

SOC 341
CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY
Tentative Course Syllabus, Fall 2009-2010

Instructor: Erdoğan Yıldırım

1ST WEEK:

1 Oct. Thursday: 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.

2ND WEEK:

6 Oct. Tuesday: 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)

8 Oct. Thursday: 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)

3RD WEEK:

13 Oct. Tuesday: Nietzsche

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

15 Oct. Thursday: 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)

4TH WEEK:

20 Oct. Tuesday: Husserl and Phenomenology

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

22 Oct. Thursday: The Structuralist Turn

Sturrock, John, 2003, *Structuralism*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford, pp. 25-73 (47)

Joseph, John E., "The Linguistic Sign", in Sanders, Carol (ed.), 2004, *The Cambridge Companion to Saussure*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, pp. 59-75.

5TH WEEK

27 Oct. Tuesday: Lacan

Sarup, Madan, 1993 (1988), *An Introductory Guide to Post-Structuralism and Postmodernism*, Harvester, New York, pp. 5-31 (27).

Lacan, Jacques, 1975 (1970), "Of Structure as an Inmixing 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).

Olivier, Bert, 2004, "Lacan's Subject: The Imaginary, Language, the Real and Philosophy", in *South African Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 23, No. 1, pp. 1-19.

29 Oct. Thursday (Turkish Republic Day)

6TH WEEK:

3 Nov. Tuesday: Althusser

Levine, Andrew, 2003, *A Future for Marxism? Althusser, the Analytical Turn and the Revival of Socialist Theory*, Pluto Press, London, pp. 65-121.

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)

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

7TH WEEK:

10 Nov. Tuesday: 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)

12 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

17 Nov. Tuesday: Postmodernism

Lyotard, 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)

19 Nov. Thursday: Baudrillard

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

9TH WEEK

24 Nov. Tuesday: 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)

26 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

1 Dec. Tuesday: 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)

3 Dec. Thursday: 2ND MIDTERM

11TH WEEK

8 Dec. Tuesday: 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)

10 Dec. Thursday: Derrida and post-structuralism: the text

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)

12TH WEEK

15 Dec. Tuesday: 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)

17 Dec. Thursday: 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)

13TH WEEK

22 Dec. Tuesday: 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)

24 Dec. Thursday: 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)

14TH WEEK

29 Dec. Tuesday: Žižek

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

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

31 Dec. Thursday: Žižek

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

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

5 and 7 Dec. Thursday: General Discussions