

Basic Sociological Theory
Soc 4050 (12541))
Autumn 2013

Time and Place: Tuesdays 5:30 to 8:30, Room 0145 Old Main

Instructor: Warshay. Office: 2251 FAB. Tel. 313-577-3278 (Soc Dept at 2228 FAB, 313-577-2930)

My E Mail: leewarshay@comcast.net; Home phone: 313-861-1051.

Office Hours: TW 4:00 to 5:00, Th 1:00 to 3:00 (and by appointment) .

Recommended (not required) Texts (in Barnes & Noble Bookstore and on Purdy-Kresge Reserve [Room use])

- Ri Ritzer, Modern Sociological Theory, 7th ed., 2008 (HM435 R56 2008), McGraw-Hill, paper. Theorists and schools of theory including Functionalist, Neo-Marxist, Interactionist, Exchange, Feminist, and Postmodern. Analytic last section (e.g., integrative developments, micro-macro, globalization). Contains brief "sketches" of many theorists (\$122.65 New; \$166.25 used).
- Wa13 Warshay, Perspectives in Sociological Theory. Landon, Elsemere Press 2013. Paper. Issues (e.g., conceptual and methodological, theory as school or system, causation, theory as laden with value). Dominating Theoretical Schools and Systems (Social Exchange, Interactionism, Functionalism, Marxism, Internal theory (Sorokin). Other (e.g., Organizational, Ecological, Social Phenomenology, Ethnomethodology, Social Conflict, Feminist, African-American, Postmodern, neglected theorists. (\$38.00)..

Other Recommended Texts: (in Barnes & Noble bookstore and on Purdy-Kresge Library Reserve)

- WW Wallace and Wolf, Contemporary Sociological Theory: Expanding the Classical Tradition, 6th ed., 2005 (HM585 W35 2005). Prentice-Hall. (paper). Feminist orientation, organized around six major schools plus alternate perspectives, including evolution and modernity and sociology of the body and sociobiology. Covers both history and current work. Concise. (\$60 used)
- Ma Martindale, The Nature and Types of Sociological Theory, 2nd ed. 1981 (HM19 M36 1981) (reissued in 1988 by Waveland Press in paperback, when available). General text, combines theoretical schools, theorists, history, and philosophy. Left-Liberal perspective. High level.

Collected Readings (in Barnes & Noble bookstore and on Purdy-Kresge Library Reserve)

- K Kivisto, ed., Social Theory: Roots and Branches, 4th Ed., 2011 (HM585 K58 2011). Oxford University Press, paper. Fine collection of readings from leading theorists. Covers every part of the course

Possible Supplements (Purdy Library Reserve) (Out of print, may be available in used bookstores)

- CR Coser and Rosenberg, eds., Sociological Theory: A Book of Readings, 5th ed., 1982 (HM51 C645 1982) (Reissued in 1989 by Waveland Press in paperback). Excellent collection of readings, organized via concepts. Both earlier and later theorists.
- Mu Munch, Richard, Sociological Theory, Vol. I: From the 1850s to the 1920s, 1994 (HM24 M838 1993). A Thorough treatment of some concepts and theorists covered in this course by A German Parsonian.
- Pe Perdue, Sociological Theory, 1986 (HM 24 P445 1986). Organized philosophically around questions of order (conservative Ideology), pluralism (liberal), and conflict (radical). Neo-Marxist perspective. Concise discussion of large number of theorists, past and present, in terms of personal history, assumptions, theoretical content, and critique.

Other (Purdy-Kresge Library Reserve)

- Bo Bottomore, Sociology, 2nd ed., 1971 (HM51 B75 1971). High level introductory text by neo-Marxist British sociologist. Treats issues such as sociology as a discipline, theory, method, and applied sociology.
- Tr Truzzi, ed., Sociology: The Classic Statements, 1971 (HM51 T76). Features readings from pre-1950 European and American theorists.

- TT Thompson and Tunstall, eds., *Sociological Perspectives*, 1971 (HM51 T76). Decent collection of earlier and recent theorists. Original readings from a "perspective" standpoint.
- Wa75 Warshay, *The Current State of Sociological Theory*, 1975 (HM24 W3). Theoretical issues and schools, theory-method debates, ideological controversies.

Outline

I. Introduction

A. The Course and its Requirements

B. Theory: Definitions, Issues, Perspectives

Ri 1-12; Wa13 (Preface); Ma III; Mu: Part I; WWI
K 1-2; CR v-vii, 1-6; CR v-vii, 1-6
Pe I-II ; Wa75: xi-xii, xv-xviii; Bo I; Jo 3-19.

II. Theory as Concepts (Conceptual and Typological Analysis)

C. History and Question of Concepts

Ma 128-30; Jo 33-36; Wa75: 9-11; Bo 36-41

D. Concepts as the Subject Matter of Sociology and of Theory (concepts a-d)

1. "Objective" vs. "Subjective" Subject Matter

a. as social fact (Durkheim)

Ri 18-23, Wa13: 28-29, 49; Ma 99-101, 102-03; Mu 125-27, 148-49; Ri 17-19;
K #7; CR 8-10
Pe 74, 76; Jo 169-75; Tr 55-65; TT 106-16;

b. as social action

Weber: Ri 30-36; Wa13: 31-32; Ma 382-87; Mu IX
K #11; CR 53-58, 191-203
Pe 160-64, 177-80, 184-85; Jo 209-16; TT 128-40
Thomas: Ma 325-29; Pe 249-52; Jo 317-19; Tr 274-77.
CR 188-91

Other Theorists (optional)

MacIver: Ma 398-402; Wa13: 51; CR 208-13
Znaniecki: Ma 408-11; CR 203-08

2. Micro vs. Macro

c. as small group interaction (reciprocity)

Simmel: Ri 37-39 (also 422-23, 493-94); Wa13: 33-34, 76-77, 94-95, 317, 336-37; Ma 227-33;
Mu VII;
K #17 and 18; CR 6-8, 45-53
Pe 189-93, 194-95; Tr 27-36 (esp. 31-36).

d. as community and social structure

Toennies: Ma 95-99; Wa13: 75-76
Pe 80-83; Jo 182; Tr 145-54
Durkheim: Ri 20-23; Wa13: 28-29; Mu 128-47, 149-50; Ma 100-02
K #6, #8, and #10
Pe 72-74, 74-75, 76-77; Jo 175-88; TT 133-34

----- First Exam: On Sections I and II -----

III. Theory as School or System (Handout in Class)

Wa75: 14-21; Bo 34-36, 41-47, 57-62

E. Small (Specific or Topical, Conceptual) Theories: Jo 438; Wa 4-9.

F. Middle Range and Micro Theories or Schools

1. Interactionism: Ri 213-17, 231-35; Wa13:Chapter 7; Ma 318-22; Mu 209-12, 221-24;
Pe 164-67, 227-28; J VIII; Wa 29-34.

a. Cooley: Ri 62-64; Wa13:152-55; Ma 322-25; Pe 164-65, 243-46; Jo 312-17

b. Mead: Ri 217-3; Wa13: 143-52; Ma 329-34; Mu 212-23
K #29; CR 93-97.
Pe 237-39; Jo 297-311; Tr 265-73.

c. Blumer: Ri 245-46; Wa13: 156-58; Ma 353-55
K #39

2. Social Exchange theory: Ri 280-301; Wa13: Chapter 6; Ma 312-14
Jo IX; Wa75: 38-43.

a. Homans: Ri 282-83, 56-57; WWa13: 78-82; Ma 310-14
K #46; CR 72-76
Pe 135-39; Jo 351-58

b. Blau: Ri 291-95; Wa13:89-95; Ma 314-15
K #51; CR 76-79
Pe 142-46; Jo 362-79; TT 220-33

----- Second Exam: On Section III:parts E and F -----

G. Macro and General Theories or Schools (Complex and Varied)

1. Functionalism: Ri III, 97-101; WWa13: Chapter 8; Ma XIX; Pe 39-43; Jo X; Wa 21-26

a.. Parsons: Ri 101-13; Wa13: 201-10; Ma 473-77; Pe 115-19; Jo 391-92, 408-18; TT 265-75.
K #31; CR 414-18

b. Merton: Ri 114-19; Wa13: 13, 16, 34, 216, 453; Ma 463-67;
K #30; CR (1976ed.) 527-33
Pe 83-89; Jo 428-39; TT 209-19.

c. Neo-Functionalism—Jeffrey Alexander: Ri 122-27; Wa13: 217-20)

2. Marxism (Marx and Engels):WWa13: Chapter 9; Ri 23-30; also A3 and A4 (in the Appendix)
K #1-5

Mu V; Ma 153-58; Pe XV; Jo 124-52 (esp. 127-48); Tr 44-62

3. Integral theory (Sorokin ; Ma 122-27; Ri 70, 105, 116; Wa13: 2, 33, 117

IV. Selected Theoretical Issues (as time allows) : Ma XXV; Pe III, IX, XIV; CR 2-6, 10-13; Jo II; TT 18-32;

Wa75: 3-4, 9-10, 80-85, 89-91; Tr 39- 54, 379-89;

H. Ethical and Political Issues (Theory as Value Analysis): Activism, Abstention, Value-Immersion, and Neutrality: Ri 5-11; Ma II; Wa13: Chapter 5;

Pe 65-67, 163-64, 213-19, 351-57, 374-77, 391-93, 398-400; Jo 47-49, 206-11; Wa75: Chapter 8.

VIII;

TT 15-17 (Gouldner); Tr 16-26 (Weber), 379-406 (Lundberg); Bo XIX, XX

I. Methodological Issues: Science (Empiricists, Neo-Positivists) and Humanism (Subjective and Objective Idealists).

Ma II; Wa13; 17-22; Pe 36-39, 71-72, 127-29, 154-56, 168-70, 175-76, 241-42, 291-93; Jo 10-12, 30-32, 39-54:

Wa75: Chapter 4; 263-72 VI; Tr 39-54, 379-89, 407-20 TT 18-32, 477-81, 482-500; Bo 31-34, 48-57

J. Neglected Non-White Male Sociologists (Neglected or Overlooked because of Gender, Race, both Gender and Race, and/or Changing Ethical-Political Contexts)

Gender: Ri IX and 66-67, 350-56 (Dorothy E Smith),

K #21 (Harriet Martineau), #23 (Charlotte Perkins Gilman), and #24 (Jane Addams), #25 (Elsie Clews Parsons)

Race: Ri 61, 67-69 (William EB [WEB] DuBois and Booker T. Washington).

K #22 (DuBois)

Gender and Race: Ri 356-57 (Patricia Hill Collins)

V. Summary and Conclusion Chapter 9

Also, a brief course summary will be handed out on the last day.

--- Final Exam: On Part III, section G, and Part IV: at least section H ---

NOTE 1: The final grade will be based on the three essay exams, two exams during the semester and a third exam during final exam week. The first exam covers sections I and II of the course outline, the second exam covers parts E and F of section III, and the final exam will cover parts G, of section III, and H (at least) of section IV. Therefore, the final exam is not comprehensive. However, students can make the final exam comprehensive since that exam will also contain optional questions based on the first two portions (exam periods) of the course.

NOTE 2: Class attendance and participation are encouraged in that students may learn from other students' performance as well as from the instructor's lectures. Second, class performance can raise, but lower a student's final grade; therefore, ask questions, present ideas, argue..

NOTE 3: There will be no office hours on Wednesday and Thursday, September 4 and 5, because of Rosh Hashana (The Jewish New Year).