

# **SOCI 445. READINGS: SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY**

## **Fall 2019**

*Mondays, Leacock 819, 2.30-5.30*

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The course has a theme: social theories dealing with the mechanisms of capitalism. Particular attention is paid to the interrelations between class, nation and state, and the way in which these affect market mechanisms.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

A final paper, topic to be agreed with me, worth 80% of the grade, an in-class presentation during the semester worth 10% of the grade, and an in-class presentation in December of a draft of your paper worth 10% of the grade.

#### September 16: **Commercial Sociability**

Adam Smith, The Theory of Moral Sentiments, Parts I-VI

Also essential: *The Equalizing Hand: Why Adam Smith Thought the Market Should Produce Wealth without Steep Inequality* by Deborah A. Boucoyannis in *Perspectives on Politics* 2013  
(<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=9122037> )

#### September 23: **Nationalism from Above**

D. Levi-Faur, 'Friedrich List and the political economy of the nation-state'  
D. Levi-Faur, 'Economic nationalism: from Friedrich List to Robert Reich'  
D. Lieven, 'Dilemmas of Empire, 1850-1918: Power, Territory, Identity'

#### October 7: **Nationalism from Below**

K. Polanyi, The Great Transformation

#### October 21: **Anti-Victorian Intelligence**

R. Skidelsky, Keynes  
J.M. Keybes, The Essential Keynes, ed. R. Skidelsky, Penguin

#### October 28: **The Great Compression**

W. Scheidel, The Great Leveller

November 4:                    **The Politics of Inclusion**

A.O. Hirschman, Exit, Voice and Loyalty

November 11:                **Small States, National Homogeneity**

J. Campbell and J.A. Hall, The Paradox of Vulnerability

November 18:                **Globalization and Its Discontents**

D. Rodrik, The Globalization Paradox

November 25:                **Global Inequality**

B. Milanovic, Global Inequality

LATE NOVEMBER            **Problems with Growth**

F. Hirsch, Social Limits to Growth

December 2:                **Papers**

December 4:                **Papers**

## **Please Note:**

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L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site [www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/)).

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