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PM

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY
 INSTRUCTOR: Bryan Manine (Tentative)
 Office Hours: M: 9-10; T: 11-12; Th: 3-4:30; F: 3-4 or by appointment. Phone: 735-4850
 E-mail: bman@chaminade.edu

FALL 2000

Office: Eiben 204

CH 1

AN/SO302 Theory in the Behavioral Sciences

DESCRIPTION: The course will delve into how sociologists, and hence sociology, have attempted to make sense of, explain the existence or occurrence of or determine the nature of, society and social behavior—as the text's authors state, "the human condition" (Cuzzert & King, 1995, p. 2). The course has two themes, 1) how social thinkers—philosophers and theorists—have attempted to comprehend the social artifacts of human populations, and 2) how different perspectives evolved in these attempts to make sense of social reality. The nature and development of anthropological and sociological theories will be explored. Comparisons and contrasts will be made between the major theoretical perspectives, with respect to their application to human behavior and social phenomena.

OBJECTIVES: Students are expected to know:

- 1) What theory is;
- 2) The major anthropological and sociological perspectives ;
- 3) Explanations of the existence of society or how social order is possible;
- 4) The relationship between culture and society;
- 5) What insights social science theories give us about how:
 - a) people interact in small groups, and
 - b) human behavior may be governed by larger social structures.

TEXT: Cuzzort, R. P. & King, E. W. (1995). Twentieth-Century social thought. Fifth Edition. New York: Harcourt Brace College Publishers.

Additional readings will be put on reserve and assigned.

GRADING: The course grade will consist of a combination of paper assignments, essay exams, and class attendance and discussion participation.

Two paper assignments (50 pts. each)	100	360-400 = A
Two exams (midterm & final, 100 pts. each)	200	320-359 = B
Attendance & discussion participation (no more than 3 absences & full participation)	100	280-319 = C
		240-279 = D
Total:	400	LT 240 = F

The paper assignments will be 5-8 page papers, comparing and contrasting the theories, covered up to a week prior to the due date, with respect to a particular theoretical issue or question, such as "What is the nature of society?" Papers are to be typed, double-spaced, and following the APA style. The specific issues or questions for the papers will be discussed in class.

OUTLINE (Tentative)

- 8/29-31 Introduction, "theory," social philosophy vs. social theory. Ch. 1
- 9/4 Labor Day—No Classes
- 9/5-12 Classical Social Theory: Durkheim, Radcliffe-Brown, Malinowski Ch. 2
Functionalism
- 9/14-19 Functionalism and Merton and Parsons Ch.11
- 9/21-26 Marx and Conflict Theory Ch. 4
- 9/26-10/5 C. Wright Mills and Conflict Theory Ch. 8
Dahrendorf and Collins
- 10/9 Discoverers' Day—No Classes
- 10/10 Paper Assignment #1 is due.
- 10/12 Discussion: What do these theoretical perspectives tell us about the nature of society and about ourselves?
- 10/17 First Exam: Ch. 1, 2, 4, 8, 11 and any outside reading assignments.
- 10/19-24 Max Weber Ch. 3
- 10/26-31 Pitirim Sorokin—Culture and Society Ch. 7
- 11/2-9 M. Mead—Culture and Anthropology Ch. 9
- 11/10 Veterans' Day—No Classes
- 11/14-22 G. H. Mead and Symbolic Interactionism Ch.6
Additional reading TBA
- 11/22 Paper Assignment #2 is due.
- 11/23-24 Thanksgiving—No Classes
- 11/28-30 E. Goffman and Symbolic Interactionism Ch.14
- 12/5-7 H. Garfinkel and Ethnomethodology Ch. 15
Summary
- 12/11 Monday. Final Exam on Chapters 3, 7, 6, 9, 14 & 15 plus readings.
Time: 8 – 10 am