This course is meant as an introduction to some of the central issues in the contemporary study of society. It is not meant to be a comprehensive survey of theories. It is based on some of the most important works of the last 60-80 years that have been built upon, and contributed to, the development of sociology and social theory. The topics that these works treat have become central to a wide range of social and political thought: intellectual and cultural production; critical theory and the re-evaluation of classical social thought; post-colonialism and cultural studies; the development of neoliberalism; normalization and social control; the body and power; social reproduction through education; stratification and culture; feminist theory. Nonetheless, there are many areas we are forced to overlook here: sociology of knowledge and science; interaction and its interpretation; comparative historical theory; sociology of emotions.

Selections marked with a star (*) will be posted on the TritonEd site for the class.

Requirements: THREE short papers, at least 7 pages. The writing component of the course is very important. Topics will be provided for each paper two weeks in advance.
I. INTRODUCTION

II. REWORKING THE MARXIST LEGACY, I – CULTURE AND HEGEMONY

Gramsci, Selections from the Prison Notebooks, 5-23, 52-61, 102-120, 125-90, 210-18, 227-38, 257-68, 275-76, 343-66, 381-410

http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/jcia/10/2

III. REWORKING THE MARXIST LEGACY, II – POSTCOLONIALISM & CULTURAL STUDIES

Louis Althusser, “Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses,” from Lenin and Philosophy
http://www.marx2mao.com/Other/LPOE70ii.html#s5

*Stuart Hall, “Signification, Representation, Ideology: Althusser and the Post-Structuralist Debates”
http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15295038509360070

http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/jcia/10/2

http://www.jstor.org/stable/2928652?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents

Dipesh Chakrabarty, “From Civilization to Globalization: The ‘West’ as a Shifting Signifier in Indian Modernity”
IV. REWORKING THE WEBERIAN LEGACY – CULTURE, RATIONALITY, & CRITICAL THEORY


*Horkheimer and Adorno, “The Culture Industry,” from Dialectic of Enlightenment [POSTED]

*Habermas, “Technology and Science as Ideology,” from Toward a Rational Society [POSTED]

V. KNOWLEDGE, POWER, & NORMALIZATION IN TOTAL INSTITUTIONS

*Foucault, “Truth and Power,” from Power/Knowledge [POSTED]

Foucault, Discipline and Punish, 3-69, 101-3, 126-31, 135-228, 231-308

VI. POWER/KNOWLEDGE & THE “END” OF IDEOLOGY

Foucault, History of Sexuality, volume 1, all

*Foucault, “Two Lectures,” from Power/Knowledge [POSTED]

VII. NEO-LIBERALISM, CAPITALISM, AND SOCIETY

Cahill & Konings, Neoliberalism, all [Also online at Roger, UCSD Library]

VIII. REWORKING THE DURKHEIMIAN LEGACY, I – HABITUS, FIELD, & PRACTICE

Bourdieu, Distinction, pp. 1-125
IX. REWORKING THE DURKHEIMIAN LEGACY, II – STRATIFICATION
AND CULTURAL CAPITAL

Bourdieu, Distinction, pp. 125-256, 466-500

X. FEMINISM AND SOCIAL THEORY

*bell hooks, Feminist Theory: from Margin to Center
[POSTED]

Judith Butler, Gender Trouble, Chapter One

Elizabeth Grosz, “The Practice of Feminist Theory,”
https://read.dukeupress.edu/differences/article/21/1/94-108/97692

Rosi Braidotti, “A Critical Cartography of Feminist
Post-postmodernism”
http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/08164640500090319

Rosi Braidotti, “Nomadism with a difference: Deleuze's
legacy in a feminist perspective”
https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/BF01248440