Classical sociological theory has been concerned with at least three fundamental questions: the nature of the historic transition from feudalism to capitalism, the appropriate method of social studies, and the form of a rational society. Not all authors under consideration have dealt with all three questions, but even then, they have provided us with a uniquely different answer to at least one. As such, they have offered a new paradigm that continues to be relevant up to the present. It is expected that by the end of the course, the participants should feel at ease in inhabiting the mental state of each author, develop the ability to see the world through their eyes with empathy, and be able to identify their different assumptions and conclusions.

The following books are ordered and may be purchased at the campus bookstore:

- Adam Smith *Wealth of Nations*
- Robert C. Tucker *Karl Marx Reader*
- Emile Durkheim *The Division of Labor in Society*
- Gerth and Mills *From Max Weber*
- Max Weber *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*
- Friedrich Nietzsche *Genealogy of Morals*
- Sigmund Freud *Civilization and Its Discontents*

**Course Requirements:**

1) Three papers on assigned topics, 5 pages, 25% each. Submitted through moodle.

2) Active participation in the course (%25). The course will be conducted as a “Great Books” seminar, and participants are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings. The class is divided into 3 groups (A, B, C) and each group is responsible for submission of his/her reflection once every week on a rotating basis (starting from Thursday, Sept. 19). The content of submissions may vary widely, and are to be done individually without need for consultation with others. These can range from posing a question, expression of unease and confusion about a particular aspect of the readings,
comment on an interesting point, highlighting a seeming contradiction, pointing out a fruitful contrast or similarity with other works, or any other issue that may strike one’s fancy. What is essential is that the comments must demonstrate engagement with the topic.

**Week 1. Adam Smith**
Monday Sept. 16, Introduction
Wednesday Sept. 18, Adam Smith *Wealth of Nations* Introduction and Plan of the Work, Book I (chs. 1-4, 7-8)
Friday Sept. 20, Adam Smith *Wealth of Nations* Book II (Intro, ch. 3), Book III (ch. 1), Book IV (chs. 1-2)

**Week 2. Adam Smith, Marx**
Monday Sept. 23, Adam Smith *Wealth of Nations* Book V (ch. 1, Part III, Article II)
Wednesday Sept. 25, Tucker Karl Marx Reader Manifesto of the Communist Party, (469-500)
Friday Sept. 27, Karl Marx selection from Capital on commodities (302-12, 319-329) and the production of surplus value (344-361), Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844 ("Estranged Labor" and "Private Property and Communism" pp. 70-93)

**Week 3. Marx cont.**
Monday Sept. 30, Karl Marx, Thesis on Feuerbach (pp. 143-145), The German Ideology (Part One, 147-200)
Wednesday Oct. 2, Karl Marx selections from the Capital (on cooperation and the division of labor pp. 384-403), The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte (pp. 594-617)
Friday Oct. 4, Karl Marx Summing up
(First Paper topic, Due Friday Oct. 11, 5 pm)

**Week 4. Durkheim**
Wednesday Oct. 9, Durkheim *The Division of Labor in Society*, pp. 31-87.
Friday Oct. 11, Durkheim *The Division of Labor in Society*, 149-175, 179-225
(First Paper due, 5 pm)

**Week 5. Durkheim cont.**


**Week 6. Weber**
Friday Oct. 25, *From Max Weber* pp. 196-244. (Second Paper due 5 pm)

**Week 7. Weber cont.**
Monday Oct. 28, *From Max Weber* pp. 245-264,
Max Weber *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (TBA)
Wednesday, Oct. 30, *Protestant Ethic* (TBA)
Friday, Nov 1 *Protestant Ethic* (TBA)

**Week 8. Nietzsche**
Wednesday Nov. 6, Nietzsche *Genealogy of Morals* (Essay 1)
Friday Nov. 8, *Genealogy of Morals* (Essay 2)

**Week 9. Freud**
Monday Nov. 11, *Freud Civilization and Its Discontents* chaps. 1-3
Wednesday Nov. 13, *Civilization and Its Discontents* chaps. 4-6
Friday Nov. 15, *Civilization and Its Discontents* chaps. 7-8
(Third Paper topic handed out, Due Saturday Nov 23, 10 am)

**Week 10. Freud cont., Summing Up**
Monday Nov. 18, *Freud*
Wednesday Nov. 20, Summing up