# SOCI305

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## **Course Summary**

Course: SOCI305 Title: Contemporary Sociological Theory

Length of Course: 8

Prerequisites: N/A Credit Hours: 3

## **Description**

**Course Description:** This course offers a general survey of recent developments in social theory since the 1960's. It covers a variety of theories that have been or are influential in the social sciences. Focus will be directed towards both those social theories that have sought to understand modernity as a social epoch and those that claim we have entered a new postmodern era. Differences between European and American approaches will be considered as the substance of the course is developed.

#### **Course Scope:**

This course is designed to provide an overview of the historical foundations of sociological theory. We will focus especially on those theorists who have had a major impact on the discipline of sociology. Emphasis will be on careful reading, critical thinking and discussion of the theorists, the theoretical concepts, and the nature of their contribution to the field.

## **Objectives**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

CO1: Define sociological theory.

CO2: Identify and discuss the major social issues that influenced the development of sociological theory.

CO3: Identify major bodies of theoretical work in contemporary sociology and the theorists associated with them.

CO4: Analyze important developments in sociological theory, including developments in European sociological theory that influenced the growth of theory in the United States.

CO5: Summarize historical theories and the manner in which their work continues to hold relevance.

## **Outline**

#### Week 1: Introduction & Structural Functionalism

| Course Objective(s)                          |
|--|
| 1, 3, 4                                      |
| Reading(s)                                   |
| Appelrouth & Edles Chapter 1 & Chapter 2     |
| Week 1 Lesson                                |
| Assignment(s)                                |
| Introduction Forum                           |
| Week 1 Forum                                 |
| Quiz 1                                       |
| Week 2: Critical Theory & Exchange Theory    |
| Course Objective(s)                          |
| 3, 4   |
| Reading(s)                                   |
| Appelrouth & Edles Chapter 3 & Chapter 4     |
| Week 2 Lesson                                |
| Assignment(s)                                |
| Week 2 Forum                                 |
| Quiz 2                                       |
| Week 3: Symbolic Interactionism & Dramaturgy |
| Course Objective(s)                          |
| 2, 3, 4                                      |
| Reading(s)                                   |
| Appelrouth & Edles Chapter 5                 |
| Week 3 Lesson                                |
| Assignment(s)                                |
| Week 3 Forum                                 |
| Quiz 3                                       |
| Essay 1                                      |
| Week 4: Phenomenology & Ethnomethodology     |

| Course Objective(s)                          |
|--|
| 2, 3, 4                                      |
| Reading(s)                                   |
| Appelrouth & Edles Chapter 6                 |
| Week 4 Lesson                                |
| Assignment(s)                                |
| Week 4 Forum                                 |
| Quiz 4                                       |
| Week 5: Feminist Theory                      |
| Course Objective(s)                          |
| 2, 3, 4, 5                                   |
| Reading(s)                                   |
| Appelrouth & Edles Chapter 7                 |
| Week 5 Lesson                                |
| Assignment(s)                                |
| Week 5 Forum                                 |
| Quiz 5                                       |
| Week 6: Poststructural & Postmodern Theories |
| Course Objective(s)                          |
| 2, 4, 5                                      |
| Reading(s)                                   |
| Appelrouth & Edles Chapter 8                 |
| Week 6 Lesson                                |
| Assignment(s)                                |
| Week 6 Forum                                 |
| Quiz 6                                       |
| Essay 2                                      |
| Week 7: Contemporary Theoretical Synthesis   |
| Course Objective(s)                          |

2, 3, 4, 5

Reading(s)

Appelrouth & Edles Chapter 9

Week 7 Lesson

Assignment(s)

Week 7 Forum

Quiz 7

#### Week 8: The Global Society

Learning Objective(s)

2, 3, 4, 5

Reading(s)

Appelrouth & Edles Chapter 10

Week 8 Lesson

Assignment(s)

Week 8 Forum

Quiz 8

## **Evaluation**

#### Quizzes:

This course includes Quizzes, located under the Tests & Quizzes tab in the classroom. Quizzes are designed to facilitate engagement with the course textbook.

#### Forums:

Participation in classroom dialogue on threaded Forums is required. Forums are scheduled weekly and found in the Forums tab in the classroom. Initial Forum posts are due Thursdays, peer responses are due Sundays. Specific instructions and the grading rubric are located on each Forum.

#### **Assignments**

This course includes Assignments. Instructions and specific grading rubrics are found under the Assignments tab in our classroom.

#### **Grading:**

| Name                | Grade % |
|---------------------|---------|
| Forums              | 30.00 % |
| Week 1 Introduction | 1.77 %  |
| Week 1 Forum        | 3.53 %  |
| Week 2 Forum        | 3.53 %  |
| Week 3 Forum        | 3.53 %  |
| Week 4 Forum        | 3.53 %  |

| 3.53 %  |
|---------|
| 3.53 %  |
| 3.53 %  |
| 3.53 %  |
| 35.00 % |
| 4.38 %  |
| 4.38 %  |
| 4.38 %  |
| 4.38 %  |
| 4.38 %  |
| 4.38 %  |
| 4.38 %  |
| 4.38 %  |
| 35.00 % |
| 17.50 % |
| 17.50 % |
|         |

### **Materials**

**Book Title:** Sociological Theory in the Contemporary Era: Text and Readings, 2nd Ed- E-book links provided inside the classroom; hard copy not available from the APUS Bookstore, please try other sources.

**Author:** Appelrouth

Publication Info: Sage ISBN: 9781412987615

### Course Guidelines

#### Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on Forums in the School of Arts & Humanities.

#### **Tutoring**

<u>Tutor.com</u> offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified
tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by
APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource
Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these
resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS
Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

#### **Late Assignments**

#### **School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy**

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments. Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.

#### Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

#### **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without
citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services
such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web
services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of
content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt,
do not copy/paste, and always cite.

# **University Policies**

#### Student Handbook

- Drop/Withdrawal policy
- Extension Requests
- Academic Probation
- Appeals
- <u>Disability Accommodations</u>

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

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