

# **SOC 252: HISTORY OF SOCIOLOGY**

**Instructor: Erdoğan Yıldırım**

**Spring 2004-2005**

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

The aim of the course is to introduce the students history of sociological thought throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The 19<sup>th</sup> century background and the passage from it to the twentieth century thought will be slightly touched upon. The course will continue by discussing structural functionalism as the main current in American sociology, symbolic interactionism, phenomenology, structuralism, extension of Marxist thought into the 20<sup>th</sup> century like structural Marxism, Critical theory (the Frankfurt School), and finally end by a preparatory introduction into the postmodernist thought at the later part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Attendance to the class is a must (**15 pnts**), besides there will be two midterm exams (**25 pnts** each) and a final exam (**35 pnts**). Below you'll find a rough schedule of the course (note: there may be no exact match between the reading material and the dates indicated. Remember, this is a tentative outline).

### **TENTATIVE OUTLINE**

#### **1 Week**

##### **Feb. 21: First Meeting**

**Feb. 24:** American Structural Functionalism (Talcott Parsons and Robert Merton) and Conflict Theory.

Ritzer, George and Douglas J. Goodman, 2004, *Modern Sociological Theory*, McGraw Hill, Boston, pp. 91-130. (39 pgs) (39 pgs)

#### **2 Week**

**March 1:** American Structural Functionalism (Continued)

**March 3:** Historical Materialism After Marx against Sociology.

Szacki, Jerzy, 1979, *History of Sociological Thought*, Aldwych Press, London, pp. 374-392. (18) (57)

#### **3 Week:**

**March 7, 10:** Critical Theory (Frankfurt School)

Held, David, 1980, *Introduction to Critical Theory: Horkheimer to Habermas*, Hutchinson, London, pp. 29-39. (10)

Szacki, Jerzy, 1979, *History of Sociological Thought*, Aldwych Press, London, pp. 392-402. (10) (20) (77)

#### **4 Week**

**March 14, 17:** Critical Theory (Continued)

Held, David, 1980, *Introduction to Critical Theory: Horkheimer to Habermas*, Hutchinson, London, pp. 40-76. (36) (36) (113)

#### **5 Week**

**March 21:** Symbolic Interactionism: George Herbert Mead

Ritzer, George and Douglas J. Goodman, 2004, *Modern Sociological Theory*, McGraw Hill, Boston, pp. 200-230. (30) (30) (143)

**March 24: First Midterm Exam**

**6 Week**

**March 28:** Ethnomethodology of Harold Garfinkel

Cuzzort, R. P. and Edith W. King, 1995, *Twentieth-Century Social Thought*, Harcourt Brace, Fort Worth, pp. 348-369. (21)

**March 31:** Radical Sociology of C. W. Mills

Cuzzort, R. P. and Edith W. King, 1995, *Twentieth-Century Social Thought*, Harcourt Brace, Fort Worth, 177-202. (25) (46) (189)

**7 Week**

**April 4:** Systems Theory of Niclas Luhmann

Ritzer, George and Douglas J. Goodman, 2004, *Modern Sociological Theory*, McGraw Hill, Boston, pp. 180-199. (19)

**April 7:** French Tradition and Existentialism

Gane, Mike, 2003, *French Social Theory*, Sage, London, pp. 84-97, 125-136. (24) (43) (232)

**8 Week**

**April 11, 14:** Sociology of Action

Alain Touraine, (1964), "Towards a Sociology of Action" in Giddens, Anthony (ed), 1978, *Positivism and Sociology*, pp. 75-100. (25)

Reynaud, Jean-Daniel and Pierre Bourdieu, (1966), "Is a Sociology of Action Possible" in Giddens, Anthony (ed), 1978, *Positivism and Sociology*, pp. 101-113. (12)

Alain Touraine, (1966), "The Raison d'Etre of a Sociology of Action" in Giddens, Anthony (ed), 1978, *Positivism and Sociology*, pp. 115-127. (12) (49) (281)

**9 Week**

**April 18:** Structuralism

Silverman, Hugh J., 1994, "French Structuralism and After: De Saussure, Levi-Strauss, Barthes, Lacan, Foucault" in Kearney, Richard (ed), 1994, *Twentieth Century Continental Philosophy*, Routledge, London, 390-396. (6)

Collins, Randall, 1981, *Sociology Since Midcentury: Essays in Theory Cumulation*, Academic Press, New York, pp. 109-131. (22) (26) (307)

**April 21: Second Midterm Exam**

**10 Week**

**April 25:** Neo-Marxian Sociology

Ritzer, George and Douglas J. Goodman, 2004, *Modern Sociological Theory*, McGraw Hill, Boston, pp. 148-165. (17)

**April 28:** Structural Marxism

McLennan, Gregor, Victor Molina and Roy Peters, 1978, "Althusser's Theory of Ideology" in *On Ideology*, Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies, Hutchinson, London, pp. 77-82. (5)

Althusser, Louis and Etienne Balibar (1968) 1975, *Reading Capital*, NLB, London, pp. 91-118. (27) (49) (356)

**11 Week**

**May 2:** Structural Marxism (Continued)

Poulantzas, Nicos, (1968) 1982, *Political Power and Social Classes*, Verso, London, pp. 11-33. (22)

**May 5:** Mannheim's Sociology of Knowledge

Zeitlin, Irving M., 1981, *Ideology and the Development of Sociological Theory*, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, pp. 292-326. (34) (56) (412)

**Week 12**

**May 9:** Mannheim's Sociology of Knowledge (Continued)

**May 12:** Lukacs, Gramsci, Althusser and Poulantzas on Ideology

McDonough, Roisin, 1978, "Ideology as False Consciousness" in *On Ideology*, Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies, Hutchinson, London, pp. 33-44. (11)

Hall, Stuart, Bob Lumley, Gregor McLennan, 1978, "Politics and Ideology: Gramsci" in *On Ideology*, Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies, Hutchinson, London, pp. 45-76. (31) (42) (454)

**13 Week**

**May 16:** Lukacs, Gramsci, Althusser and Poulantzas on Ideology (continued).

**14 Week:** Towards Postmodernism

**May 23:** Work of Michel Foucault

Gutting, Gary, 1994, "Introduction: Michel Foucault: A User's Manual" in Gutting, Gary, 1994, *The Cambridge Companion to Foucault*, pp. 1-27.

**May 26:** Modernity as an Unfinished Project: Jürgen Habermas

Bernstein, Jay M., (1989) 1996, "The Causality of Fate: Modernity and Modernism in Habermas" in Passerin d'Entreves, Maurizio and Seyla Benhabib (eds), 1996, *Habermas and the Unfinished Project of Modernity: Critical Essays on The Philosophical Discourse of Modernity*, Polity Press, Oxford, pp. 245-268.

**FINAL**