**Advanced Sociological Theories**

**Objective**

By the end of the course the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge about key contributions to sociological theory, defined as” sociological classics” (i.e. Durkheim, Marx, Weber, Simmel, Tonnies and the Chicago-school);
2. Problematize the ”classics discourse” and to present examples of ”alternative classics”, i. e. scholars/texts (particularly focusing on gender and race/ethnicity) that have been influential without having been awarded the status of ”classics” (e.g. Du Bois, de Beauvoir and Fanon);
3. Develop the ability to discuss and evaluate the significance and usefulness of the classics in relation to contemporary sociological theory and empirical research.

**Course Content**

* Sociological Paradigms and process of Theory Construction
* Historical and Classical Underpinnings of Sociological Theories
* Emile Durkheim: Durkheim’s methodological rules
* The Nature of Society: Religion and the Sacred
* The Division of Labor and Alienation Ideology and Power
* Economics and Gender Theory
* Understanding Social Action
* Religious Affiliation and Social Stratification
* The Spirit of Capitalism
* Symbolic Interactionism
* Functionalism and Modernization
* Critical theory
* Technology, Culture, and Politics
* Theorizing Sexuality, the Body,
* Power and Intersectionality

**Recommended Books**

1. Abbott, A. (2016). Processual sociology. University of Chicago Press.
2. Dillon, M. (2020). Introduction to Sociological Theory: Theorists, concepts, and Their Applicability to the Twenty-First Century. John Wiley & Sons.
3. Durkheim, E. (2008). The elementary forms of religious life. With an introduction and notes by Mark S. Cladis. New York: Oxford Universty Press.
4. Kalberg, S., & Weber, M. (2002). The protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism. *IIIrd edition*.
5. Wilterdink, N. (2018). Driving in a dead-end street: critical remarks on Andrew Abbott’s Processual Sociology. *Theory and Society*, *47*(4), 539-557.
6. Marx, K. (2011). Capital, volume one: A critique of political economy. Mineola, NY: Dover Publications Inc.