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Title: Knowing the Modern World  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **5501BEASOC** (128339)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science  
Teaching School/Faculty: Beaconhouse IC Islamabad

Team	Leader
Sara Parker	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ5      **Credit Value:** 20      **Total Delivered Hours:** 34.5  
**Total Learning Hours:** 200      **Private Study:** 165.5

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	22
Workshop	11

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	2500 Word Essay	60	
Exam	AS2	1.5HR seen exam	40	1.5

### Aims

1. To explore the development of sociological theory and how it enables the understanding of current social issues and debates.
2. To compare and contrast theorists' work to establish an appreciation of the issues and tensions surrounding their theoretical orientation.
3. To develop theoretical literacy so that students can independently identify and

*critically engage in literature from specific different theoretical traditions in their own written work.*

## **Learning Outcomes**

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the similarities and differences between two sociological theories.
- 2 Independently identify literature within specific theoretical traditions that could help us understand contemporary social issues and debates.
- 3 Critically evaluate the work of selected contemporary social theorists highlighting the tensions surrounding their chosen theoretical orientation.

## **Learning Outcomes of Assessments**

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Essay	1	2
1.5 hour seen exam	3	

## **Outline Syllabus**

- *Epistemology/ontology and its impact on sociological knowledge*
- *The development of positivism and interpretivism within sociological theory*
- *The role of structure/agency in understanding societies*
- *Post-structuralism and postmodernism*
- *Feminist epistemology*

*Work from a range of different sociological traditions will be selectively utilised to explore each of these themes, namely, Classical Sociology, Marxism, Weberianism, Durkheimianism, Feminism, Ethnomethodology, Constructionism, Interactionism, Post Humanism*

## **Learning Activities**

3 Hours of Lectures and seminar discussions per week.  
Private study and guided reading

## **Notes**

The assessment will take the form of an essay followed by a seen examination. The purpose of this is to encourage a greater depth of understanding in students, to establish their critical writings skills and to encourage them to develop confidence in conveying complex ideas in a timed setting.