

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## SOC 302: Social Theory

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites:

SOC 110 - Introduction to Sociology

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Examines major theoretical approaches to the understanding of social structure and change, with special attention to the classical works of Marx, Weber, and Durkheim.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 03/19/2001 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Epistemology: approaches to the understanding of the social world.
2. The problem of social order: How is society possible? What accounts for social stability?
3. The problem of social change: How and why is order disrupted?
4. The origins, nature, and consequences of capitalism.
5. The relationship between the individual and society.
6. The sources, nature, and consequences of "modernity".
7. The sociology of knowledge: How do we know what we know?
8. Social psychology: Why and how are we who we are?

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Students will become familiar with some of the key problems that animated the classical period of sociological thought.
2. Students will become acquainted with some of the key sociological approaches to the understanding of sociological phenomena.
3. Students will become familiar with some of the major contours of modernity.
4. Students will explore in detail the works and thought of the key thinkers of the classical period of sociology.
5. Students will relate approaches and theories of the classical period to an understanding of contemporary society.

### E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

### F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

### G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted