

Contemporary Sociological Theory

Module Code:	SAC5005-B
Academic Year:	2018-19
Credit Rating:	20
School:	School of Social Sciences
Subject Area:	Sociology and Criminology
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 5
Module Leader:	Mr Paul Muff

Additional Tutors:

Pre-requisites:

Co-requisites:

Contact Hours

Type	Hours
Lectures	22
Directed Study	178

Availability Periods

Occurrence	Location/Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 2 (Feb - May)

Module Aims

The module will introduce you to contemporary sociological theories, applying selected theories to contemporary issues in sociology; for example: terrorism, sexuality, freedom, technology, identity, transgression.

Outline Syllabus

You will consider a range of contemporary sociological theories with some historical background as to their foundations; social constructionism, symbolic interactionism; ethnography; ethnomethodology; postmodernity and post-structuralism; Foucaultian

perspectives; structure and agency; Durkheimian perspectives on suicide terrorism; communicative action theory.

Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

- 1
 - a) explain overviews of the core principles and concepts in the study of a range of contemporary sociological theories;
 - b) demonstrate knowledge and understanding of sociological theory;
 - c) independently evaluate and develop arguments based on a range of relevant theoretical knowledge;
 - d) identify relevant aspects of sociological theory pertinent to contemporary debates in sociology.
- 2
 - a) apply the analytical and critical skills necessary for a deeper understanding of society and social life;
 - b) demonstrate an understanding of a range of theoretical sociological perspectives, their strengths and weaknesses.
- 3
 - a) communicate theoretical knowledge effectively in writing;
 - b) show use of your analytical skills for interrogating a range of sociological theories;
 - c) illustrate your theoretical knowledge in the application of relevant theory.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Lectures will provide overviews of the core principles and concepts in the study of sociological theories (LO's 1a, 1d, 2a) with group discussions allowing these principles to be embedded, clarified and deepened (LO's 1a-d, 2a, 3 a-c). Having been given guidance on the core issues through lectures, you will then deepen your knowledge through independent study (LO's 1b-c, 2a). The lecture slots will also include time set aside for discussion groups, to get you started on this process. Tutor input and guided reading, supported by thorough weekly hand-outs and specific guidance, will support the achievement of all the learning outcomes (LO's 1a-d, 2a-b, 3a-c). Group discussion will allow you to explore concepts with each other and with the tutor (all learning outcomes). These three layers of learning, practised weekly, are designed to encourage you to develop your independent critical thinking and analytical skills. The assessment will allow you to demonstrate the depth and range of your theoretical knowledge in relation to at least one sociological perspective and apply it to contemporary issues. It offers a chance to show that you know the academic sources of theory and also that you are able to apply it (all learning outcomes).

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting	Final Assess'
Summative	Coursework	3500 - 4000 word essay	0 hours	100%	Yes

Legacy Code (if applicable)

SJ-5006D

Reading List

To view Reading List, please go to [rebus:list](#).