

January 15, 2013 - Professor Maureen Sperrazza

HOMEWORK:

Read Chapter 1

TESTS:

First test - February 5th - Chapters 1-3

Midterm - February 26th - Chapters 1-6

Final - May 8 - 2:00-4:30pm

Notes:

- Nothing is as it seems
 - Social Context - Arguments between parents & children
 - Different environment, different time. Ex: Being home by 10:00 vs. just going out at 10:00.
 - Advancement of Technology - (Capitalism mostly)
 - Looking at the world more critically.
 - Thinking about decisions more critically.
 - Society tends to tell us who we're supposed to be & what we're supposed to have.
 - Why do we do what we do?
 - Why do other people do what they do?
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January 17, 2013

Sociological Imagination: An awareness of the relationship between an individual and the wider society, both today and in the past. It is based on the ability to view our own society as an outsider might, rather than from the perspective of the limited experiences and cultural biases.

- The society of today will impact the people of tomorrow.
- The textbook makes use of the sociological imagination by showing theory in practice and in current research; by thinking globally; by focusing on the significance of social inequality; by speaking across race, gender, and religious boundaries; and by highlighting social policy around the world.

Macrosociology- Concentrates on large-scale phenomena or entire civilizations.

Microsociology- Stresses the study of small groups, often through experimental means.

Natural Science vs Social Science:

Both making observations, testing theories, having a hypothesis, having steps to go through it to create an outcome. In contrast to other social sciences, sociology emphasizes the influence that groups can have on people's behavior and attitudes in the ways in which people shape society.

Science vs Opinion:

Science- having to be objective, ethical.

Opinion- Assuming is not liable research.

Many different sections of sociology. Sociologists employ theories to examine relationships between observations or data they may seem completely unrelated.

Applied - Taking what I have and applying it to improve something.

Clinical - Trying to help, giving counseling. EX: mental health IE: Sandy Hook shooting

^ These both apply the discipline of sociology to the solution of practical problems in human behavior and organizations.

Basic Sociology- sociological inquiry that seeks only a deeper knowledge of the fundamental aspects of social phenomena.

History tends to repeat itself, IE: clothing.

Durkheim- Pioneered work on suicide, believed that religion played a part.

^Permanent condition for a temporary problem.

^Believed if people were connected to something they are less likely to commit suicide.

^ "The sun is out, you just can't see it now."

Weber- taught the need for insight in intellectual work.

DuBois- advocated the usefulness of basic research in combating prejudice and fostering racial tolerance and justice.

Black sociologist from Philadelphia - placements in groups.

Community vs Isolation- Changes things. We have become mechanical - every one has a job. Human being need to be with people. "I don't need anybody" - Time where we need people the most.

Ideal type: What something's going to be then measuring everything against it. Life's journey is to measure up....am I successful?

Sociological Imagination: Makes us look at things differently - more in depth.

Society rules our world! - People think differently than one another. IE: Dress? Which car do they drive? Experience changes people's perspectives also.

Karl Marx

Theory: Eventually the workers would over rise and own the owners. The workers were being exploited and the people on top were making all the money. He emphasized the importance of the economy and social conflict.

Proletariat: Workers, working class

Today: Tension between social classes.

Guns & video games/movies/TV

Who has control?

Gov't regulations

Warning labels

Consumer

Up to the individual

Supply & demand

Should the gov't regulate what we do?

Society has changed and we're a part of the society.

We're big people and can make our own decisions.

We look to/blame the gov't when we have to power to change things we dislike ourselves.

Oil spill example on page 18 is an example of our project.

Functionalist:

-Stability

- emphasizes the way in which the parts of a society are structured to maintain its stability.

-Has to be a function for what occurs.

-There is a purpose behind every idea.

Conflict:

-Conflict/tension between competing groups.

-Assumes that social behavior is best understood in terms of conflict or tension between competing groups.

Feminist:

-Equality in life.