This reading schedule is available on the web at: http://web.pdx.edu/~tothm/theory. It contains links to all of the web-sited readings listed below and additional resource sites re: the theorists.

**KEY:** Those materials marked with a ► (in the Allan text or, in several instances, on line via the Dead Sociologists Index) or a ® (in the reading packet) are required for the course. I have included references to additional resources that I strongly recommend. You may especially want to read the on-line materials marked with a ☐. I suggest that you look at all the relevant material that is currently available online via the Dead Sociologists Index. In addition, I would urge serious students to read the sections on Marx, Durkheim, and Weber in the two noted volumes by Raymond Aron.

**Introduction** (September 27, 29)
- What This Course is All About
- Sociological Caveats
- Society and Illusion

Randall Collins & Michael Makowsky
(The Discovery of Society, pp. 1-15)

► Imagining Society

- Auguste Comte
  
  Auguste Comte - The Person & A Summary of Ideas
  (http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#comte)
  
  Lewis Coser

Herbert Spencer (October 4)

► Organic Evolution—Herbert Spencer

- Herbert Spencer
  
  Herbert Spencer - The Person & A Summary of Ideas
  (http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#spencer)
  
  Lewis Coser

Karl Marx (October 6, 11, 13)

- Basic Major Concepts and Ideas

► Engines of Change--Karl Marx

- Karl Marx - The Person & A Summary of Ideas
  (http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#marx)
  
  Karl Marx in Main Currents in Sociological Thought I, pp. 145-236
  
  Raymond Aron

  Bogside
  
  Leon Uris

  Cogent Summary of Marx’s General Position
  Karl Marx (1859)

  Marx’s Masterpiece at 150 (Handout)
  Steven Marcus

Emile Durkheim (October 18, 20, 25)

- Basic Major Concepts and Ideas

- Peanuts (on functionalism)

► Cultural Consensus – Emile Durkheim

- Emile Durkheim - The Person & A Summary of Ideas
  (http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#durkheim)
  
  Lewis Coser

Charles Schultz
Emile Durkheim in Main Currents in Sociological Thought II, pp. 1-117
→ Contribution to the Critique of Hegel’s Philosophy of the Right (part) Karl Marx

Max Weber (October 27, November 1)
→ Basic Major Concepts and Ideas

► Authority and Rationality — Max Weber Allan, Chapter 5
  ① Max Weber - The Person & A Summary of Ideas
     (http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#weber)
     Max Weber in Main Currents in Sociological Thought II, pp. 219-317
     Raymond Aron

→ Why Work? A Hundred Years of “The Protestant Ethic” (Handout) Elizabeth Kohbert

Georg Simmel (November 3)
→ Basic Major Concepts and Ideas

► Society and the Individual-- Georg Simmel Allan, Chapter 6
  ① Georg Simmel - The Person & A Summary of Ideas
     (http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#simmel)

→ Why Sociology is Difficult: Emergence, Structure, and the Peculiar Location of Self-Consciousness in Nature Michael Toth
     (The Social Science Journal, October 1982, pp. 1-7)

The Chicago School (November 8)
→ The Beginnings of a Sociological School: Chicago Sociology from 1892 to 1935
     George Ritzer
     (Sociological Beginnings, pp.66-85)

  ① Robert Park - The Person & A Summary of Ideas
     (http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#park)

George Herbert Mead (November 10, 15)

► Self-Consciousness — George Herbert Mead Allan, Chapter 7
  ① Charles Horton Cooley - The Person & A Summary of Ideas
     (http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#cooley)
  ① George Herbert Mead - The Person & A Summary of Ideas
     (http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#mead)

→ Sociological Implications of the Thought of George Herbert Mead Herbert Blumer
     (American. Journal of Sociology, 1966, pp. 234-244)

Erving Goffman (November 17)
→ Encountering Erving Goffman
     David Elkind
     (Human Behavior Magazine, 1975, pp. 163-171)

  ① • Erving Goffman: The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life
     (http://www.hewett.norfolk.sch.uk/curric/soc/goffman.htm)

Alfred Schutz (November 22)

► The Problem of Meaning and Reality — Alfred Schutz Allan, Chapter 9
  → Introduction
     Maurice Natanson

→ Paramount Reality of Everyday Life Diagram
Talcott Parsons (November 29)
► The Social System – Talcott Parsons
Allan, Chapter 10
⇒ NY Times Retirement Summary
Robert Reinhold

Robert Merton (December 1)
⇒ Robert K. Merton
Alan Sica
(Key Sociological Thinkers, pp. 111-123)
⇒ The Role-Set: Problems in Sociological Theory
Robert Merton
(The British Journal of Sociology, June 1957)
Interface Analysis :Exchange Transactions within an Implicit Functional Group
Michael Toth
(http://web.pdx.edu/~tothm/Manuscripts/interface_analysis.htm)
⇒ Profiles: How Does it Come to Be So
Morton M. Hunt
⇒ NY Times Obituary
Michael T. Kaufman

EXAMS:
I anticipate that there will be four take-home exams more or less evenly spaced through
the course. Each exam will consist of a small number of short, thought-provoking
questions to be answered in appropriate brief essay form. Each exam will cover only a
specific portion of the material presented in the course and students will have a week’s
time to complete the exam. The last exam will include an optional extra credit “nudge”
question, which will be explained at the time.

The dates for the exams are currently scheduled as follows:
Exam #1, handed out on October 13, due on October 20
Exam #2, handed out on November 1 due on November 8
Exam #3, handed out on November 15, due on November 22
Exam #4, handed out on December 1, due no later than December 8 (in lieu of
scheduled final exam).

PLEASE NOTE:
If you have a disability and are in need of academic accommodations, please notify me
(the instructor) immediately to arrange needed supports.

All of the materials on this reading list authored by Lewis Coser are available courtesy
of the web site (http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~lridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML) called “The
Dead Sociologist’s Index” maintained by Larry Ridener of the Department of Sociology
at Baylor University. The addresses provided in the schedule above link directly to that
site at the point where the material on each of the respective theorists is presented, but
you may wish to view the entire site and are encouraged to use it as a supplemental
resource for the entire course. All of the written material at this site (with the exception
of excerpts from original works) was originally published in Masters of Sociological
This same text was reprinted by Waveland Press in 2003 and is currently available in
paperback format as a 2nd edition.