

**SOC. 506**  
**THEORY AND PRACTICE**

Time: MW 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Place: 4128 LS&A

Instructor: Fatma Müge Göçek

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4207 LS&A Bldg.

647-4228

Office Hours: W 3-5 p.m.

The course comprises readings (all eventually available on *CTools*) on sociological theory and practice that problematize the temporal, spatial and epistemological boundaries of sociology; they specifically focus on the challenges provided by globalization, development, demography, every day practices, network analysis as well as the somewhat more recent frontiers of race, gender and sexuality.

The course attempts to maximize your participation. Each time we meet, I intend to provide short lectures/information on each topic as necessary, probably to set the ground rules and develop our common language. Yet you will be doing most of the work: First, I of course expect all of you to do the assigned readings for each meeting. Then, during the first session, I will circulate a sign-up sheet so that you can apportion all the readings among you: each of you will have the chance to present two of the readings in class. So along my remarks and our in-class discussion, each meeting will comprise the in-class presentations of the readings by the parties responsible for that particular meeting. I expect each presentation to contain a short critical summary of the argument as well as a set of questions for class discussion connecting it to the general theme of the course; let me note that I always give extra credit when those presenting coordinate their presentations and come up with something original and creative. Another in-class presentation will take place at the very end when you will give a 15-minute presentation on the final paper you shall be writing for the course; I will discuss what to include in that presentation later in the term. Such an opportunity will enable you to receive feedback from each other and from me.

The **course requirements** comprise the following: (i) **In-class presentation on two readings (30%)**: these take the form of preparing and leading the discussion on the two readings you select during the first day of class; I expect you to prepare and then post/circulate [either by yourself or collectively for that meeting] a reading outline comprising the main points, your interpretation/criticism of them, and some questions for class discussion; (ii) **In-class presentation of the final paper you shall be writing for the course (30%)**: I once again expect that you to prepare and post/circulate a detailed outline comprising a brief literature review, basic arguments as well as bibliography of your final paper. The in-class presentations would enable you to both get going on your final paper as well as receive feedback from both the class and me; (iii) **Final paper (40%)**: This paper could be on any topic of your choice, say some preliminary work toward your dissertation or something you know you would not be writing your dissertation on, but want nevertheless to try out. The aim is to get you working toward a publishable paper. So choose one sociological issue that interests you and construct a theoretical framework/approach to it; come see me during my office hours if you need help. The **final papers are due on 27 April 2009 Monday** by midnight.

## COURSE OUTLINE

7 January 2009	Introduction
12 – 14 January	Globalization of Knowledge and the Social Sciences
19 January	MLK Day – no class
21 – 28 January	Dependency, Decolonization, and Uneven Development
2 – 4 February	Population
9 – 11 February	Everyday Practices and Larger Structures
16 – 18 February	Social Networks and their Meaning
23 – 25 February	SPRING BREAK
2 – 4 March	Conceptualizing the Past, Present and Future
9 – 11 March	New Theoretical Frontiers: Race
16 – 18 March	New Theoretical Frontiers: Gender
23 – 25 March	New Theoretical Frontiers: Sexuality
30 March – 1 April	In-class Presentations on Final Papers
6 – 8 April	In-class Presentations on Final Papers
13 – 15 April	In-class Presentations on Final Papers
20 April	Conclusion
<b>27 April [Monday]</b>	<b>Final Papers Due</b>

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## DETAILED OUTLINE

**7 January 2009 Wednesday**

Introduction

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**12, 14, 21 January 2009: *Globalization of Knowledge and the Social Sciences***

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### Required Readings

**12 January 2009 Monday**

[1]

Jessie Bernard (1998)

“My Four Revolutions: an autobiographical history of the ASA.” Pp. 3-20 in *Feminist Foundations: toward transforming sociology*, K. Myers et al., eds. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. [17 pp.]

[2]

Jeffrey C. Alexander (2003)

“Modern, Anti, Post, and Neo: how intellectuals explain ‘our time.’” Pp. 193-228 in *The Meanings of Social Life: A Cultural Sociology*. New York: Oxford University Press. [35pp.]

[3]

Dubois, Laurent (2006)

"An enslaved Enlightenment: rethinking the intellectual history of the French Atlantic." *Social History* 31/1: 1-14. [13 pp.]

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**14 January 2009 Wednesday**

[4]

Zygmunt Bauman (2000)

“Sociological Enlightenment – For Whom, About What?” *Theory, Culture & Society* 17/2: 71-82. [11pp.]

[5]

Heikki Patomaki (2002)

“From East to West: emergent global philosophies – beginnings of the end of western dominance?”  
*Theory, Culture & Society* 19/3: 89-111. [22 pp.]

[6]

Raewyn Connell (2006)

"Northern theory: The political geography of general social theory." *Theoretical Sociology* 35: 237-64.  
[27 pp.]

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**21 January 2009 Wednesday**

[7]

Mike Featherstone and Couze Venn (2006) "Problematizing Global Knowledge and the New Encyclopedia Project." *Theory, Culture and Society* 23/2: 1-20. [19 pp.]

[8]

Boaventura de Sousa Santos (2006) "Globalizations" *Theory Culture Society* 23: 393-9. [6 pp.]

[9]

Nancy Fraser (2007) "Transnationalizing the Public Sphere: On Legitimacy and Efficacy of Public Opinion in a Post-Westphalian World." *Theory, Culture and Society* 24/4: 7-30. [23 pp.]

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**19 January 2009**

MLK Day -- NO SCHOOL

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**26 – 28 January 2009: Dependency, Decolonization and Uneven Development**

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**Required Readings**

**26 January 2009 Monday**

[10]

Stephen Leonard (1998)

“Dependency Theory: Changing Latin America.” Pp. 97-135 in *Critical Theory in Political Practice*.  
Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. [38 pp.]

[11]

Leslie Sklair (1999)

“Globalization.” Pp. 322-45 in *Sociology: Issues and Debates* S. Taylor, ed. London: Macmillan. [23 pp.]

[12]

Geoff Eley (2007)

“Historicizing the Global, Politicizing Capital: Giving the Present a Name." *History Workshop Journal*  
63: 154-88. [34 pp.]

**28 January 2009 Wednesday**

[13]

Jan Nederveen Pieterse (1999)

“Globalization North and South: representations of uneven development and the interaction of modernities.” *Theory, Culture & Society* 17/1: 129-37. [18 pp.]

[14]

Ash Amin (2003)

“Multi-ethnicity and the Idea of Europe.” *Theory, Culture & Society* 21/2: 1-24. [23 pp.]

[15]

F. Nii Amo-Dodoo and N. Beisel (2005)

"Africa in American Sociology: Invisibility, Opportunity, and Obligation." *Social Forces* 84/1: 595-600. [5 pp.]

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**2 – 4 February 2009: Population**

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**Required Readings**

**2 February 2009 Monday**

[16]

J.C. Caldwell (1996)

“Demography and Social Science.” *Population Studies* 50: 305-33 [28 pp.]

[17]

Juha Raikka (2000)

“Problems in Population Theory.” *Journal of Social Philosophy* 31/4: 401-13. [13 pp.]

[18]

Charles Hirschman (2005) "Immigration and the American Century." *Demography* 42/4: 595-620. (25 pp.).

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**4 February 2009 Wednesday**

[19]

Philip Morgan (2003) "Is Low Fertility a Twenty-First Century Demographic Crisis?" *Demography* 40/4: 589-603. [14 pp.]

[20]

Susan Cotts Watkins (1993)

“If All We Knew About Women Was What We Read in Demography, What Would We Know?” *Demography* 30/4: 551-77. [26 pp.]

[21]

Arland Thornton (2001)

“The Developmental Paradigm, Reading Family Sideways and Family Change.” *Demography* 38/4: 449-65. [16 pp.]

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**9 – 11 February 2009: Everyday Practices and Larger Structures**

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## **Required Readings**

### **9 February 2009 Monday**

[22]

Georg Simmel (2007)

"The Problem of Fate" and "The Social Boundary." *Theory, Culture and Society* 24/7: 78-84, 53-6. [9 pp.].

[23]

Howard S. Becker (2003)

"The Politics of Presentation: Goffman and Total Institutions." *Symbolic Interaction* 26/4: 659–669. [10 pp.]

[24]

Shanyang Zhao (2005)

"The Digital Self: Through the Looking Glass of Telecopresent Others." *Symbolic Interaction* 28/3: 387–405. [18 pp.]

[25]

Duane Champagne (2007)

"In Search of Theory and Method in American Indian Studies." *American Indian Quarterly* 31/3: 353-72 [19 pp].

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### **11 February 2009 Wednesday**

[26]

Erving Goffman (1990), 'Out-of-frame Activity.' Pp. 105-112 in *Culture and Society: Contemporary Debates* Jeff Alexander and Steven Seidman, eds. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [7 pp.]

[27]

Harold Garfinkel (1997)

"What is Ethnomethodology?" Pp. 237-262 in *The Classical Tradition in Sociology: The American Tradition* J. Alexander et al., eds. London: Sage. [25 pp.]

[28]

Michel de Certeau (1980)

"On the Oppositional Practices of Everyday Life." *Social Text* III: 3-43. [40 pp.]

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### **16 -18 February 2009: Social Networks and their Meaning**

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## **Required Readings**

### **16 February 2009 Monday**

[29]

K.S. Cook and J.M. Whitmeyer (1992)

"Two Approaches to Social Structure: exchange theory and network analysis." *Ann. Rev. of Sociol.* 18: 109-27. [18 pp.]

[30]

Mustafa Emirbayer and Jeff Goodwin (1994)

"Network Analysis, Culture and the Problem of Agency." *AJS* 99/6: 1411-54. [43pp.]

[31]

Val Burris (2004)

"The Academic Caste System: prestige hierarchies in Ph.D. exchange networks." *ASR* 69: 239-64. [25 pp.]

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**18 February 2009 Wednesday**

[32]

Eiko Ikegami (2000)

"A Sociological Theory of Publics: identity and culture as emergent properties in networks." *Social Research* 67/4: 989-1029. [40 pp.]

[33]

King-to Yeung (2005)

"What Does Love Mean? Exploring Network Culture in Two Network Settings." *Social Forces* 84/1: 391-420 (31 pp.)

[34]

John W. Mohr & Harrison C. White (2008)

"How to model an institution." *Theoretical Sociology* 37: 485-512. [27 pp.]

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**23-25 February 2009 WINTER BREAK**

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**2- 4 March 2009: Conceptualizing the Past, Present and the Future**

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**2 March 2009 Monday**

[35]

William Sewell, Jr. (1996)

"Historical Events as Transformations of Structures: Inventing Revolution at the Bastille." *Theory and Society* 25: 841-81. [40 pp.]

[36]

George Steinmetz (2008)

"Logics of History as an Integrated Social Science." *Social Science History* 32/4: 535-553, and William Sewell, Jr. "Response to Steinmetz." *Social Science History* 32/4: 579-584. [23 pp.]

[37]

Michael Taussig (2008)

"Redeeming Indigo." *Theory, Culture, and Society* 25/3: 1-15. [14 pp.]

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**4 March 2009 Wednesday**

[38]

Jose van Dijck (2008)

"Future Memories: The Construction of Cinematic Hindsight." *Theory, Culture, and Society* 25/3: 71-87. [16 pp.]

[39]

Joel McKim (2008) "Agamben at Ground Zero: A Memorial without Content." *Theory, Culture and Society* 25/5: 83-103 [20 pp.]

[40]

Carolyn Fick (2007) "The Haitian revolution and the limits of freedom: defining citizenship in the revolutionary era." *Social History* 32/4: 394-414 [20 pp.]

[41]

Fatma Muge Gocek (2008) [with Donald Bloxham] "The Armenian Genocide." Pp. 344-72 in *The Historiography of Genocide*. Dan Stone, ed. London: Palgrave Macmillan. [28 pp.]

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### **9 - 11 March 2009: New Theoretical Frontiers: Race**

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#### **Required Readings**

##### **9 March 2009 Monday**

[42]

W.E. Dubois (1899)

"The Philadelphia Negro (abridged)." Pp. 115-39 in *W.E.B. Dubois on Sociology and the Black Community*. D. Green and E. Driver, eds. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 1980 edition. [24 pp.]

[43]

Michael Omi and Howard Winant (1994)

"Toward a Racial Formation Perspective," "Conclusion," and "Epilogue." Pp. 48-76, 137-144, and 145-59 in *Racial Formation in the United States: from the 1960s to the 1990s*. New York: Routledge. [49 pp.]

[44]

Charles Gallagher (2007)

"New Directions in Race Research." *Social Forces* 86/2: 553-9. [6 pp.]

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##### **11 March 2009 Wednesday**

[45]

Stephanie M. McClure (2007)

"White Matters: When, Where, and How?" *Symbolic Interaction* 30/3: 395-40. [13 pp.]

[46]

Jennifer Lee and F. Bean (2007)

"Reinventing the Color Line: Immigration and America's New Racial/Ethnic Divide" *Social Forces* 86/2: 561-86 [25 pp.]

[47]

Michael Hanchard (2003)

"Acts of Misrecognition: transnational black politics, anti-imperialism and the ethnocentrism of Pierre Bourdieu and Loic Wacquant." *Theory, Culture & Society* 20(4): 5-29 [24 pp.]

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### **16-18 March 2009: New Theoretical Frontiers: Gender**

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#### **Required Readings**

##### **16 March 2009 Monday**

[48]

Dorothy Smith (1987)

“Women’s Perspective as a Radical Critique of Sociology.” Pp. 84-96 in *Feminism and Methodology* Sandra Harding, ed. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press. [12 pp.]

[49]

Janet Saltzman Chafetz (1997)

“Feminist Theory and Sociology: underutilized contributions for mainstream theory.” *Ann. Rev. Sociol.* 23: 97-120. [23 pp.]

[50]

Mimi Schippers (2008)

Doing Difference/Doing Power: Negotiations of Race and Gender in a Mentoring Program. *Symbolic Interaction* 31/1: 77–98. [21 pp.]

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**18 March 2009 Wednesday**

[51]

Patricia Hill Collins (1998)

“The Social Construction of Black Feminist Thought.” Pp. 371-96 in *Feminist Foundations: toward transforming sociology*, K. Myers et al., eds. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. [25 pp.]

[52]

Chandra Talpade Mohanty (1997)

“Under Western Eyes: feminist scholarship and colonial discourses.” Pp. 91-6 in *Feminisms* Sandra Kemp and J. Squires, eds. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press. [5 pp.]

[53]

Karen E. Rosenberg and Judith A. Howard (2008)

"Finding Feminist Sociology: A Review Essay." *Signs* 33/3: 675-96. [21 pp.]

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**23-25 March 2009: New Theoretical Frontiers: Sexuality**

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**Required Readings**

**23 March 2009 Monday**

[54]

Michel Foucault (1990)

‘Sexual Discourse and Power.’ Pp. 199-204 in *Culture and Society: Contemporary Debates* Jeff Alexander and Steven Seidman, eds. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, and 'Panopticism.' Pp. 195-228 in *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison* New York: Vintage. [38 pp.]

[55]

Dawne Moon (2008)

"Culture and the Sociology of Sexuality: It's Only Natural?" *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 619/1: 183-205. [22 pp.]

[56]

Jan Lofstrom (1997)

“The birth of the queen/the modern homosexual: historical explanations revisited.” *The Sociological Review* 24-41. [17 pp.]

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**25 March 2009 Wednesday**



[57]

Arlene Stein and Ken Plummer (2000)

“‘I Can’t Even Think Straight:’ ‘Queer’ Theory and the Missing Sexual Revolution in Sociology.”  
*Sociological Theory* 12/2: 178-87. [9 pp.]

[58]

Adam Isaiah Green (2002)

"Gay but not queer: Toward a post-queer study of sexuality." *Theory and Society* 31: 521-545. [24 pp.]

[59]

Sandesh Sivakumaran (2005)

"Male/Male Rape and the 'Taint' of Homosexuality." *Human Rights Quarterly* 27: 1274-1306 [32 pp.]

[60]

Jaimie Veale, Dave E. Clarke and Terri Lomax (2008)

"Sexuality of Male-to-Female Transsexuals." *Archives of Sexual Behavior* 37/4: 586 -597 [11 pp.]

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**30 March – 1 April**

**In-class Presentations on Final Papers  
(5 presentations each session)**

**6 – 8 April**

**In-class Presentations on Final Papers**

**13 – 15 April**

**In-class Presentations on Final Papers**

**20 April**

**Conclusion**

**27 April 2009 [Monday]**

**Final Papers Due**