SOCY221501 Social Theory, 3 credits
Boston College Summer Session 2018
Summer 1, May 15 - June 21
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6pm - 9:15pm

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Boston College Mission Statement
Strengthened by more than a century and a half of dedication to academic excellence, Boston College commits itself to the highest standards of teaching and research in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs and to the pursuit of a just society through its own accomplishments, the work of its faculty and staff, and the achievements of its graduates. It seeks both to advance its place among the nation's finest universities and to bring to the company of its distinguished peers and to contemporary society the richness of the Catholic intellectual ideal of a mutually illuminating relationship between religious faith and free intellectual inquiry.

Boston College draws inspiration for its academic societal mission from its distinctive religious tradition. As a Catholic and Jesuit university, it is rooted in a world view that encounters God in all creation and through all human activity, especially in the search for truth in every discipline, in the desire to learn, and in the call to live justly together. In this spirit, the University regards the contribution of different religious traditions and value systems as essential to the fullness of its intellectual life and to the continuous development of its distinctive intellectual heritage.

Course Description
This course focuses on the major lines of classical sociological theory, especially the writings of Marx, Weber, and Durkheim. The application of these theoretical foundations to contemporary problems (racism, gender inequality, LGBTQ rights, Islamophobia) will draw on commentary from multiple media sources.

Textbooks & Readings (Required)
Social Theory Re-Wired: New Connections to Classical and Contemporary Perspectives,
by Longhofer and Winchester
Classical Social Theory and Modern Society: Marx, Durkheim, Weber,
By Royce
All other readings on the syllabus are accessible for free online. I will post the links as we get closer to their associated classes.

Textbooks & Readings (Recommended)
There are many helpful lectures and instructional videos available for free on youtube. I encourage you to do your own searching. The following is one example:
“Classical Sociological Theory: Marx, Weber, Durkheim,”
By Dr. Tom Rudel
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UYTZFaNNy-w
Canvas
Canvas is the Learning Management System (LMS) at Boston College, designed to help faculty and students share ideas, collaborate on assignments, discuss course readings and materials, submit assignments, and much more - all online. As a Boston College student, you should familiarize yourself with this important tool. For more information and training resources for using Canvas, click here.

Course Objectives
1. The student will learn fundamental principles, generalizations, and theories of classical sociological theory, as evidenced by in-class discussion and writing exercises, the applied theory paper and the final exam.
2. The student will learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view from classical sociological theory, as evidenced by in-class discussion and writing exercises, the applied theory paper and the final exam.
3. The student will demonstrate the capacity to apply social theory across cultural settings and will learn the impact of culture, gender, and age in social theory as evidenced by the quality of in-class discussion.
4. The student will demonstrate ethical understanding pertaining to social life as evidenced by in-class discussion and writing exercises.

Grading
The following is a breakdown of the components of class and how much of your grade they will each be worth:

- General participation: 20%
- In-class “Write Out Loud” exercises: 20%
- Applied theory paper: 20%
- In-class applied theory presentation: 10%
- Final exam: 30%

The undergraduate grading system for Summer Session is as follows:

A (4.00), A- (3.67)
B+ (3.33), B (3.00), B- (2.67)
C+ (2.33), C (2.00), C- (1.67)
D+ (1.33), D (1.00), D- (.67)
F (.00)

The graduate grading system for Summer Session is as follows:

A (4.00), A- (3.67)
B+ (3.33), B (3.00)
B- (2.67), passing but does not count toward degree
C (2.00), passing but not for degree credit
F (.00)

All students can access final grades through Agora after the grading deadline each semester. Transcripts are available through the Office of Student Services.

Deadlines and Late Work
Generally speaking, late work will be graded down by one qualitative third of a letter grade. In other words, an A paper would be graded as an A-. In select cases I will grant extensions with no grade penalty, provided students contact me prior to the due date and present a good case to me for the granting of the extension.
Course Assignments

It is expected that you will spend 15 hours per week on out-of-class readings and assignments. These are listed below. Please note that some weeks will require more time and some weeks less time but the average should be approximately 15 hours per week over the semester. Some of the readings can be difficult, so please take the time allotted for them. If the readings are consistently taking you substantially longer than 15 hours per week, please let me know.

Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Assignments</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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| 5/15      | Introduction | Royce – 1-20  
Engels – *Ludwig Feuerbach*: Part 1  
| 5/17      | Marx | Engels – *Ludwig Feuerbach*: Parts 2-4  
| 5/22      | Marx | Fromm – *Marx’s Concept of Man*:  
L&W – 152-159 | 5/22 |
| 5/24      | Marx | Royce – 21-54  
L&W – 123-151 | 5/24 |
| 5/29      | Durkheim | Royce – 55-77  
L&W – 1-39  
Jones – “Rules of Sociological Method” and “Division of Labor in Society” | 5/29 |
| 5/31      | Durkheim | Royce – 78-90  
L&W – 40-67  
Jones – “Suicide” & “Elementary Forms of Religious Life” | 5/31 |
| 6/5       | Weber | Royce – 91-128  
L&W – 221-256, 270-292 | 6/5 |
| 6/7       | Modernity | Royce – 129-166 | 6/7 |
| 6/12      | Fate of the Individual; State and Democracy | Royce – 167-240 | 6/12 |
| 6/19      | Applications | 5-page applied theory paper | 6/19 |
| 6/21      | | FINAL EXAM |
**Written Work**
Summer Session students are expected to prepare professional, polished written work. Written materials must be typed and submitted in the format required by your instructor. Strive for a thorough yet concise style. Cite literature appropriately, using APA, MLA or CLA style per your instructor’s requirements. Develop your thoughts fully, clearly, logically and specifically. Proofread all materials to ensure the use of proper grammar, punctuation and spelling. For writing support, please contact the Connors Family Learning Center.

**Attendance**
Attending class is an important component of learning. Students are expected to attend all class sessions. When circumstances prevent a student from attending class, the student is responsible for contacting the instructor before the class meets. Students who miss class are still expected to complete all assignments and meet all deadlines. Many instructors grade for participation; if you miss class, you cannot make up participation points associated with that class. Makeup work may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor. If circumstances necessitate excessive absence from class, the student should consider withdrawing from the class. All absences should be accompanied by a verifying note from a doctor, family member, or other relevant person. Unexcused absences will each count against the student’s final grade by one qualitative third of a letter grade (in other words, from A to A-, or A- to B+, and so on.

Consistent with BC’s commitment to creating a learning environment that is respectful of persons of differing backgrounds, we believe that every reasonable effort should be made to allow members of the university community to observe their religious holidays without jeopardizing their academic status. Students are responsible for reviewing course syllabi as soon as possible, and for communicating with the instructor promptly regarding any possible conflicts with observed religious holidays. Students are responsible for completing all class requirements for days missed due to conflicts with religious holidays.

**Accommodation and Accessibility**
Boston College is committed to providing accommodations to students, faculty, staff and visitors with disabilities. Specific documentation from the appropriate office is required for students seeking accommodation in Summer Session courses. Advanced notice and formal registration with the appropriate office is required to facilitate this process. There are two separate offices at BC that coordinate services for students with disabilities:

- The Connors Family Learning Center (CFLC) coordinates services for students with LD and ADHD.
- The Disabilities Services Office (DSO) coordinates services for all other disabilities.

Find out more about BC’s commitment to accessibility at www.bc.edu/sites/accessibility.

**Scholarship and Academic Integrity**
Students in Summer Session courses must produce original work and cite references appropriately. Failure to cite references is plagiarism. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to, plagiarism, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, cheating on exams or assignments, or submitting the same material or substantially similar material to meet the requirements of more than one course without seeking permission of all instructors concerned. Scholastic misconduct may also involve, but is not necessarily limited to, acts that violate the rights of other students, such as depriving another student of course materials or interfering with another student’s work. Please see the Boston College policy on academic integrity for more information.