



East Texas A&M University

Soc 436.01W Sociological Theory Online Course Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor:	Sarah Enderlein, Professor
Visual Office Hours:	By appointment
University Email Address:	sarah.enderlein@etamc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication:	(email)
Communication Response Time:	(within twenty-four hours during the weekday)

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

Wesley Longhofer & Daniel Winchester (ed.) 2023. *Social Theory Re-Wired: New Connections to Classical and Contemporary Perspectives*. New York: Routledge.
ISBN 978-1-032-34111-8

Optional Texts and/or Materials

Additional reading material and resources may be presented and used in this class.

Course Description

Sociological Theory. This course examines the nature of theory and reviews major sociological theories, especially structural-functionalism, conflict theory, exchange theory, and interactionism. Special attention is given to leading figures representative of the above schools of thought. Prerequisite: Sociology 1301 Introduction to Sociology or its equivalent.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to define, describe, and explain the major theoretical perspectives of sociology.
- Students will demonstrate their accumulated knowledge of sociology theories in written form.
- Students will be able to identify the major differences within each theoretical paradigm.
- Students will apply their individual theoretical lens to the world around them as they develop an explanation of how that social system functions.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

The class will use the D2L learning management system. Students in the class may be required to use or be able to perform tasks employing Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and presentations and graphic programs, etc.

Instructional Methods

This course will be conducted entirely via the web. All components of this class are online.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

1. It is very important that you all regularly read the syllabus and **ALL** announcements posted on the home page of this course very carefully and follow all instructions about course objectives, grading procedures, etc. That will be the key to doing well on the course. Also, please feel free to ask me questions about the course requirements through e-mails as needed.
2. This is an online course. The class will be presented asynchronously, which means that you will be responsible for individually completing your readings and assignments based on the instructions and resources you are provided. Be sure to read the instructions given each week carefully.
3. You can e-mail me whenever you have challenges or questions, particularly those that you don't want to share with your classmates.
4. Students must make the most of the "easy" grades, so they help to balance or soften the more difficult grades.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Please specify the following in your e-mail: your **full name** and the **course #** you are enrolled in, so that I can check your record before responding to your need or question.

Read all announcements posted on the Home Page of the course and read all e-mails sent by me to your MyLeo account. If you have a problem with your email system, please contact the Instructional Technology office.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

Assignments	Each Worth	Total Points
• 9 Discussions	30 Points	270
• Intro/Ending Discussion	15 points	30
• 4 Papers	100 Points	400
• Mid-Term	150 Points	150
• Final	150 Points	150
Total Points		1000

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades:

A	900–1000
B	800–899
C	700–799
D	600–699
F	Below 600

Assignments

Analysis Papers: Through this course, students will complete four analytical papers designed to progressively develop their understanding and application of sociological theory. Each assignment will require students to examine, compare, and apply major

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sociological paradigms, theorists, and concepts. Throughout the course, papers will move beyond merely describing theories to critically analyzing social phenomena from multiple theoretical perspectives.

- Paper 1 – Classical Sociological Theory Analysis
- Paper 2 – Comparing the Three Sociological Paradigms
- Paper 3 – Sociological Case Study
- Paper 4 – Become a Sociologist

Length: 3–4 pages

Sources: Course readings and/or credible academic or media sources

Formatting: APA formatting, double-spaced, 12-point font

Discussion Posts: This invites students to engage freely with the excerpts by writing their own reactions and responses to prompts directing them to key ideas in the text.

- 1 original post (300-400 words)
- 2 replies to classmates (100 words)

Mid-Term & Final: To evaluate the students' understanding of excerpts from the book, highlighting key concepts and information found throughout the semester.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

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https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, an ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L, so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

Include the Following in Emails with Instructor:

- Course name and subject in the subject line
- Salutation (Good afternoon)
- Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)

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- Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

Late Work Policy

Students must submit assignments on time. If due to some emergency or illness, students are required to contact me by way of an **explanation before assignments are due**, and, if necessary, provide evidence of illness.

Grades

Points are accumulated in this course instead of averaged. You will have a grade report on D2L keeping track of your points as this semester progresses. Your grade is not negotiable. It is your responsibility to keep up with your grades and your progress in the class. I will not change grades at the end of the semester, so please do not email me asking if you can do anything for a better grade. Keep up with your work during the semester.

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail online in the Student Guidebook.

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette Webpage for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

Academic Dishonesty

This department has a strong policy and a low tolerance for cheating. Plagiarism is disliked and treated very seriously. East Texas A&M University does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conducts that violate generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation of stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. Sites that address plagiarism and how to avoid it: <http://www.plagiarism.org> or <http://www.unc.edu/depts/scweb/handouts/plagiarism.html>.

Students should be doing everything within their power to become better equipped to secure employment within the field and therefore should maintain a good attitude and desire to learn as much as possible as they prepare to graduate from this university.

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Artificial Intelligence (AI)

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course. Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources

For this class the use of AI to write your papers is not allowed and will be considered plagiarism. The first time it is determined that unauthorized AI is used, there will be a 15-point deduction from the assignment. If a similar issue occurs again in this course, I will be required to report the matter to the University and assign a grade of zero for the assignment in accordance with academic integrity policies.

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University Specific Procedures

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Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

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Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides reasonable accommodation for their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice &

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with

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all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by people who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun.

Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and ETAMU Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Counseling Center Services

The Counseling Center at ETAMU located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR (Soc 436)

All assignments will be due on the Sunday of the designated week at 11:59. The work begins on Monday of the designated week.

Start Date:	Module/Assignments	Due Dates:
8/20	Week 1	8/23
	• Watch Video	
	• Intro Discussion	
	• Review Syllabus/Course Works	
8/24	Week 2: Classical Sociological Theory	8/30
	• Read Durkheim, <i>The Division of Labor in Society</i> , p. 15	

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Start Date:	Module/Assignments	Due Dates:
	Read Durkheim, <i>Suicide</i>, p. 35	
	Watch Video	
	Discussion Post	
8/31	Week 3: Classical Sociological Theory	9/6
	Read Marx & Engels, <i>Manifesto of the Communist Party</i>, p. 123	
	Read Marx, <i>Capital</i>, p. 136	
	Watch Video	
	Discussion Post	
9/7	Week 4: Classical Sociological Theory	9/13
	Read Weber, <i>The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism</i>, p. 223	
	Read Weber, <i>Bureaucracy</i>, p. 271	
	Watch Video	
	Paper 1	
9/14	Week 5: Classical Sociological Theory	9/20
	Read Simmel, <i>The Metropolis and Mental Health</i>, p. 438	
	Read Simmel, <i>The Stranger</i>, p. 446	
	Watch Video	
	Discussion Post	
9/21	Week 6: Classical Sociological Theory	9/27
	Read Du Bois, <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i>, p. 341	
	Read Beauvoir, <i>The Second Sex</i>, p. 346	
	Watch Video	
	Discussion Post	
9/28	Week 7: Classical Sociological Theory/Mid-Century American Sociology	10/4
	Read Mead, <i>Self</i>, p. 425	
	Read Goffman, <i>The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life</i>, p. 450	
	Watch Video	
	Paper 2	
10/5	Week 8: Mid-Term	10/11
	Mid-Term	
10/12	Week 9: Critical Theory	10/18
	Read Marcus, <i>One-Dimensional Man</i>, p. 277	
	Read Habermas, <i>Towards a Rational Society</i>, p. 285	
	Watch Video	
	Discussion Post	
10/19	Week 10: Poststructuralism	10/25
	Read Foucault, <i>Discipline and Punish</i>, p. 291	
	Read Bourdieu, <i>The Forms of Capital</i>, p. 165	

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Start Date:	Module/Assignments	Due Dates:
	Read Bourdieu, <i>Distinction</i>, p. 177	
	Watch Videos	
	Discussion Post	
10/26	Week 11: Contemporary Feminist Theory	11/1
	Read Smith, <i>The Conceptual Practice of Power</i>, p. 375	
	Read Collins, <i>Black Feminist Thought</i>, p. 381	
	Read Butler, <i>Gender Troubles</i>, p. 460	
	Watch Videos	
	Paper 3	
11/2	Week 12: Race, Ethnicity & Postcolonialism	11/8
	Read Robinson, <i>Black Marxism</i>, p. 156	
	Read Fanon, <i>Black Skin, White Mask</i>, p. 355	
	Watch Videos	
	Discussion Post	
11/9	Week 13: Race, Ethnicity & Postcolonialism	11/15
	Read Said, <i>Orientalism</i>, p. 362	
	Read Go, <i>Postcolonial Thought and Social Theory</i>, p. 398	
	Read Hall, <i>Cultural Identity and Diaspora</i>, p. 469	
	Watch Videos	
	Discussion Post	
11/16	Week 14: Modernity & Postmodernity	11/22
	Read Wallerstein, <i>The Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System</i>, p. 148	
	Read Zuboff, <i>The Age of Surveillance Capitalism</i>, p. 203	
	Watch Videos	
	Discussion Post	
11/23	Week 15: Modernity & Postmodernity	11/29
	Read Bauman, <i>Modernity and the Holocaust</i>, p. 300	
	Read Giddens, <i>Modernity and Self-Identity</i>, p. 477	
	Watch Videos	
	Paper 4	
11/30	Week 16	12/6
	Final Preparation	
	Conclusion Discussion	
12/7	Finals	12/11
	Final	

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