

COURSE DETAIL

CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL THOUGHT

Country

United Kingdom - England

Host Institution

University of Manchester

Program(s)

University of Manchester

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Sociology

UCEAP Course Number

145

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL THOUGHT

UCEAP Transcript Title

CONTEMP SOC THOUGHT

UCEAP Quarter Units

8.00

UCEAP Semester Units

5.30

Course Description

This course examines some of the most important social thinkers of the 20th and 21st centuries, and encourages students to critically engage with key debates and issues in contemporary social thought. The course focuses on debates around 'modernity' vs 'post-modernity', and 'structure' vs 'agency'. The first part of the course considers critical developments of Marx, Weber, and Durkheim's theories of modernity, and the problems that they have raised. Questions explored include: what role does culture play in freedom and domination? How is social order achieved? How can individual behavior be understood? Can social theories account for the experience of women as well as men? The course then moves on to explore two of the ways in which social theorists have responded to the challenges present in modern social thought: firstly, students look at those who see the problems as so fundamental that they develop 'postmodern' ways of thinking; and secondly, look at contemporary thinkers who seek to redeem modern social thought (to some extent at least) by providing new perspectives on modernity's key themes, from social class to freedom and democracy.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

SOCY10432

Host Institution Course Title

CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL THOUGHT

Host Institution Campus

University of Manchester

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Sociology

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