

# FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIOLOGY

Sociology 470 - Spring 2007, Michael A. Toth, Ph.D.

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## READING AND COURSE SCHEDULE

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 readings. There are supplemental materials in the packet, especially charts or graphs, not all listed. You should plan to read the materials marked with an ① below; these are available on-line via the course webpage. I have also identified additional resources that I strongly recommend. These are listed in the "Additional Materials" column of the course website. You are invited to read relevant materials available online via the Dead Sociologists Index and there are more on-line resources listed at the bottom of the course webpage. In addition, serious students of the discipline are encouraged to read the sections on Marx, Durkheim, and Weber in the two Raymond Aron volumes noted below.

### APRIL 4 - INTRODUCTION

- ⇨ *What This Course is All About*
- ⇨ *Sociological Caveats*
- ⇨ *Society and Illusion*

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

#### ► **Imagining Society**

**Allan, Chapter 1**

### APRIL 11 - AUGUSTE COMTE & HERBERT SPENCER

#### ► **Organic Evolution – Herbert Spencer**

**Allan, Chapter 2**

##### ① **Auguste Comte**

*Auguste Comte - The Person & A Summary of Ideas*  
(<http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~Iridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#comte>)

*Lewis Coser*

##### ① **Herbert Spencer**

*Herbert Spencer - The Person & A Summary of Ideas*  
(<http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~Iridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#spencer>)

*Lewis Coser*

### APRIL 18 - KARL MARX

- ⇨ *Basic Major Concepts and Ideas*

#### ► **Engines of Change--Karl Marx**

**Allan, Chapter 3**

① *Karl Marx - The Person & A Summary of Ideas*  
(<http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~Iridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#marx>)

*Lewis Coser*

*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*

## APRIL 25 - EMILE DURKHEIM

⇒ *Basic Major Concepts and Ideas*

⇒ *Peanuts (on functionalism)*

### ▶ **Cultural Consensus – Emile Durkheim**

① *Emile Durkheim - The Person & A Summary of Ideas*

(<http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~Iridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#durkheim>)

*Emile Durkheim in Main Currents in Sociological Thought II*, pp. 1-117

⇒ *Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of the Right (part)*

Charles Schultz

**Allan, Chapter 4**

Lewis Coser

Raymond Aron

Karl Marx

## MAY 2 - MAX WEBER

⇒ *Basic Major Concepts and Ideas*

### ▶ **Authority and Rationality – Max Weber**

① *Max Weber - The Person & A Summary of Ideas*

(<http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~Iridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#weber>)

*Max Weber in Main Currents in Sociological Thought II*, pp. 219-317

⇒ *Why Work? A Hundred Years of "The Protestant Ethic" (Handout)*

**Allan, Chapter 5**

Lewis Coser

Raymond Aron

Elizabeth Kohbert

## MAY 9 - GEORG SIMMEL

⇒ *Basic Major Concepts and Ideas*

### ▶ **Society and the Individual-- Georg Simmel**

① *Georg Simmel - The Person & A Summary of Ideas*

(<http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~Iridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#simmel>)

⇒ *Why Sociology is Difficult: Emergence, Structure,  
and the Peculiar Location of Self-Consciousness in Nature*

**Allan, Chapter 6**

Lewis Coser

Michael Toth

(The Social Science Journal, October 1982, pp. 1-7)

## MAY 16 - THE CHICAGO SCHOOL

⇒ *The Beginnings of a Sociological School:*

*Chicago Sociology from 1892 to 1935*

① *Robert Park - The Person & A Summary of Ideas*

(<http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~Iridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#park>)

### ▶ **Self-Consciousness – George Herbert Mead**

① *Charles Horton Cooley - The Person & A Summary of Ideas*

(<http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~Iridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#cooley>)

① *George Herbert Mead - The Person & A Summary of Ideas*

(<http://www2.pfeiffer.edu/~Iridener/DSS/INDEX.HTML#mead>)

⇒ *Sociological Implications of the Thought of George Herbert Mead*

Herbert Blumer  
(American Journal of Sociology, 1966, pp. 234-244)

George Ritzer

(Sociological Beginnings, pp.66-85)

Lewis Coser

**Allan, Chapter 7**

Lewis Coser

Lewis Coser

## MAY 23 - ERVING GOFFMAN & ALFRED SCHUTZ

⇒ *Encountering Erving Goffman*

① • *Erving Goffman: The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*

(<http://www.hewett.norfolk.sch.uk/curric/soc/goffman.htm>)

### ▶ **The Problem of Meaning and Reality – Alfred Schutz**

⇒ *Introduction*

(Alfred Schutz, Collected Papers, Volume I, The Problem of Social Reality, pp. xxv-xlvi.)

⇒ *Paramount Reality of Everyday Life (diagram)*

David Elkind

(Human Behavior Magazine, 1975, pp. 163-171)

Adam D. Barnhart

**Allan, Chapter 9**

Maurice Natanson

## MAY 30 - MISSING VOICES

- ▶ **A Society of Difference - Harriet Martineau, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and W.E.B. Du Bois** **Allan, Chapter 8**

## JUNE 6 - TALCOTT PARSONS & ROBERT MERTON

- ▶ **The Social System – Talcott Parsons** **Allan, Chapter 10**  
⇒ *NY Times Retirement Summary* *Robert Reinhold*  
⇒ *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)*  
    ① *Interface Analysis :Exchange Transactions within an Implicit Functional Group* *Michael Toth*  
    ([http://web.pdx.edu/~tothm/Manuscripts/interface\\_analysis.htm](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*
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### **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" and maintained by Larry Ridener of the Department of Sociology at Pfeiffer 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 Thought, 2nd Edition by Lewis Coser (New York: Harcourt Brace Javonowich, 1977). This same text was reprinted by Waveland Press in 2003 and is currently available in paperback format as a 2<sup>nd</sup> edition.