SOC 212 (B1): Classical Social Theory
Winter 2019
TR 2:00-3:20PM
T B 87

Instructor: Sevan Beukian
Office: T 11-07
Office Hours: Office Hours: Tuesdays from 1-2PM and Wednesdays 4-5PM, or by appointment
Email: beurkibe@ualberta.ca

Teaching Assistant: Mahmood Exiri Fard
Office hours: T 4-10 Mondays from 1-2PM
Email: exirifar@ualberta.ca

Course Prerequisite:
SOC 100 or consent of instructor

Course Materials:

- All additional readings will be available on elcass.

Course Description:
The course will introduce students to some of the theorists of social thought from Western Europe and some non-western authors to present a glimpse of the whole tradition of sociology from a global perspective. The readings span from the 19th to the 20th centuries, with a focus on how the modern era - specifically the Industrial Revolution, colonialism, political changes, alienation – shifted our cultural and social contexts through the readings of Marx, Weber, Durkheim, Shariati, Collins, Fanon, DuBois. We will be reading these not only through the Western European tradition, but we will also pay attention to how these discussions of modernity have been perceived in other parts of the world and how their impact is felt through scholars’ engagements with modernity.

Course Objectives:
The course readings and discussions encourage students to think critically and link these texts to their own contemporary contexts. While the main goal of this introductory course is to introduce you to the classical theorists of social thought, it is also important to learn how these are linked to our
current context. What can we learn from these authors, why are they important to read for us today? By the end of the course, students will gain the following skills:

- To grasp the central topics that make up the field, as well as critically engage with the core concepts and ideas of the readings and lectures.
- To understand relevance of these central concepts from a global and historic perspective, with connections to contemporary examples and events.
- To present their ideas in writing in a concise and clear format, in a way that critically assesses the readings, and provides evidence to support the argument.

COURSE FORMAT:

The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of formal lectures, assigned readings, and audiovisual materials.

CLASSROOM POLICIES/ATMOSPHERE:

Recording of Lectures
Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Office Hours
If you have any questions or concerns regarding your standing in the class, lecture material, assignments, or class material in general, please schedule an appointment with the instructor or TA or drop in during office hours to discuss these. If you cannot make it during scheduled office hours, please email the instructor or TA to arrange an alternative time and date for meeting.

Email Communication and Etiquette

Email communication with the instructor or TA in this class should be considered formal, similar to other professional email correspondence (for work for example). Please make sure you include a subject line that briefly describes the email content. Make sure you mention the course and section you are in. Always sign your complete name at the end of your email.

It is important to write emails that are respectful and clear. Your email should address your instructor by title and name (Professor Smith, Ms. Jones) unless instructed otherwise. Finally, if you have substantive questions about the content of the course, please see me during office hours when we can talk more productively.

Laptops and Tablets
Laptops and tablets are great ways to take notes in class if you are inclined to do so. However, please refrain from checking email or accessing the internet for recreational use during class and restrict your laptop activities to note taking or looking up items pertinent to class discussion.
COURSE OUTLINE POLICY

Policy about course outlines can be found in Course Requirements, Evaluation Procedures and Grading of the University Calendar.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

The course requirements are outlined below. The instructor will not ‘curve’ or adjust final grades according to any preset formula. Evaluation of the following course requirements will determine students’ grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Analysis X 2</td>
<td></td>
<td>February 12 and March 12</td>
<td>15% and 20% respectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To be submitted on eclass</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>due before class time.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes X 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>10%, 15%, 15%</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>February 28</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>March 28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Take-Home Essay</td>
<td></td>
<td>April 23, 2019 on eclass</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>at 4PM</td>
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EXPLANATORY NOTE ON COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance will be taken when assignments or quizzes are due.

➢ The details for all other assignment requirements for this term will be posted on eclass at the beginning of the term.

GRADING:

Marks for graded course requirements are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below. The percentage mark resulting from all graded components produces the final letter grade for the course. Marks for grades are not curved or scaled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>86-89%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-85%</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B</td>
<td>74-76%</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70-73%</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Notes
If you have any questions or concerns about your standing in the class, lecture material, assignments, or class discussions please schedule an appointment with the instructor or drop in during office hours. I encourage students to meet with the instructor or TAs if the student feels that he or she may need alternative arrangements for class participation. We will work closely with the student in order to ensure that they are able to participate effectively and receive their marks in fairness.

TERRITORIAL STATEMENT

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY

As defined in the policy, sexual violence is any sexual act or act of a sexual nature, or act targeting sexuality, whether physical or psychological, committed without consent. Sexual violence is a complex and serious problem in society and on university campuses. Sexual violence can affect individuals of all gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations, as well as those from all ages, abilities, racial, cultural and economic backgrounds. Through this policy, the University of Alberta recognizes its responsibility to reduce sexual violence in the University community. The university aims to do so by fostering a culture of consent and support through education, training and policy. The University recognizes the possible effects of trauma on those who have experienced sexual violence and supports the efforts of individuals to seek support and recover. To read the policy in more detail, please visit:

ATTENDANCE, ABSENCES, AND MISSED GRADE COMPONENTS:

Regular attendance is essential for optional performance. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult the Attendance section of the University Calendar.

Policy for Missed Term Work:

Students are required to contact the instructor within two working days following the missed term work (or as soon as the student is able, with regard to the circumstances) to apply for an excused absence. Excused absences are not automatic and are at the discretion of the instructor, who may request supporting documents. The student is required to complete equivalent term work or term quiz or essay as decided by the instructor. If the student does not complete the make-up work as
prescribed by the instructor, a raw score of zero will be assigned for the missed term work or term quiz. Below is a list of acceptable documentation to support an absence:

- For incapacitating medical illness, students can present one of the following:
  - “University of Alberta Medical Statement” signed by a doctor (this cannot be required, but must be accepted if provided in lieu of other documents).
  - “Request for Excused Absence or Deferral of Term Work”
  - Statutory Declaration” (for students in Faculties other than Arts, to be obtained from home Faculty or the Office of the Registrar).

- For all other cases, such as domestic afflictions or religious convictions, the student should submit documentation appropriate to the situation. This could include the following:
  - For a death in the family – a copy of the death certificate
  - For a religious conflict – a letter from the church or pastor
  - For a car accident – a copy of the accident report
  - For other serious afflictions – consult the Instructor or Department about appropriate documents

**Policy for Late Assignments:**

Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 5% per day, including weekends, for a maximum of one week. After one week, the assignment will not be accepted. If students foresee a problem in meeting an upcoming deadline, it is their responsibility to discuss alternative arrangements with the professor at least 1 week in advance. Sufficient notice will be given for all assignments, making general lateness unacceptable.

**Policy for Missed Final Exam**

If a student misses or does not complete the final take-home exam which is to be submitted on eclass, a zero will be assigned as their mark for the exam. As such, it is important to contact the instructor prior to the exam due date if the student has reasons or difficulties completing their final take home exam as required. IMPORTANT NOTE: this is a reminder that it is imperative to double check your final exam submission on ecclass after you have uploaded it in order to verify whether or not you have successfully done so.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

**STUDENT RESOURCES:**
The best all-purpose website for student services is: https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students.

**Accessibility Resources:** (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students) webpage.

**The Academic Success Centre:** (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

**The Centre for Writers:** (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

**Health and Wellness Support:** There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students) webpage.

**Office of the Student Ombuds:**

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

**LEARNING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT:**

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment.

**Academic Integrity**

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at [https://www.ualberta.ca/governance/](https://www.ualberta.ca/governance/)) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult the [Academic Integrity website](https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.
An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the Academic Discipline Process.

Classes for the Winter term begin January 7th and end April 10, 2019.

The Add/Drop date is January 18, 2019.
The 50% Refund Deadline is February 6, 2019.
Course Withdrawal deadline (no fee refund) is April 3, 2019.

TERM READING SCHEDULE

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Disclaimer: Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass.

- **January 8**
  - Introduction to the course, no readings

- **January 10:**
  - Sexual Assault Education and Awareness Workshop in class.

- **January 15: Sociological Method**
  - Durkheim, The Rules of the Sociological Method (McIntosh, 3.4)
  - Weber: Science as a Vocation (McIntosh, 2.4)

- **January 17**
  - No Seminar this week (no class)

- **January 22 and 24**
  - Marx, The German Ideology and Historical Materialism (McIntosh, 1.3)
  - Marx, The Communist Manifesto (McIntosh, 1.4)
  - Seminar session on Thursday

- **January 29 and 31**
  - Marx, The Preface to A Critique of Political Economy (McIntosh, 1.6)
  - Marx, Alienated Labour (McIntosh, 1.1)
  - Seminar session on Thursday
  - → QUIZZ#1 in class on January 31

- **February 5 and 7**
  - Marx, The Fetishism of Commodities (McIntosh, 1.7)
- Review session will also take place on Tuesday
- Seminar Session on Thursday
- [optional] Colloquium by Jonathan Payton (Calgary): February 7, 2019 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM:
  **https://www.ualberta.ca/arts/events/philosophy/5jirbni798oehc3f698cn60v19**

- **February 12-14**
  - Ali Shariati's *Civilization and Modernization* 1-6 (available on eclass).
  - Seminar session on Thursday
  - → February 12– Reading Analysis #1 DUE on eclass before class time.

- **February 19 and 21: WINTER READING WEEK – NO CLASSES**

- **February 26 and 28**
  - Weber, Definitions of Sociology and Social Action (McIntosh, 2.5)
  - Weber, Legitimacy and Authority (McIntosh, 2.6)
  - Weber, Bureaucracy (McIntosh, 2.3)
  - Seminar Session:
  - (in class video: **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pbQKItJd89Q&amp;list=PLww1dvjSoO4OUlyHJtogMTDsOCi-G4iq&amp;index=17**)  
  - → QUIZZ#2 in class on February 28

- **March 5 and 7**
  - Weber, The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism (McIntosh, 2.1)
  - Weber, Class, Status, and Party (McIntosh, 2.)
  - Seminar session

- **March 12 and 14: Critical Race Theory**
  - Franz Fanon, “The Fact of Blackness”
  - Patricia Hill Collins, “Prisons for Our Bodies, Closets for our Minds.”
  - [in Class] Crenshaw on Intersectionality VIDEO.
  - Seminar session on Thursday
  - → March 12: Reading Analysis #2 DUE on eclass before class time.

- **March 19 and 21: Indigenous Perspectives**
  - [in class] Audra Simpson “The Chief’s Two Bodies: Theresa Spence and the Gender of Settler Sovereignty,” Unsettling Conversations, October 2014,
  - Seminar Session on Thursday
March 26 and 28
- Durkheim, The Division of Labour in Society; Organic Solidarity; Causes and Abnormal Forms (McIntosh, 3.1-3.3)
- Durkheim, Suicide: A Study in Sociology (McIntosh, 3.5)
- Review Session on Tuesday
- → QUIZZ#3 in class on March 28

April 2 and 4
- Durkheim, Religion and Society (McIntosh, 3.6)
- Seminar Session

April 9 – final take-home exam is distributed in class