

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Classical Theory  
SOAN 2111/2112 -Full Year Course  
Section 01 and Section 02

Fall 2021/Winter 2022  
Office Hours: TBA

Instructor: Dr. Linda Hunter

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## COURSE OUTLINE

**There will be at least one face-to face class each week and the remainder of classes each week will be virtual. On WebAdvisor the course SOAN\*2111 will display as LEC (with a time and classroom assigned). If you cannot attend class in person, recorded lectures will be provided for you on Courselink. Even if you are not able to attend in-person classes, you will be expected to attend virtual classes.**

### Course Objectives

This course will explore the origins and early development of sociological theory in its classical and very early contemporary tradition. The intention of study is to enhance our understanding and assessment of classical sociological theorists by carefully considering and critically evaluating their theoretical views. Further, by applying the ideas of classical sociological theorists, we will critically reflect on culture, social relations and social structures in order to develop a broader and deeper understanding of social problems.

A full-year course in sociological classical theory allows an in-depth examination of the subject matter and also gives us the opportunity to revisit earlier material as it resurfaces with theorists we will explore later on in the course. We will begin with an overview of the subject matter, along with a general introduction to some major theoretical approaches and major social theorists. We will examine social thought prior to and during the emergence of the scientific method in the seventeenth century. We will consider the ideas of social science throughout the eighteenth-century Enlightenment period when people were striving to live in a better society (liberty, equality, fraternity). We will then move on to a discussion of sociological theorists who made significant contributions into the nineteenth and early twentieth century.

### Required Readings below

McDonald, Lynn. 1996. Women Founders of the Social Sciences. Ottawa: Carleton University Press. **Free** for students - e-book available on Ares, Library. But you may purchase a physical text book from the University of Guelph Bookstore or Campus Co-op Bookstore and the textbook will be shipped to you.

Zeitlin, Irving. 2019. Classical Sociological Theory. Toronto: Canadian Scholars.  
 Students **Purchase** this Text, in e-book or print format, from the University of Guelph Bookstore or Campus Co-op Bookstore, and the text will be shipped to you.

SOAN 2111/2 Classical Theory Reading Package consisting of original works of theorists including Marx, Durkheim and Weber. Full bibliographical references of these original sources are included in the reading package. **Free** for students on Ares, Library.  
 There may be some physical copies in the University of Guelph Bookstore who are offering Free Shipping within Canada this Fall Semester.

SOAN 2111/2 Zeitlin Required Reading Package (these are different chapters than in Zeitlin Textbook listed above, Classical Sociological Theory.  
**Free** for students on Ares, Library.  
 There may be some physical copies in the University of Guelph Bookstore who are offering Free Shipping within Canada this Fall Semester.

## Evaluation of Work: Course Assessments

The Fall Semester SOAN\*2111 accounts for 50% for total grade of the full year course. The Winter Semester SOAN\*2112 will account for the remaining 50% of the full year course grade.

The grade distribution for this course can be viewed below. When you select '**Content**' in the **CourseLink** navigation bar you will be able to locate a full description of the expectations for each assessment.

### Course Assessment SOAN\*2111 Fall Semester

Assessment	Weight
Quizzes worth 2% each in Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10	10%
Online Discussion Post/Response worth 5% each due in Weeks 3, 5, 7 and 9	20%
Assignment-Letter to the Editor due Monday Nov 30 (Week 12)	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>50%</b>

**Evaluation of Winter Term Work : TBA**