

Focus on concepts rather than people

Term	Definition	Additional notes
Sociology	<p>The scientific study of society</p> <p><u>The systematic study of human society and social interaction</u></p>	<p>from latin words <i>socius</i> meaning social and <i>logos</i> meaning science</p> <p>Sociologist notice social patterns The investigate commonly held assumptions using research</p>
The Sociological Imagination	<p>The ability to see relationships between personal experiences and the larger society</p>	<p>C. wright mills in his book ‘the sociological imagination’</p> <p><i>“The capacity to shift from one perspective to another; from the political to the psychological; from examination of a single family to comparative assessment of national budgets of the world . it is the capability to range from the most impersonal and remote transformations to the most intimate features of the human self and see the relationship between the two”</i></p>
The French Revolution	<p>1789-1799</p> <p>The french revolution was a period of far-reaching social and political upheaval in France and its colonies</p>	<p>Introduction of a new principal into history by demanding political action to address mass poverty</p>
Scientific revolution	<p>1543-present</p> <p>The scientific revolution was a series of events that marked the emergence of modern science during the early modern period, when developments in natural sciences transformed the way people thought about nature;</p>	<p>Changed the way people think about the natural order of things triggered rebellion</p>

	particularly god	
Urbanization	Refers to the gradual shift of people living in rural areas to more urban areas	
Industrialization	Industrialization is the period of social and economic change that transforms a human group from an agrarian society to an industrial society	
Democratic revolution	A revolution in which a previously non democratic society is transformed into a democratic one	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Society as a product individual self interest - New political climate; right and freedoms are becoming a thing
Social physics	<p>A field of science that uses mathematical tools to understand the behaviour of humans</p> <p>Has 3 branches</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social static 2. Social action 3. Social dynamics 	Comte
Social fact	Patterned ways of thinking and acting and feeling that exist outside one individual but that exert social control over each person	<p>Durkhiem believed that society is <u>more than the sum of its parts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Society has a unique character of its own and is not reducible to any one individual <p>le, suicide as a social fact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Durkhiem discovered that rates of suicide differs among people - He found that people with strong social ties have low suicide rates; more socially isolated people have higher

		<p>sucide rates</p> <p>This is an example of a social fact</p>
<p>Social conflict</p> <p>Class conflict</p>	<p>The struggle for agency or power in society; the bourgeoisie vs the proletariats</p> <p>The conflict between those who have the means of production (bourgeoisie vs the proletariats)</p>	<p>Marxs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stressed the importance of social conflict
<p>Social action (branch of social physics)</p>	<p>An act which takes into account the actions and reactions of individuals; according to weber an action is social if the acting individual takes account of the behavior of others and is thereby oriented in its course</p>	<p>Weber;</p> <p>Weber stressed the importance of ideas, values, and beliefs</p>
<p>Social statics (branch of social physics)</p>	<p>A branch of social physics that deals with the fundamental laws of social order and the equilibrium of forces in a stable society</p>	<p>Comte</p>
<p>Social Dynamics (branch of social physics)</p>	<p>A branch of social physics that deals with the laws forces, and phenomena of social change</p> <p>le, french revolution, the industrial revolution, etc,</p>	<p>Marxs said fuck the bourgesie</p>
<p>Economic determinism</p>	<p>Every aspect of social life is based on economic relationships</p>	<p>Marxs</p>
<p>socialism</p>	<p>The dictatorship of the proletariat over the bourgeoisie</p>	<p>Marxs</p>
<p>communism</p>	<p>A classless system which the means of production are collectively owned and wealth</p>	<p>Marxs</p>

	and power are evenly distributed	
Verstehen	Understanding or insight	weber
theory	A set of logically interrelated statements that attempt to explain, describe, and sometimes predict social events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 4 major theories in sociology that you absolutely must know for the midterm 1. Functionalist perspective 2. Conflict perspective 3. Symbolic interactionist perspective 4. Feminist perspective
Social theorizing	The task of weaving isolated observations or facts into an understanding of human society and behaviour	Merton
Manifest Functions	Recognized and intended consequences of any social pattern	Merton
Latent Functions	Consequences that are largely unrecognized and unintended	Merton
Dysfunctions	Undesirable consequences for any social pattern for the opportunity of society	Merton
Common sense	Good sense and sound judgement in practical matters **not always right	
False obviousness	A situation in which makes so much sense that further research into the matter seems redundant when in reality at first glance your first option is likely wrong	Paul lazardfelds and R.K. Metons "the american soldier" 1949 We should be suspicious of all evidence put in front of us

Prejudice	Preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience	Latin ' <i>prae</i> ' meaning pre and ' <i>judicium</i> ' meaning judgement
Stereotypes	A wide-held but fixed and overly simplified image of a particular thing, or people	<i>Stereos solid</i>

Theory	Explanation	Who theorized it	Criticisms
A theoretical perspective	<p>***An overall approach or viewpoint towards some subject; a basic image of society that guides thinking</p> <p>Each theory guides our attention to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What to study - What questions to ask - How to ask them <p>Each perspective interprets reality and explains data in a different way</p>		
Functionalist perspective	Functionalist perspective is a theory stating that society is a system of interconnected parts that work together in	<p>Largely based on the works of</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Herbert Spencer 2. Emile Durkhiem 	How can we assume society has a 'natural order' when societies and cultures are different all over the world

	<p>harmony to maintain a state of social equilibrium and static for the whole</p> <p>le, social institutions, family, education, government, Social institutions</p> <p>Social institutions provide the rules governing behaviours and a set of common values that bind people together</p>	<p>3. Talcot Parsons 4. Robert Merton</p> <p>Merton on social function</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Manifest functions - Latent functions - dysfunctions 	<p>Social integration tends to gloss over inequalities, based on race, class, sexuality, etc which generate considerable tension and conflict</p>
<p>Conflict perspective</p>	<p>Based on the 4 C's</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conflict 2. Class 3. Contention 4. change <p>Society is an arena of inequalities generating conflict and change, and of continuous power struggle among competing groups</p> <p>People in different Social class, race, ethnicity, gender, age, etc are linked to unequal distribution of money, power, and social pertisege.</p> <p>The social system typically benefits some people while depriving others</p> <p>Assumes society either will or should be changed; this theory values</p>	<p>Karl Marx</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Literally took this to the grave <p>C. Wright Mills (motorcycle guy)</p>	<p>By highlighting inequalities and social divisions, glosses over how shared values or interdependence generates unity among members of a society</p> <p>By pursuing political goals, this theory relinquish any claim to scientific objectivity</p> <p>**functionalist and conflict perspectives invasion society in very broad and abstract terms; large scale social structures and social systems</p>

	commitment to the fight against social inequalities		
Symbolic interactionist perspective	<p>Micro Level focused</p> <p>Social interactions in specific situations face to face</p> <p>Called symbolic because <u>it looks at the meanings behind personal interactions</u></p> <p>plans, intentions, motivations, and self reflectivity of actors through speech, writing, innotions, gift giving etc</p> <p>Invisions society as the product of everyday interactions of individuals, as a shared reality created by members of society</p>		<p>By focusing on personal, day to day interactions this perspective ignores the larger social institution which behavior takes place</p> <p>Downplays the global and historical aspects of culture and the effects of socially imposed definitions of race, ethnicity, class, gender etc</p>
Feminist perspective	<p>Focuses on explaining inequalities between men and women in all areas of social life</p> <p>Encompasses both micro and macro levels of analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily construction 	Dorothy smith	<p>Women centered</p> <p>Explicitly ideological; ignores science and the natural roles of the sexes</p>

	and re-production of gender - Series of constraints and forms of resistance in women's lives in social institutions		
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Review Questions:

1. Why and how do societies change?
2. What are the social forces that are holding societies together to create order and stability over time
3. How do modern societies differ from preceding ones