

SOC 341
CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY
Tentative Course Syllabus, Fall 2006-2007

Instructor: Erdoğ an Yıldırım

1ST WEEK:

25 Sept. Monday: General Introduction

Farrel, Frank B., 1996, *Subjectivity, Realism and Postmodernism: The Recovery of the World in Recent Philosophy*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, pp. 1-29.

28 Sept. Thursday: The Roots: Descartes, Kant,

Reiman, Jeffrey, 1990, *Justice and Modern Moral Philosophy*, Yale University Press, New Haven and London, pp. 25-27. (2)

Zeitlin, Irving M., 1981, *Ideology and the Development of Sociological Theory*, Prentice-Hall, Englewood, NJ, pp. 3-10. (7)

Bonevac, Daniel, 1993, "Kant's Copernican Revolution" in Solomon, Robert C. and Kathleen M. Higgins (eds), *The Age of German Idealism*, Routledge, London and New York, pp. 40-67. (27)

Zeitlin, Irving M., 1981, *Ideology and the Development of Sociological Theory*, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, pp. 75-84. (9)

2ND WEEK:

2 Oct. Monday: Second de-personification of the Subject: History, the Hegelian Turn: Hegel, Marx, Lukacs

Solomon, Robert C, 1993, "Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit" in Solomon, Robert C. and Kathleen M. Higgins (eds), *The Age of German Idealism*, Routledge, London and New York, pp. 181-215. (34)

Connerton, Paul, 1974, "The Collective Historical Subject: Reflections on Lukacs' History and Class Consciousness", *The British Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 25, No. 2, pp. 162-178. (16)

5 Oct. Thursday: Nietzsche

Deleuze, Gilles, 1983 (1962), *Nietzsche and Philosophy*, The Athlone Press, London, pp. 39-72. (33).

3RD WEEK:

9 Oct. Monday: Freud

Isbister, J. N., 1985, *Freud: An Introduction to His Life and Work*, Polity Press, Cambridge, pp. 164-174. (10)

Henry, Michel, 1993 (1985), *The Genealogy of Psychoanalysis*, Stanford University Press, Stanford, pp. 281-316. (35)

12 Oct. Thursday: Phenomenology

Jones, W. T., 1975, *The Twentieth Century to Wittgenstein and Sartre*, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, NY, pp. 250-284. (34)

4TH WEEK:

16 Oct. Monday: Saussure and Levi-Strauss (Sartre's criticism against structuralism)

Ricoeur, Paul, 1974, *The Conflict of Interpretations: Essays in Hermeneutics*, Northwestern University Press, Evanston, pp. 27-61 (32).

Sartre, Jean-Paul, "Replies to Structuralism: An Interview with Jean-Paul Sartre", *Telos*, No. 9, 1971, pp. 110-116. (6)

19 Oct. Thu.: Lacan

Borch-Jacobsen, Mikkel, 1994, "The Alibis of the Subject" in Shamsadani, Sonu and Michael Münchov (eds.), 1994, *Speculations After Freud: Psychoanalysis, Philosophy and Culture*, Routledge, London, pp. 77-96 (Bilkent University Library). (19)

Lacan, Jacques, 1975 (1970), "Of Structure as an Immixing of an Otherness Prerequisite to Any Subject Whatever" in Macksey, Richard and Eugenio Donato (eds), 1975, *The Structuralist Controversy: The Languages of Criticism and the Sciences of Man*, The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, pp. 186-200. (14)

5TH WEEK

23 Oct. Monday (Şeker Bayramı/Religious Holiday)

26 Oct. Thursday: Althusser

Honneth, Axel, 1994, "History and Interaction: On the Structuralist Interpretation of Historical Materialism" in Elliot, Gregory (ed), *Althusser: A Critical Reader*, Blackwell, Oxford and Cambridge, pp. 73-103. (30)

Althusser, Louis, 1976 (1973), "Remark on the Category: 'Process without a Subject or Goal(s)'" in Althusser, Louis, 1976, *Essays in Self-Criticism*, NLB, London, pp. 94-99. (5)

6TH WEEK:

30 Oct. Monday: (NO CLASS) – YET TO BE DECIDED!

2 Nov. Thursday: 1ST MIDTERM (ANTICIPATED BUT NOT DECISIVE)

7TH WEEK:

6 Nov. Monday: Foucault

Best, Steven and Douglas Kellner, 1991, *Postmodern Theory: Critical Interrogations*, pp. 34-75 (41)

Foucault, Michel, 1982, "The Subject and Power", *Critical Inquiry*, Vol. 8, No. 4, Summer 1982, pp. 777-795. (18)

9 Nov. Thursday: Deleuze

Best, Steven and Douglas Kellner, 1991, *Postmodern Theory: Critical Interrogations*, pp. 76-110. (34)

Deleuze, Gilles and Felix Guattari, 1983 (1972), *Capitalism and Schizophrenia I: Anti-Oedipus*, University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, pp. 1-50 (50).

8TH WEEK Some Reactions

13 Nov. Monday: Postmodernism

Liotard, Jean-François, 1984 (1979), *The Postmodern Condition: A Report on Knowledge*, University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, (Introduction and Sections 9 to 11, and 14), pp. xxiii-xxv, 31-47, 64-67, extract in Cahoone, Lawrence (ed.), 1996, *From Modernism to Postmodernism: An Anthology*, Blackwell, Oxford and Cambridge, pp. 481-513. (32)

Jameson, Fredric, 2001 (1985), "Postmodernism and Consumer Society" in Malpas, Simon (ed.), *Postmodern Debates*, Palgrave, New York, pp. 22-36. (14)

16 Nov. Thursday: Baudrillard

Best, Steven and Douglas Kellner, 1991, *Postmodern Theory: Critical Interrogations*, The MacMillan Press, London, pp. 111-145. (34)

9TH WEEK

20 Nov. Monday: Habermas and Communicative Action

Habermas, Jürgen, 2001, "Modernity: An Unfinished Project" in Malpas, S., *Postmodern Debates*, Palgrave, NY, pp. 37-52. (15)

Habermas, Jürgen, 1987 (1985), *The Philosophical Discourse of Modernity*, Polity Press, London, pp. 294-326. (32)

23 Nov. Thursday: Heidegger

Jones, W. T., 1975, *The Twentieth Century to Wittgenstein and Sartre*, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, NY, pp. 285-331. (46)

Hofstadter, Albert, 1982, "Translator's Appendix: A Note on the *Da* and the *Dasein*" in Heidegger, Martin (1975), *The Basic Problems of Phenomenology*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, pp. 333-337. (4)

Heidegger, Martin, 1961 (1926), *Being and Time*, Harper, NY, pp. 78-90. (12)

10TH WEEK

27 Nov. Monday: Heidegger

Heidegger, Martin, 1977 (1938), "The Age of the World Picture", in Heidegger, Martin, *The Question Concerning Technology and Other Essays*, Harper and Row, NY, pp. 115-154. (41)

Heidegger, Martin, 2005 (1949), "Letter on 'Humanism'", in Heidegger, Martin, *Pathmarks*, ed. by William McNeill, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, pp. 239-276 (37)

30 Nov. Thursday: Levinas

Critchley, Simon, 2002, "Introduction", in Critchley, Simon and Robert Bernasconi (eds.), *The Cambridge Companion to Levinas*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, pp. 1-32. (32)

Levinas, Emmanuel, 1998 (1991), *Thinking of the Other: Entre Nous*, Columbia University Press, NY, pp. 1-38, 133-153. (58)

11TH WEEK Derrida and post-structuralism: the text

4 Dec. Monday: Derrida

Derrida, Jacques (1963), "Force and Signification" in Derrida, Jacques, 1978, *Writing and Difference*, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, pp. 3-30. (27)

Derrida, Jacques (1966), "Structure, Sign and Play" in Derrida, Jacques, 1978, *Writing and Difference*, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, pp. 278-293. (15)

Derrida, Jacques, 1976 (1967), *Of Grammatology*, The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore and London, pp. 6-26, 141-164. (43)

7 Dec. Thursday: Difference and Deconstruction

Derrida, Jacques (1968), "Différance", in Derrida, Jacques, 1982 (1972), *Margins of Philosophy*, Harvester, London, pp. 1-27. (27)

Derrida, Jacques (1968), "The Ends of Man" in Derrida, Jacques, 1982 (1972), *Margins of Philosophy*, Harvester, London, pp. 109-136. (27)

12TH WEEK

11 Dec. Monday: Friendship and Responsibility (possibility of transcendence)

Derrida, Jacques, 1997 (1994), "Loving in Friendship: Perhaps – the Noun and the Adverb" in Derrida, Jacques, *Politics of Friendship*, Verso, London, pp. 26-48. (22)

Derrida, Jacques, 1997 (1994), "'For the First Time in the History of Humanity'", in Derrida, Jacques, *Politics of Friendship*, Verso, London, pp. 271-307. (36)

14 Dec. Thursday: Religion

Derrida, Jacques (1996), "Faith and Knowledge: The Two Sources of 'Religion' at the Limits of Reason Alone", in Derrida, Jacques, 2002, *Acts of Religion*, ed. by Gil Anidjar, Routledge, NY and London, pp. 42-101. (59)

13TH WEEK

18 Dec. Monday: Today, Democracy and Future

Derrida, Jacques, 1992 (1991), *The Other Heading: Reflections on Today's Europe*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington and Indianapolis, pp. 1-83 (83)

Derrida, Jacques (1995), "Taking Sides with Algeria", in Derrida, Jacques, *Negotiations: Interventions and Interviews, 1971-2001*, ed. by Elizabeth Rottenberg, Stanford University Press, Stanford, California, pp. 117-124. (7)

21 Dec. Thursday: Zizek

Myers, Tony, 2004, *Slavoj Zizek*, Routledge, New York, pp. 31-45. (14)

Sharpe, Matthew, 2004, *Slavoj Zizek: A Little Piece of the Real*, Ashgate, Burlington, pp. 126-167. (40)

14TH WEEK

25 Dec. Monday: Zizek

Myers, Tony, 2004, *Slavoj Zizek*, Routledge, New York, pp. 47-77. (30)

Zizek, Slavoj, 2000, "Class Struggle or Postmodernism? Yes, Please!" in Butler, Judith, Ernesto Laclau, Slavoj Zizek, 2002, *Contingency, Hegemony, Universality: Contemporary Dialogues on the Left*, Verso, London, pp. 90-135. (45)

28 Dec. Thursday: General Discussion