

FINAL PAPER

SOC 296A - Introduction to Sociological Theory

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Spring 2019

For your final paper, you will write a comprehensive 12-15 page paper (double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12pt font). Be sure to cite your sources, including both the texts and any additional scholarly resources that you use, properly, using ASA citation format. Review the Department of Sociology Style Guide, available on the Moodle site for this course and on the Sociology Department website.

Instructions

Select 3-4 theoretical traditions (at least one must be from the classical tradition, and at least one from a contemporary tradition) that we have explored this semester and discuss the relationship between them.

- You may elect to discuss the development of a central concept (economic, religion, power etc.) as it appears in the various intellectual traditions.

OR

- You may elect to compare and contrast the central arguments of several traditions, identifying areas of agreement and disagreement.

Regardless of your approach, your paper should be sure to consider each of the following:

1. A discussion of the historical specificity and context of each body of work. This will require outside sources, as well as use of the Seidman text.
2. Key concepts in each tradition, and comprehensive discussion of the argument(s) or data from the text that is used to support and explain the concepts.
3. A consideration of the social impact of these theoretical traditions in both their own historical era and contemporary society. This may also require you to conduct research on the impact, past and present, of these social theorists.
4. Evaluate why the theories that you are discussing have endured and become part of our understanding of the social world.

Notes

This is your final paper and I expect the highest quality of work. I will be grading your work carefully, and I expect you to demonstrate a high level of understanding and strong skills in written analysis.

An outline of this paper will be due Thursday, April 11th via Moodle.

**Your Final Paper is due by Saturday, May 7th at 4:30pm via Moodle.
The paper replaces a final in-class exam.**