

UNIVERSITY_{of} NORTH TEXAS

Department of Sociology

SOCI 3200: Introduction to Sociological Theory

Instructor: Miles Brickell

Email: Miles.brickell@unt.edu

Virtual Office Hours: By appointment

Q and A Sessions: Thursday 2pm - 5pm

Zoom: <https://unt.zoom.us/j/6935421104>

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to sociological theory from the 1840s to the present day, though it concentrates on the classical era of sociological theory from the Industrial Revolution through World War I. The course provides a foundation for taking 3000- and 4000-level sociology courses, and it is intended primarily, although not exclusively, for sociology majors and minors.

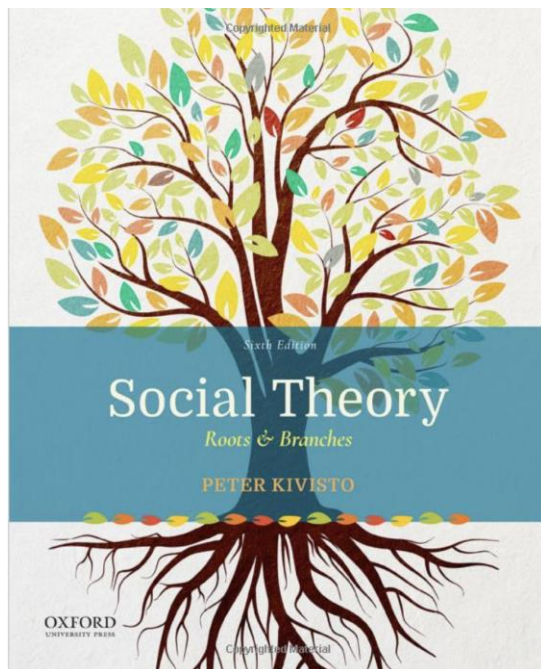
Textbook:

Social Theory: Roots & Branches 6th Edition by Peter Kivisto.

Important Communication:

I will communicate with you via emails and announcements. Please be sure to check these regularly for correspondence from me and your other instructors. Read this document and the course schedule very carefully. Save the schedule to your desktop or print it off. This will allow you to always know what is coming up. Things can go wrong in Canvas, and I highly recommend you not rely entirely on the due date function. You are responsible for all assigned work, even if something happens in Canvas and an assignment does not appear under your To

Do/Coming up list. It is always better to have a general idea of what is due than to have missing work!



Minimum Technology Requirements for the Course:

- Computer
- Reliable internet access
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Canvas Technical Requirements (<https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements>)

Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UNT Help Desk: (<http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>)

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm

Telephone Availability:

- Sunday: noon-midnight

- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
- Friday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm

Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help
(<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

Assignments and Grading:

This course has four types of assignments: A Pre- and Post-Course Evaluation, four quizzes, four discussions, and two exams. All discussions, testing and grading will take place on CANVAS for this course.

Pre and Post-Course Evaluation:

The University is requiring all students to take a course evaluation at the beginning and end of the course. It is required for every student to take these and they will be worth 10 points each. These will be completion grades. As long as you complete these evaluations, you will receive these points. In total, 20 points.

Exams:

There are two exams for this course — a midterm and a final — which must be completed by the due date specified on the syllabus. Exams are open book and will be posted on Canvas early in the week and can be taken at any time throughout the week. Each exam is worth 50 points. Each exam will consist of short answer questions and is untimed. Material will be drawn from previous weeks but are not concurrent with the week the exam is posted. For example, exam 1 is during the week we learn about Habitus, so it may include questions about all previous content but not questions about Habitus. In total, 100 points.

Discussion/Participation:

You will be expected to engage in weekly discussions (not including finals week) of the assigned material, and this will take place on the course's message board on Canvas.

Your posts on the message board can address any components of the assigned reading for the week—the content and perspective expressed in the post is up to you, so long as it directly relates to the readings for that week.

Your contributions on the message board must be interactive and engaging: consider the readings from different points of view, ask questions of your fellow students and comment reflectively on the posts of others. These weekly discussions are worth 10 points each. In total, 40 points.

You can access these discussions under the weekly modules in the “Modules” tab or under the “Discussions” tab.

Your discussion posts will be graded on the basis of how well they meet the following criteria:

- 1) Full engagement:
 - a. Make (at least) one original post of at least 150-200 words each week.

- b. Provide (at least) one response to your classmates' posts each week of at least 50 words.
- 2) Make sure your posts are relevant to the topic(s) of the assigned chapters each week.
- 3) Make sure to incorporate/make specific reference to material from the text. When drawing directly from text material, put passages in quotations and cite text page numbers.
- 4) Emphasize your thoughtfulness and curiosity.
- 5) Watch spelling, grammar, and organization.

Feel free to give your thoughts and opinions, to ask questions of your classmates, and be ready to explain your point of view.

Grading Scale:

A = 90 to 100% of all possible points

B = 80 to 89%

C = 70 to 79%

D = 60 to 69%

F = Below 60%

Academic Integrity:

It is the responsibility of each student to be familiar with UNT's Policy on Academic Integrity. Plagiarism, copying, cheating, or giving assistance to other students during examinations is a violation of academic integrity. Cases of suspected cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students office. Note that any and all work submitted in order to meet the requirements of this course must be originally created for this course. In other words, you may not turn in anything submitted for another course and/or section of this course you have previously taken.

University Policy 06.003 states, "UNT promotes the integrity of learning processed and embraces the core values of trust and honesty. Academic integrity is based on educational principles and procedures that protect the rights of all participants in the educational process and validate the legitimacy of degrees awarded by the university. In the investigation and resolution of allegations of student academic dishonesty, the university's actions are intended to be corrective, educationally sound, fundamentally fair, and based on reliable evidence."

For more information on what constitutes plagiarism, as well as tips on citing your resources, visit www.plagiarism.org. If you require clarification on what counts as academic dishonesty, it is your responsibility to ask the instructor of the course.

Academic Accommodations:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://disability.unt.edu>. You may also contact them by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Course Schedule:

Week 1: 5/22 - 5/28 Topics: Classical Foundations & Introduction to Sociological Theory

- Read the syllabus and email me with any questions.
- Readings (from Kivisto book):
 - *"What is a social fact?"* (Emile Durkheim)
 - *"Anomic Suicide"* (Emile Durkheim)
 - *"Alienated Labor"* (Karl Marx)
 - *Manifesto of the Communist Party* (Karl Marx & Fredrich Engels)
- Watch the videos posted underneath the week 1 tab labeled "videos."
- Participate in Canvas Discussion
- Sociological Theory Proficiency Test
- Quiz 1
- All Assignments are due Sunday at midnight.

Week 2: 5/29 - 6/04 Topics: Classical Theoretical Perspectives

- Readings (from Kivisto book):
 - *On Mechanical and Organic Solidarity* (Emile Durkheim)
 - *The Structure of the Societal Community* (Talcott Parsons)
 - *Society as Symbolic Interaction* (Herbert Blumer)
 - *Performances* (Erving Goffman)
 - *The Sociology of Charismatic Authority* (Max Weber)
- Watch the videos posted underneath the week 2 tab labeled "videos."
- Participate in Canvas Discussion
- Quiz 2
- All Assignments are due Sunday at midnight.

Week 3: 6/05 - 6/11 Topics: Social Perspectives

- Readings (from Kivisto book)
 - *Class, Status, Party* (Max Weber)
 - *On Individualism* (Alexis de Tocqueville)
 - *Individualism and the Intellectuals* (Emile Durkheim)
 - *Structures and Habitus* (Pierre Bourdieu)
- Watch the videos posted underneath the week 2 tab labeled "videos."
- Participate in Canvas Discussion
- Quiz 3
- Exam 1
- All Assignments are due Sunday at midnight.

Week 4: 6/12 - 6/18 Topics: Feminist Sociology and Cultural Theory

- Readings (from Kivisto book)
 - *Doing Gender* (Candace West & Don H. Zimmerman)
 - *Toward an Afrocentric Feminist Epistemology* (Patricia Hill Collins)
 - *The Dependence of Women* (Charlotte Perkins Gilman)
 - *The Reflexivity of Modernity* (Anthony Giddens)
 - *Advertising* (Jean Baudrillard)
 - *Ethnicity Without Groups* (Rogers Brubaker)
- Watch the videos posted underneath the week 4 tab labeled “videos.”
- Participate in Canvas Discussion
- Quiz 4
- All Assignments are due Sunday at midnight.

Week 5: 6/19 - 6/25 Topics: Globalism and Exchange Theories
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- Readings (from Kivisto book)
 - *Social Behavior as Exchange* (George C. Homans)
 - *Formulation of Exchange Theory* (Peter Blau)
 - *Human Capital and Social Capital* (James S. Coleman)
 - *Fairness and Norms* (Jon Elster)
 - *The Cosmopolitan Condition: Why Methodological Nationalism Fails* (Ulrich Beck)
 - *The Three Instances of Hegemony in the History of the Capitalist World-Economy* (Immanuel Wallerstein)
- Watch the videos posted underneath the week 5 tab labeled “videos.”
- Exam 2
- All Assignments are due Sunday at midnight.

*This syllabus, with its course schedule, is based on the most recent information about the course content and schedule planned for this course. Its content is subject to revision as needed to adapt to new knowledge or unanticipated events. Updates will remain focused on achieving the course objectives and students will receive notification of such changes. Students are responsible for attending to such changes or modifications posted on the Canvas site (<https://unt.instructure.com>) for this course.