



## Social Theory 1 | SOU22061

Year	Senior Freshman
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	22
Co-requisite	SOU22062
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Dr. Roderick Condon
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### Module Outline:

This module introduces the field of social theory through a consideration of key sociological theorists and traditions. Starting from classical and extending to contemporary social theory, the module explores how different theorists have approached modern society and sought to understand, explain, and criticise particular aspects and dimensions. Core themes are considered, including: the constitution of society; the nature of social change, its dynamics, and directions; the problem of social order; social action and social systems; social consensus and social conflict; the relationship between society and the individual; the aspects and dynamics of social structure and agency; the micro and the macro and their interrelations. The course aims to introduce students to broader questions of sociological inquiry through different perspectives within the tradition and to awaken a critical consideration of our understanding of society.

### Module Learning Outcomes:

- Apply different classical sociological perspectives to various aspects of social life;
- Critically assess the texts examined during the course;
- Outline the key debates in classical social theory;
- Conduct comparative analysis of theorists' main ideas.

### Assessment:

The module is assessed through two component parts:

- End of term essay, worth 80% of the final grade.
- Student presentation, worth 20% of the final grade.

### Recommended Reading List:



There are multiple copies of these books in the library.

- Calhoun, C. et al (eds.) (2012) *Contemporary Sociological Theory*, Wiley Blackwell. (Note this is a 3rd Edition, there are earlier editions of the same book but page numbers, chapters etc. may not be the same).
- Calhoun, C. (2007) *Classical Sociological Theory*. (2nd ed). Malden, MA: Blackwell
- Ritzer, G. (2008) *Sociological theory*. (7th ed.) Maidenhead: McGraw-Hill Higher Education.
- McIntosh, I. (1997) *Classical Sociological Theory: A Reader*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh Uni. Press.
- Lemert, C. (2004) *Social Theory: The multicultural and classic readings* (3rd ed.) Boulder: Westview Press