

Cincinnati Christian University
Foster School of Biblical Studies, Arts & Sciences

Introductory Sociology

Spring 2019

SOCI 110 01

3 semester credit hours

M 10:30 AM—5:00 PM

TWHF 8:00 AM—5:00 PM

Stewart Penwell

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Room WM 137

CCU Catalog Course Description

An overview of significant theories and issues in the study of human social behavior. Special attention will be given to ways in which sociological theory may be applied to Christian life and ministry.

Course Rationale

The mission of Cincinnati Christian University is to develop students into selfless, well-rounded leaders who follow Christ and positively impact their community, country, and the world. Certainly, an important part of this goal is to attempt to understand how the social world is organized, how it functions, and how it changes. Early sociology was developed in the midst of dramatic changes taking place in western societies as those societies industrialized. Some sociologists sought to explain the way that society functioned while being as objective as possible (e.g. Emile Durkheim). Others thought sociology could provide many answers to improve society (e.g. Karl Marx). As Christians, we bring a unique perspective when we study sociology. This course will help each student gain a better understanding of human society and will challenge the student to consider the proper role of the church and individual Christians as they seek to impact society.

Objectives

1. Learn basic sociological terms, concepts, and theoretical approaches.
2. Understand how to think from a sociological perspective, learning to see not only one's individual predicament but the larger social structure of which one is a part.

Required Reading

Edes, Laura Desfor, and Scott Appelrouth, *Sociological Theory in the Classical Era: Text and Readings 3rd Edition*. London: SAGE Publications, 2014.

Webb, Jen, Geoff Danaher, and Tony Schirato. *Understanding Bourdieu*. London: SAGE Publications, 2002.

There are additional readings that will be provided by your professor.

Suggested Reading

Scott, John, *Oxford Dictionary of Sociology 4th Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Bruce, Steve and Steven Yearley, *The SAGE Dictionary of Sociology*. London: Sage Publications, 2006.

Grading Procedures

Grades will be assigned based upon the school's grading scale. Your grade will be made up of the following components:

Chapter Quizzes	10%
Online Discussions Questions	25%
Paper to <i>Understanding Bourdieu</i>	25%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

Class Assignments: Although class sessions are complete during early week the course assignments are due throughout the semester.

Week 1

Read Chapter 1 in *Sociological Theory*

Quiz #1: Covering *Sociological Theory* Ch 1.

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (1/26) on Canvas.

Week 2

Read Chapter 2 Introduction to Karl Marx

Quiz #2: Covering *Sociological Theory* Ch 2 Introduction to Karl Marx

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (2/2) on Canvas.

Week 3

Read the following in *Sociological Theory*

“From The German Ideology” (1845–1846)

“Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844”

“The Communist Manifesto” (1848)

Answer Discussion Questions #1, 2, & 4:

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (2/9) on Canvas.

Week 4

Read Chapter 3 Introduction to Emile Durkheim

Quiz #3: Covering *Sociological Theory* Ch 3 Introduction to Emile Durkheim

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (2/16) on Canvas.

Week 5

Read the following in *Sociological Theory*

“The Division of Labor in Society” (1893)

“The Rules of Sociological Method” (1895)

“The Elementary Forms of Religious Life” (1912)

Answer Discussion Questions #3, 4, & 8:

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (2/23) on Canvas.

Week 6

Read Chapter 4 Introduction to Max Weber

Quiz #4: Covering *Sociological Theory* Ch 4 Introduction to Max Weber

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (3/2) on Canvas.

Week 7

Read the following in *Sociological Theory*

“The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism” (1904)

“The Types of Legitimate Domination” (1925)

“The Distribution of Power Within the Political Community” (1925)

Suggested Handout Reading:

David Swartz, “Bridging the Study of Culture and Religion”

Answer Discussion Questions #5, 6, & 7:

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (3/9) on Canvas.

Spring Break No Assignments

Mid-Term Exam (Due by MIDNIGHT SUNDAY (3/17) on Canvas.)

Week 8

Read Chapter 6 Introduction to Georg Simmel

Quiz #5: Covering *Sociological Theory* Ch 6 Introduction to Georg Simmel

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (3/23) on Canvas.

Week 9

Read the following in *Sociological Theory*

“Conflict” (1908)

“The Stranger” (1908)

Answer Discussion Questions #2, 3, & 4:

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (3/30) on Canvas.

Week 10

Read Chapter 7 Introduction to W.E.B. Du Bois

Quiz #6: Covering *Sociological Theory* Ch 7 Introduction to W.E.B. Du Bois

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (4/6) on Canvas.

Week 11

Read the following in *Sociological Theory*

“The Philadelphia Negro” (1899)

“The Souls of Black Folk” (1903)

“The Souls of White Folk” (1920)

Answer Discussion Questions #2, 5, & 7:

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (4/13) on Canvas.

Week 12

Read the Introduction from the handout on Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann
Quiz #7: Covering the Introduction to Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (4/20) on Canvas.

Week 13

Read the following handouts

Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann, "The Social Construction of Reality"

Audrey Smedley, "Race and the Construction of Human Identity"

Suggested Handout Reading:

Audrey Smedley and Brian D. Smedley, "Race as Biology Is Fiction, Racism as a Social Problem Is Real"

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY (4/27) on Canvas.

Week 14

Read the following handout

Pierre Bourdieu, "Social Space and Symbolic Power"

Answer Discussion Questions #2:

Due by MIDNIGHT SATURDAY on Canvas. 5/4

Reaction Paper to *Understanding Bourdieu*

Due by MIDNIGHT SUNDAY (5/4) on Canvas.

Week 15

Final Exam week of 5/13

Attendance/Participation

Attendance will be taken at each class session. Students are required to follow CCU's attendance policy for undergraduate classes. Students are expected to be present in class and prepared to participate. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class and after each break. ***If you arrive late, or for any reason the attendance sheet misses you, you must let me know after class or you will be counted absent.*** Consult the academic catalog for the University's attendance policy. Students absent from the class more than six times will receive an FA (failure due to absences) designation and will have to be reinstated into the class.

Online Discussion Questions

Upload your answers to the Discussion Questions on Canvas. Entries will be at least 2 paragraphs long. Less than 2 paragraphs may result in an automatic grade deduction, but quality, as well as quantity, will be considered for your Online Discussion grade. Each Online Discussion should be labeled (single space the label) with your name, the date, and Discussion Question number. **Each Online Discussion is due SATURDAY at MIDNIGHT** on the week indicated in the schedule. Online Discussion entries will not be accepted after the due date.

Understanding Bourdieu Reaction Paper Assignment

You will be writing a Reaction Paper to Jen Webb, Geoff Danaher, and Tony Schirato's *Understanding Bourdieu*. This paper is to be at least 20 typewritten pages in length and is to be formatted in MLA.

This Reaction Paper consists of two elements. First, you will write a one page summary for each chapter. Second, you will write a one-page reaction for each chapter.

PART 1: THE SUMMARY (1 page per Chapter)

A good summary is a concise and precise restatement of the material presented which clearly reflects an understanding of the content. The summary contains the same opinion that is found in the book. You do not express your opinion here. Also, a summary is not copied directly from the selection. You should paraphrase and write it in your own words.

PART 2: THE REACTION & REFLECTION (1–2 pages per Chapter)

Your summary provided the main ideas, now you pass a critical judgment or evaluation of these main ideas in view of the following questions:

How does the author perceive the world in the book? What assumptions does the author make? What is the main idea that the author is making? What is the author's purpose for writing? Did the author achieve his/her purpose? What kind of support/details does the author use to explain, confirm, or establish his/her purpose? Is it reasonable, emotional, credible, and valid?

AND

How does this book apply to your life personally and professionally? What lessons have you learned from this reading? How has your view of your job and your work changed as a result of the reading?

Mid–Term Exam

The Mid–Term Exam is open book and consists of multiple choice and true/false questions. The exam must be completed Canvas by MIDNIGHT SUNDAY.

Final Exam

The Final Exam is open book and consists of multiple choice and true/false questions. The exam must be completed Canvas during finals week.

Submitting Assignments

Proofread all assignments prior to submitting them. This is a college course, so submit assignments that reflect college-level thought and writing. Always make sure that you submit your work on time, and to receive maximum points, make sure that you follow the assignment instructions. As a general rule, I will not accept any late assignments in the course unless noted otherwise in this syllabus. If you have an emergency arise or special circumstance, let me know. Finally, make sure you save copies of all your assignments and keep them at least until the course is finished. Always save your work as a Word document and maintain a consistent presentation format: Time New Roman or Arial, 11–12-point font, double-spaced, and one-inch margins.

Special Notes

The class schedule is tentative, and your professor reserves the right to make changes as necessary. You will be notified of any changes in class as we proceed through the semester. Students who require academic accommodations due to a documented physical, psychological, or learning disability should request assistance from Ray Horton via the Student Services Center. Students are encouraged to complete this request within the first two weeks of each semester. The Student Services Center is located on the second floor of Presidents Hall across from the elevator. You may contact Ray Horton by phone (244-8420) or email (ray.horton@ccuniversity.edu). Tutoring services in various subjects are also available.

All students will be held accountable to CCU's academic integrity policy as it is presented in the university catalog.

***Accommodations:** Students who require academic accommodations due to a documented physical, psychological, or learning disability may request assistance from the Student Services Department. Students are encouraged to complete this process within the first two weeks of the semester. The Student Services Department is located on the upper level of Presidents Hall. You may also contact the office by phone at 244-8150.*