American Public University System

American Military University | American Public University

# SOCI500

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# Course Summary

**Course :** SOCI500 **Title :** Social Theory in Action
**Length of Course :** 8 **Faculty :**
**Prerequisites :** N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

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# Description

**Course Description:**

This course integrates classical and contemporary sociological theory through application. Students will explore epistemology, examining theory as a framework for studying society. Students will focus on key sociological theories that apply to their research topic interests.

**Course Scope:**

This course is part of the online Master of Arts in Sociology program. This program will help prepare you to develop a reflective understanding of human nature and master the objectives of the program.

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# Objectives

1. Describe key sociological theories

2. Evaluate how theory applies to specific, applied research

3. Examine interdisciplinary applications for sociological theory

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# Outline

**Week 1: What is Social Theory and Why is it Important?**

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Course materials

Syllabus

Week 1 Learning Materials
Week 1 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 1 Discussion

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Course objectives

2, 3

## Week 2: Emergence through Convergence: The Puzzles of Social Order Classical Connections and Contemporary Extensions (Durkheim, Merton)

Course materials

Week 2 Learning Materials
Week 2 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 2 Discussion

Completion of Master's Student Orientation

Course Objectives

1

## Week 3: WEEK 3 - Emergence through Convergence: The Puzzles of Social Order Classical Connections and Contemporary Extensions (Garfinkle, Latour, Berger, and Luckmann)

Course materials

Week 3 Learning Materials
Week 3 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 3 Discussion

Assignment 1: Course Project Proposal

Course objectives

1, 2

## Week 4: Networks of Capital: Dimensions of Global Capitalism Classical Connections and Contemporary Extensions (Marx, Engels, Wallerstein, Castells, Bourdieu, and Harvey)

Course materials

Week 4 Learning Materials
Week 4 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 4 Discussion

Course objectives

1, 2, 3

## Week 5: Pathway to Meltdown: Theorizing the Dark Side of Modernity Classical Connections and Contemporary Extensions (Weber)

Course materials

Week 5 Learning Materials
Week 5 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 5 Discussion

Course objectives

1

Recommended Optional Reading
Recommended Media

## Week 6: Pathway to Meltdown: Theorizing the Dark Side of Modernity Classical Connections and Contemporary Extensions (Marcuse, Habermas, Foucault, and Bauman)

Course materials

Week 6 Learning Materials
Week 6 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 6 Discussion

Assignment 2: Annotated Bibliography

Course objectives

2

Recommended Optional Reading
Recommended Media

## Week 7: Shifting the Paradigm: Excluded Voices, Alternative Knowledges Classical Connections and Contemporary Extensions (DuBois, deBeauvoir, Omi, Winant, Fanon, Said, and Smith)

Course materials

Week 7 Learning Materials
Week 7 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 7 Discussion

Course objectives

1, 2, 3

## Week 8: Rise of the Avatar: Connecting Self and Society": Classical Connections and

**Contemporary Extensions (Mead, Simmel, Goffman, Foucault, Butler, and Giddens)**

Course materials

Week 8 Learning Materials
Week 8 Readings & Resources

Assignments

Week 8 Discussion

Assignment 3: Course Project

Course objectives

1, 2, 3

# Evaluation

*Note: Successful completion of the sociology graduate program requires a portfolio with artifacts from your courses. Save all of the assignments you submit in class, whether they are marked as an artifact or not, for use in your portfolio at the end of the program. Depending on when you complete SOCI698, your past courses and assignments may no longer be accessible to you.*

**Grading:**

| Name | Grade % |
|---|---|
| Assignments | 55.00% |
| Assignment 1: Course Project Proposal | 18.33% |
| Assignment 2: Annotated Bibliography | 18.33% |
| Assignment 3: Course Project Portfolio Artifact | 18.33% |
| Discussions | 40.00% |
| Week 1: Introduction and Understanding social theories | 5.00% |
| Week 2: Understanding social order and social facts | 5.00% |
| Week 3: Evaluating common sense | 5.00% |
| Week 4: Cultural capital and World Systems Theory | 5.00% |
| Week 5: Weber and the Protestant work ethic | 5.00% |
| Week 6: Contemporary social theory in the post-industrial and information age | 5.00% |
| Week 7: Shifting paradigms | 5.00% |
| Week 8: Connecting our self to theory | 5.00% |

# Materials

**Book Title:** Social Theory Re-Wired: New Connections to Classical and Contemporary Perspectives, 2nd ed. - e-book available in the APUS Online Library

**Author:** Longhofer

**Publication Info:** Routledge Lib

**ISBN:** 9781138015807

**Book Title:** Various resources from the APUS Library & the Open Web are used. Please visit http://apus.libguides.com/er.php to locate the course eReserve.

**Author:** No Author Specified

**Publication Info:**

**ISBN:** N/A

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All course materials are free and provided in our Library. Link to our <u>eReserve page in the Library</u> and select this course to access your materials.

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# Course Guidelines

### Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on Forums in the School of Arts & Humanities

### Tutoring

- <u>Tutor.com</u> offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

### Late Assignments

### <u>University Late Policy</u>

All dates and times posted are for U.S. Eastern Standard time. It is your responsibility to know how that translates to your time zone and to submit assignments and tests per these posted deadlines.

You are expected to submit assignments by the due dates listed in the classroom. Late assignments may not be accepted after the course end date. Submitting an assignment late may result in a penalty of up to 10% of the grade per day late, not to exceed a maximum of 50% (5 days late). The amount of the penalty is at the faculty member's discretion.*

*Programs with specialty accreditation and students with DSA accommodations may have different late policies applied.

### Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

# Communications

**Student Communication**

To reach the instructor, please communicate through the MyClassroom email function accessible from the Classlist of the Course Tools menu, where the instructor and students email addresses are listed, or via the Office 365 tool on the Course homepage.

- In emails to instructors, it's important to note the specific course in which you are enrolled. The name of the course is at the top center of all pages.
- Students and instructors communicate in Discussion posts and other learning activities.
- All interactions should follow APUS guidelines, as noted in the Student Handbook, and maintain a professional, courteous tone.
- Students should review writing for spelling and grammar.
- Tips on Using the Office 365 Email Tool

**Instructor Communication**

The instructor will post announcements on communications preferences involving email and Instant Messaging and any changes in the class schedule or activities.

- Instructors will periodically post information on the expectations of students and will provide feedback on assignments, Discussion posts, quizzes, and exams.
- Instructors will generally respond to student communications within 48 hours, except in unusual circumstances (e.g., illness).
- The APUS standard for grading of all assessments (assignments, Discussions, quizzes, exams) is five days or fewer from the due date.
- Final course grades are submitted by faculty no later than seven days after the end date of the course or the end of the extension period.

# University Policies

Consult the Student Handbook for processes and policies at APUS. Notable policies:

- Drop/Withdrawal Policy

- Extension Requests

- Academic Probation

- Appeals

- Academic Dishonesty / Plagiarism

- Disability Accommodations

- Student Deadlines

- Video Conference Policy

**Mission**

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

**Minimum Technology Requirements**

- Please consult the catalog for the minimum hardware and software required for undergraduate and graduate courses.

- Although students are encouraged to use the Pulse mobile app with any course, please note that not all course work can be completed via a mobile device.


**Disclaimers**

- Please note that course content – and, thus, the syllabus – may change between when a student registers for a course and when the course starts.

- Course content may vary from the syllabus' schedule to meet the needs of a particular group.