in which the complaint occurs. If the complaint allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the head of the department or academic unit in which the complaint occurred or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy. https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_47_Discrimina_duct_Policy.pdf

**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/School. https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_28_Grade_Appe_by_Students.pdf

**LGBT+ resources.** Faculty and staff can find resources to support inclusivity of students who identify as LGBT+ in the learning environment. http://uwm.edu/lgbtrc/

**Smoke and Tobacco-Free campus.** UWM prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco on all campus property. https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_49_Smoke_Toba_Free_Policy.pdf

**Final Examinations.** Information about the final exam requirement, the final exam date requirement, and make-up examinations. https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_22_Final_Examinations.pdf

**Book Royalties.** In accord with department policy, the royalties from the sale of UWM sociology faculty-authored books to students in their classes are donated to a UWM Foundation/Sociology Account to support future awards and activities of UWM sociology students. Updated 08/2019