

## **SOCI 2005A**

### **Histories of Sociological Thought**

<b>Instructor</b>	Ariel Fuenzalida
<b>Term</b>	Fall 2024/Winter 2025
<b>Course Delivery</b>	In person
<b>Email Address</b>	Ariel.fuenzalida@carleton.ca

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course introduces students to the foundational theoretical perspectives within sociology. The course will focus on key primary texts from a range of classical and contemporary social thinkers, and hence will be challenging. With lectures and tutorials to complement the texts, the first semester will overview the origins of modern social thought in the European Enlightenment. We will begin with an exploration of the 19th century, concentrating on the rise of industrial capitalism by focusing on Karl Marx & Frederick Engels' critique of social and economic relations, ideas concerning history, alienation, revolution, and the theory of commodity fetishism. We will then move on to Émile Durkheim, particularly his rules for sociological method, ideas concerning the division of labour, the forms of religious life and collective effervescence, and his theory of anomie. From there we will move on to Max Weber and his analysis of capitalism and religion, bureaucracy, rationalization, and disenchantment in modern social life. We will also touch upon the critical theories of the Frankfurt School (Adorno & Horkheimer), theories of imitation and diffusion (Tarde) and the emergence of microsociology (Simmel). In the second semester we will explore some of the most influential ideas and debates in political, cultural, and social theory of the 20th century, with a particular focus on the emergence of feminist social thought (Gilman, de Beauvoir, & Butler), structural linguistics, semiotics, theories of power (Foucault, Deleuze) and we will end by exploring theories of race & representation (including classic texts by Du Bois, Hall, Said). Throughout the course, we will explore the relationship of social theory to the questions and problems of modern social existence, such as the persistence of social, racial and gender inequality, the role of religion in modernity, the bureaucratic administration of daily life, relations of power, and the nature and possibilities of social change, among others.

## **EVALUATION**

1. Tutorial Participation (20%)
2. Two Quizzes (20%)
3. Short Essay (20%)
4. Group Presentation (15%)
5. Final Essay/Art Project (25%)

## **TEXT**

There is no required textbook for this class. All required readings will be made available through Brightspace.