

# **SOC 252: HISTORY OF SOCIOLOGY**

**Instructor: Erdoğan Yıldırım**

**Spring 2006-2007**

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

The aim of the course is to introduce the students to the history of sociological thought throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The course will start 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 proposed 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. Feb. 19:** First Meeting

**2. Feb. 23:** American Structural Functionalism (Talcott Parsons and Robert Merton) and Conflict Theory.

- Ritzer, George and Douglas J. Goodman, 1996, *Modern Sociological Theory*, McGraw Hill, Boston, pp. 95-121.

**3. Feb. 26:** American Structural Functionalism (Continued – Robert Merton)

**4. March 2:** Conflict Theory of Ralf Dahrendorf and Lewis Coser

- Wallace, A. Ruth, Alison Wolf, 1995, *Contemporary Sociological Theory: Continuing the Classical Tradition*, Prentice Hall, New Jersey, pp. 142-161.

**5. March 5:** Historical Materialism After Marx against Sociology.

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

**6. March 9:** Gramsci's Contributions: Hegemony and Power

- Simon, Roger, 1991, *Gramsci's Political Thought*, Lawrence and Wishart, London, pp. 19-46, 59-77.

**7. March 12:** Gramsci's Hegemony and Power (continued)

**8. March 16:** Karl Mannheim's Sociology of Knowledge

- Zeitlin, Irving M., 2001, *Ideology and the Development of Sociological Theory*, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, pp. 370-398.

**9. March 19:** Mannheim's Sociology of Knowledge (Continued)

**10. March 23: FIRST MIDTERM EXAM**

**11. March 26:** Critical Theory (Frankfurt School)

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

- Szacki, Jerzy, 1979, *History of Sociological Thought*, Aldwych Press, London, pp. 392-402.

**12. March 30:** Critical Theory (Continued)

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

**13. April 2:** Critical Theory (Continued)

**14. April 6:** Symbolic Interactionism: George Herbert Mead

- Ritzer, George and Douglas J. Goodman, 1996, *Modern Sociological Theory*, McGraw Hill, Boston, pp. 189-214.

**15. April 9:** Symbolic Interactionism: Erwin Goffman

- Ritzer, George and Douglas J. Goodman, 1996, *Modern Sociological Theory*, McGraw Hill, Boston, pp. 213-226.

**16. April 13:** Phenomenology (Husserl, Shutz)

- Smart, Barry, 1976, *Sociology, Phenomenology and Marxian Analysis: A Critical Discussion of the Theory and Practice of a Science of Society*, Routledge and Kegan Paul, London, pp. 73-114.

**17. April 16:** Ethnomethodology of Harold Garfinkel

- Wallace, A. Ruth, Alison Wolf, 1995, *Contemporary Sociological Theory: Continuing the Classical Tradition*, Prentice Hall, New Jersey, pp. 244-261.

**18. April 20:** Radical Sociology of C. W. Mills

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

**19. April 27: 2<sup>nd</sup> MIDTERM**

**20. April 30:** Wallerstein and Global Capitalism

Allan, Kenneth, 2006, *Contemporary Social and Sociological Theory: Visualizing Social Worlds*, Pine Forge Press, London, pp. 191-211.

**21. May 4:** Radical sociology of Randall Collins

- Wallace, A. Ruth, Alison Wolf, 1995, *Contemporary Sociological Theory: Continuing the Classical Tradition*, Prentice Hall, New Jersey, pp. 161-180.

**22. May 7:** Systems Theory of Niclas Luhmann

- Hagen, Roar, "Niklas Luhmann", in Andersen, Heine and Lars Bo Kaspersen (eds.), 2000, *Classical and Modern Social Theory*, Blackwell, Oxford, pp. 344-360.

**23. May 11:** Pierre Bourdieu

- Callewaert, Staff, "Pierre Bourdieu", in Andersen, Heine and Lars Bo Kaspersen (eds.), 2000, *Classical and Modern Social Theory*, Blackwell, Oxford, pp. 309-325.

**24. May 14:** Giddens's Structuration Theory

- Kaspersen, Lars Bo, "Anthony Giddens", in Andersen, Heine and Lars Bo Kaspersen (eds.), 2000, *Classical and Modern Social Theory*, Blackwell, Oxford, pp. 376-390.

**25. May 18:** Structuralism (Saussure, Levi-Strauss)

- Sharrock, Wes W., John A. Hughes and Peter J. Martin, 2003, *Understanding Modern Sociology*, Sage Publication, London, pp. 104-126.

**26. May 21:** Structuralism (Barthes, Lacan)

- Sharrock, Wes W., John A. Hughes and Peter J. Martin, 2003, *Understanding Modern Sociology*, Sage Publication, London, pp. 126-137.

**27. May 25:** Challenge of the Postmodern

- Owen, David, "Introduction: The Postmodern Challenge to Sociology", in David, Owen, (ed.), 1997, *Sociology After Postmodernism*, Sage, London, pp. 1-22.