

Modern Sociological Theory, 7,5 ects – Schedule

First course meeting – Lund (Dept of Sociology, Room G335)				
Oct 16 (11–17)	11.15–12.00	<i>Course introduction Lecture + Seminar: What is Modern Sociological Theory?</i>	Bo Isenberg Chares Demetriou	Parsons (1951) Merton (1981) Gouldner (1971) Maynard (1995)
	12.15–14.00	<i>Lectures/ Seminars: Critical Theory, American Style. From Horkheimer and Adorno to Hannah Arendt and C. Wright Mills</i>	Ron Eyerman	Eyerman & Jamison (1994)
	14.30–16.15	<i>Relational Sociology and the Sociology of Charles Tilly</i>	Chares Demetriou	Emirbayer (1997) Tilly (2005)
Oct 17 (09–17)	09.15–11.00	<i>Lectures/ Seminars</i>	Carl-Göran Heidegren	Readings
	11.15–13.00		Alison Gerber	Strand & Spillman (2020) Rawlings & Childress (2019) Skarpelis (2023)
		Lunch		
	14.15–17.00	<i>Seminar/Speed lecturing</i>	Phd students	Course readings
Second course meeting – Copenhagen (Øster Farimagsgade 5, Bygning 16)				
Nov 21 Room: 16.1.62	13-15	<i>Lecture + Seminar: The Emotional Turn 1: Collins’ interactional ritual theory</i>	Poul Poder	Collins 1993 Collins & Rössel (2002) Collins (2014)
Room: 16.1.62	15.30-17.30	<i>Lecture + seminar: The Emotional Turn 2: Kemper’s status and power theory</i>	Poul Poder	Kemper (2011)
	18.30	Dinner		

Nov 22 Room: 16.1.62	9-12	<i>Lecture + Seminar:</i> The many meanings of theory: What is social theory	Mikael Carleheden	Carleheden (2024) Honneth (2009)
	12-13	Lunch		
Room: 16.1.62	13-15	<i>Lecture + Seminar:</i> The Interpretive Turn	Mikael Carleheden	Blumer (1969) Reed (2023)
Examination seminar meeting – Lund (Dept of Sociology, Room G335)				
January 13 G335	11.00– 17.00	<i>Examination seminar</i>	Poul Poder, Mikael Carleheden, Chares Demetriou, Bo Isenberg	

Assignments

- A) Reading preparations and active seminar participation, including compact presentation of selected readings (speed lecturing)
- B) A final examination paper on a relevant topic (appr. 5000 words).

Mandatory readings

Meeting in Lund

What is Modern Sociological Theory?

Parsons, Talcott et al. (1951) *Toward a General Theory of Action*, Cambridge, Mass: Harvard UP, pp. 3–4, 76–79.

Merton, Robert K. (1981) “Theoretical Pluralism”, in *On Social Structure and Science*, ed. Piotr Sztompka, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, pp. 34–40.

Gouldner, Alvin W. (1971) *The Coming Crisis of Western Sociology*, London: Heinemann, pp. 88–89, 157–162.

Maynard, Mary (1995) “Beyond the Big Three’: the development of feminist theory into the 1990s”, *Women’s History Review* 4(3), pp. 259–281.

Critical Theory, American Style

Ron Eyerman & Andy Jamison, *Seeds of the Sixties*, University of California Press, 1994, ch. 1–2, pp. 1–63.

Relational Sociology

Emirbayer, Mustafa (1997). "Manifesto for a Relational Sociology." *American Journal of Sociology*, 103(2): 281-317.

Tilly, Charles (2005). *Identities, Boundaries and Social Ties*. New York, NY: Routledge, chapters 1 (pp. 3-10), 3 (pp. 23-44), and 5 (pp. 71-90).

Cultural Sociology

Strand, Michael, and Lyn Spillman. 2020. "Cultural Sociology." Pp. 43–62 in *The Cambridge Handbook of Social Theory: Volume 2: Contemporary Theories and Issues*. Vol. 2, edited by P. Kivisto. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Rawlings, Craig M., and Clayton Childress. 2019. "Emergent Meanings: Reconciling Dispositional and Situational Accounts of Meaning-Making from Cultural Objects." *American Journal of Sociology* 124(6):1763–1809.

Skarpelis, A. K. M. 2023. "Horror Vacui: Racial Misalignment, Symbolic Repair, and Imperial Legitimation in German National Socialist Portrait Photography." *American Journal of Sociology* 129(2):313–83.

Institutions

Heidegren, Carl-Göran (2018) "Institutions: Mapping a Field of Theory and Research". Unpublished manuscript; will be sent out in pdf-format.

Scott, W. Richard (2008) "Crafting an Analytical Framework I: Three Pillars of Institutions", *Institutions and Organizations. Ideas and Interests*, 3d edition, Sage, pp. 47–71.

Meeting in Copenhagen

The many meanings of theory

Carleheden, Mikael (2024) "Unchain the Beast! Pluralizing the Method of Theorizing". In Armbruster, A., & Anicker, F. (Eds.). (2024). *Die praxis soziologischer theoriebildung*. Springer Fachmedien Wiesbaden GmbH.

Honneth, Axel (2009) "Reconstructive social criticism with A genealogical proviso: On the Idea of Critique in the Frankfurt school", in *Pathologies of Reason: On the Legacy of Critical Theory*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Collins' interactional ritual theory

Collins, Randall (1993) “Emotional Energy as the Common Denominator of Rational Action”, *Rationality and Society* 5 (2).

Collins; Randall & Rössel, Jorg (2002) “Conflict Theory and Interactional Rituals – The Microfoundations of Conflict Theory”, *Handbook of Sociological Theory*, ed. Jonathan Turner, New York: Kluwer Academic, pp. 509-531.

Collins, Randall (2014) Interaction ritual chains and collective effervescence, in *Collective Emotions – Perspectives from psychology, philosophy and sociology*, eds. Christian Von Scheve & Mikko Salmela, Oxford University Press, pp. 299-311.

Kemper's status and power theory

Kemper, Theodor D. (2011) “Status and Power” (chap. 2), *Status, Power and Ritual Interaction – A Relational reading of Durkheim, Goffman and Collins*. Ashgate, Farnham, UK.

Kemper, Theodor D. (2011) “Emotions: Status-Power vs. Interactional Ritual Theory” (chap. 13), *Status, Power and Ritual Interaction – A Relational reading of Durkheim, Goffman and Collins*. Ashgate, Farnham, UK.

Blumer

Blumer, Harold (1969) *Symbolic interactionism: perspective and method*: Chapter 1: “The methodological position of symbolic Interactionism”. Chapter 8 “What’s wrong with social theory” (Chapter 8 is also to be found as articles in *American Sociological review*).

Reed, I. A. (2023). Social theory and overinterpretation. *Distinktion: Journal of Social Theory*, 25(2), 183–207. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1600910X.2023.2258289>

Supplementary reading on the interpretative turn: Giddens, A. (1976) *New rules of sociological method*.