

Ph.D. Concentration in **Sociological Theory**
Fall 2009

Participating Faculty: Krier, Waggoner, Woodman

Program Coordinator: Woodman

Concentration Description: The Theory Concentration has as its goal the active engagement of graduate students with the classic themes of theory and social organization, arising from the classic question best asked by Thomas Hobbes in *Leviathan* (1651), "How is social order possible?" There are, it turns out, a plethora of theoretical perspectives attempting to answer that question, some very recent and many quite old. The truth is that no area of sociology at any level of social complexity from small groups to social and cultural systems can be done effectively without a theoretical grounding. It is our feeling that a focus on theory qua theory turns out to be very useful not only in moving from one substantive area to another, but in simply understanding the work of other social scientists as well. For any social scientist, a good theory background never ceases to be useful.

Concentration courses:

- 505 History of Social Thought
- 506 Classical Sociological Theory
- 607 Contemporary Sociological Theory

Recommended courses:

- 698U Seminar in Sociological Theory

History

- 461 History of American Thought I
- 462 History of American Thought II
- 483 History of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Philosophy

- 450 Persons and Causes
- 480 Controversies in Science
- 535 Contemporary Political Philosophy

Political Science

- 430 Western Political Thought
- 431 Modern Political Thought
- 433 American Political Thought
- 531 Modern Political Thought
- 535 Contemporary Political Philosophy
- 559 International Relations Theory

Psychology

- 601 History of Philosophy of Psychology