

Detailed Contents

Chapter 1: The Nature of Sociological Theory	1
Theories Invite Controversy	1
Science as a Belief System	3
The Elements of Theory	8
Concepts: The Basic Building Blocks of Theory	8
Variables as an Important Type of Concept	10
Theoretical Statements and Formats	11
Assessing Diverse Theoretical Approaches	25
Going Forward	31
PART I: FUNCTIONAL THEORIZING	33
Chapter 2: The Rise of Functionalist Theorizing	35
The Organismic Analogy	35
Auguste Comte and the Organismic Analogy	35
The Analytical Functionalism of Herbert Spencer	37
Functionalism and Émile Durkheim	39
Functionalism and the Anthropological Tradition	42
The Functionalism of A. R. Radcliffe-Brown	42
The Functionalism of Bronislaw Malinowski	45
Conclusion	47
Chapter 3: Talcott Parsons' Analytical Functionalism	49
The Structure of Social Action	49
The Social System	52
The Transition to Functional Imperativism	57
The Informational Hierarchy of Control	59
Generalized Media of Exchange	60
Parsons on Social Change	62
Parsons on "The Human Condition"	64
Chapter 4: Niklas Luhmann's Systems Functionalism	67
Luhmann's General Systems Approach	68
System and Environment	68
Dimensions of the Environment	68

Types of Social Systems	69
System Differentiation, Integration, and Conflict	71
Communications Media, Reflexivity, and Self-Thematization	73
Luhmann's Basic Approach	75
Luhmann's Conception of Social Evolution	75
The Underlying Mechanisms of Evolution	76
Evolution and Social Differentiation	77
The Functional Differentiation of Society	81
Politics as a Social System	81
The Autonomy of the Legal System	83
The Economy as a Social System	84
Chapter 5: Efforts to Revitalize Functionalism	89
Robert K. Merton's Critique of Functionalism	90
The Critique of Functional Analysis	90
An Alternative Protocol for Functional Analysis	93
The Call for Theories of the "Middle Range"	95
Jonathan Turner's Critique of Grand Functional Theorizing	96
The Codification of Criticisms of Functional Theorizing	97
The Rebirth of Functional Theory in New Guises	99
An Outline of What Is Needed to Reinvigorate Functional Theorizing	100
PART II: EVOLUTIONARY AND ECOLOGICAL THEORIZING	105
Chapter 6: The Rise of Evolutionary and Ecological Theorizing	107
Herbert Spencer's Contribution to Evolutionary Sociology	108
Stage Models of Evolution	108
Anticipating the Darwinian Evolution	111
Émile Durkheim's Bio-Ecological Analogy	113
Charles Darwin and Natural Selection	115
The Modern Synthesis in Biology	117
The Genetics of the Individual	117
The Genetics of the Population	118
The Rise of Ecological Theory in Sociology	120
Borrowing from the Science of Ecology	121
The New Darwinism in the Social Sciences	124
The Rise of Sociobiology	125
Early Instinct Theories	125
Group Selection and the Early Codification of Sociobiology	126
Conclusion	131

Chapter 7: Ecological Theories	133
Theorizing on Urban Ecology	133
Theories of Organizational Ecology	138
Michael T. Hannan and John Freeman's Ecological Theory	138
J. Miller McPherson's Ecological Theory	142
Amos H. Hawley's Return to Macro-Level Ecological Theory	146
Production, Transportation, and Communication	146
The Environment	147
Functions and Key Functions	148
Equilibrium and Change	150
Growth and Evolution	152
Conclusion	158
Chapter 8: Stage Theories of Societal Evolution	159
Gerhard Lenski's Stage Model of Societal Evolution	159
Power and Privilege During Societal Evolution	160
Gerhard Lenski, Patrick Nolan, and Jean Lenski's	
Evolutionary Theory	164
Jonathan Turner's Evolutionary Analysis	167
Conclusion	175
Chapter 9: Darwinian-Inspired Evolutionary Theories	177
Sociobiological Theorizing	177
Pierre van den Berghe's Approach	178
Joseph Lopreato's Approach	184
Evolutionary Psychology	189
Cross-Species Comparisons	192
Richard Machalek's Approach	192
Alexandra Maryanski's Approach	197
Conclusion	202
PART III: CONFLICT THEORIZING	203
Chapter 10: The Rise of Conflict Theorizing	205
Karl Marx and Conflict Theory	206
Max Weber and Conflict Theory	209
Georg Simmel and Conflict Theory	212
Conclusions	216
Chapter 11: Early Analytical Conflict Theories	217
Ralf Dahrendorf's Dialectical Theory	218
Making Marx's Theory More Abstract	218
The Causal Imagery in Marx and Dahrendorf	220
Developing Explanatory Propositions	220
Lewis Coser's Conflict Functionalism	223
The Causes of Conflict	224
The Violence of Conflict	226

The Duration of Conflict	227
The Functions of Conflict	228
Jonathan Turner's Synthesis of Coser and Dahrendorf	230
An Analytical Model of Conflict Dynamics	231
Stage 3: Withdrawal of Legitimacy	231
Stage 4: Initial Awareness of Objective Interests	232
Stage 5: Emotional Arousal of the Deprived	233
Stage 6: Periodic Collective Outbursts	233
Stage 7: Increased Intensity	234
Stage 8: Efforts at Organization	234
Stage 9: The Degree of Violence in the Conflict	235
Conclusions	236
Chapter 12: Randall Collins' Analytical Conflict Theory	237
Interaction Rituals	237
The Early Conceptualization of Interaction Rituals	238
Talk and Ritual	240
Deference and Demeanor	241
Class Cultures	243
Organizational Processes	244
The State and Economy	247
Geopolitics	248
Ritual and Emotions	250
The Theory of Micro Violence	253
Emotional Fields	253
The Power of Confrontational Tension and Fear	254
Conclusions	255
Chapter 13: Marxian Conflict Theories	257
A Brief Review of Marx's Substantive Argument	257
Neo-Marxian Class Analysis	259
The Analytical Marxism of Erik Olin Wright	260
Sustaining the Emancipatory Dream: Envisioning Real Utopias	270
Neo-Marxian World-Systems Analysis	275
Immanuel Wallerstein's Analysis of the "World System"	276
The End of Capitalism?	281
Conclusion	281
Chapter 14: Conflict Theories in Historical-Comparative Sociology	283
Mass Mobilization and State Breakdown	284
Barrington Moore on the Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy	285
Jeffrey Paige's Theory of Agrarian Revolution	289
Charles Tilly's Theory of Resource Mobilization	293
Theda Skocpol's Analysis of States and Social Revolutions	297

Jack Goldstone's Theory of State Breakdown	302
Conclusion	305
PART IV: INTERACTIONIST THEORIZING	307
Chapter 15: The Rise of Interactionist and Phenomenological Theorizing	309
Early American Insights into Interaction	309
William James' Analysis of "Self"	310
Charles Horton Cooley's Analysis of "Self"	310
John Dewey's Pragmatism	311
Pragmatism, Darwinism, and Behaviorism in Mead's Thought	312
George Herbert Mead's Synthesis	313
Conceptualizing Structure	318
Early European Insights	320
Georg Simmel's Analysis of Interaction	320
Émile Durkheim's Metamorphosis	321
Max Weber's Analysis of "Social Action"	322
European Phenomenology	323
Building on Early Interactionist Insights	329
Chapter 16: Symbolic Interactionist Theories of Identity	331
Sheldon Stryker's Identity Theory	332
Designations and Definitions	332
Identities and the Salience Hierarchy	333
Commitment and Self	333
The Key Propositions	334
Identity and Emotions	336
George J. McCall and J. L. Simmons' Theory of Identity	337
Role Identity and Role Support	337
The Mechanisms for Maintaining Role Support	338
The Hierarchy of Prominence	338
The Underlying Exchange Dynamic	339
Peter J. Burke's Identity Control Theory	341
Role Identities	342
Identity as a Cybernetic Control System	342
Multiple Identities	344
Identity and Emotions	344
Jonathan H. Turner's Theory on Transactional Needs	347
Conclusions	354
Chapter 17: Role Theories	357
Ralph H. Turner's Role Theorizing	357
The Process of Role Making	358
The Folk Norm of Consistency	359
The Tentative Nature of Interaction	359

Role Verification	359
Self-Conceptions and Roles	360
Building a Role Theory	361
Generating Explanatory Laws	365
Jonathan Turner's Supplemental Conception of Role Dynamics	367
The Centrality of Roles	367
Expanding the Notions of Role Taking and Role Making	368
Activating Microdynamic Forces in Interaction	368
Conclusion	371
Chapter 18: Status Theories	373
The Phenomenology of Status	374
Clarity of Status in Situations	375
Expectation States and Status	376
The Core Ideas of Expectation States Theorizing	377
Application of Core Ideas in Expectation States Theorizing	378
Status and Emotions	392
Expectation States Theories of Affect	393
Theodore Kemper's Status-Power Theory	399
Conclusion	402
Chapter 19: Dramaturgical Theories	403
Erving Goffman on "The Interaction Order"	403
The Dramaturgical Metaphor	405
The Presentation of Self	406
Focused Interaction	410
Encounters	410
Ritual	412
Roles	414
Self	415
Talk	417
Disruption and Repair in Focused Interaction	419
Unfocused Interaction	420
Frames and the Organization of Experience	424
What Is a Frame?	424
Primary Frames	425
Keys and Keying	426
Fabrications	426
The Complexity of Experience	427
Extensions of Goffmanian Dramaturgy	428
Arlie Hochschild on Emotional Labor	429
Morris Rosenberg's Emphasis on Reflexivity and Dramatic Presentations	431
Peggy Thoits' Theory of Emotional Deviance	433

Candice Clark's Theory on the Dramaturgy and Strategy of Sympathy	434
Randall Collins on Interaction Rituals	438
Conclusion	440
Chapter 20: Ethnomethodological Theories	443
The Reflexive and Indexical Nature of Interaction	444
Reflexive Action and Interaction	444
The Indexicality of Meaning	444
Harold Garfinkel's Early Studies	445
Aaron V. Cicourel's Critique	447
Harvey Sacks' Analysis of Conversational Turn Taking	449
Zimmerman, Pollner, and Wieder's Situational Approach	450
Emanuel Schegloff's Conversational Analysis	452
Conclusion	455
PART V: EXCHANGE THEORIZING	457
Chapter 21: The Rise of Exchange Theorizing	459
Exchange Theory in Classical Economics	459
Exchange Theory in Anthropology	461
Sir James Frazer	461
Bronislaw Malinowski and Nonmaterial Exchange	463
Marcel Mauss and the Emergence of Exchange Structuralism	464
Claude Lévi-Strauss and Structuralism	466
Psychological Behaviorism and Exchange Theory	468
The Sociological Tradition and Exchange Theory	472
Marx's Theory of Exchange and Conflict	472
Georg Simmel's Exchange Theory	473
Conclusion: Exchange Theory in the Contemporary Era	475
Chapter 22: Early Exchange Theories	477
George C. Homans' Early Behaviorist Approach	477
Borrowing from B. F. Skinner	478
The Basic Exchange Principles	479
From Behavior to Macrostructure	482
Peter M. Blau's Dialectical Exchange Theory	486
The Basic Exchange Principles	487
Elementary Systems of Exchange	489
Strains Toward Integration	490
Strains Toward Opposition	493
Macrostructural Exchange Systems	494
Blau's Image of Social Organization	498
Richard Emerson's Power-Dependence Theory of Exchange	498
The Core Ideas	500
Social Structure, Networks, and Exchange	502
Conclusion	509

Chapter 23: Rational Choice Theories	511
Michael Hechter's Theory of Group Solidarity	512
The Basic Problem of Order in Rational Choice	
Theorizing	512
The Basis of Social Control: Dependence, Monitoring, and Sanctioning	514
Types of Groups	515
Patterns of Control in Compensatory and Obligatory Groups	518
The Theory Summarized	520
Macrostructural Implications	521
James S. Coleman's Theory of Group Solidarity	522
Transferring Rights to Act	523
The Demand for Norms and Sanctions	525
Principles of Group Solidarity: Synthesizing Hechter's and Coleman's Theories	525
Conclusion	527
Chapter 24: Exchange-Network Theories	529
Karen S. Cook's Theoretical Program	529
Commitment Processes in Networks	529
Equity and Justice in Exchange Networks	531
Generalized Exchange Networks	533
Edward J. Lawler's Network Exchange Theory	536
Commitment in Exchange Networks	536
Refining the Theory of Emotions	540
A General Theory of Commitments to Macrostructures	544
Linda D. Molm's Theoretical Program	547
The Basic Question	548
The Basic Concepts	548
The Theoretical Answer	549
New Theoretical Directions	551
The Paradoxes of Reciprocal Exchanges	553
Conclusions	553
PART VI: STRUCTURALIST AND CULTURAL THEORIZING	555
Chapter 25: The Rise of Structuralist and Cultural Theorizing	557
Structural Elements in Karl Marx's Theories	557
Émile Durkheim's Functionalism and the Emergence of Structural Sociology	559
Georg Simmel's Formal Structuralism	563
Herbert Spencer and the Superorganic	564
Max Weber on Social Structure	566
Conclusions	566

Chapter 26: Early Structural and Cultural Theories	567
The French Structural Tradition of Claude Lévi-Strauss	567
The British Structural Tradition	572
A. R. Radcliffe-Brown	572
S. F. Nadel and Network Analysis	573
The American Structural Tradition in Social Psychology	574
Jacob Moreno and Sociometric Techniques	574
Studies of Communications in Groups	576
Early Gestalt and Balance Approaches	578
Conclusion	581
Chapter 27: Cultural Theories	583
Cultural Analysis: Robert Wuthnow	584
Cultural Structure, Ritual, and Institutional Context	585
The Moral Order	586
The Dynamics of the Moral Order	589
Constructivist Structuralism: Pierre Bourdieu	590
Criticisms of Existing Theories	593
Bourdieu's Cultural Conflict Theory	596
Jeffrey C. Alexander on Cultural Pragmatics	603
History of Ritualized Performances	604
Assumptions About Actors and Performances	605
Challenges and Strategies Employed in Performances	606
Why Pragmatics?	607
Conclusion	609
Chapter 28: Structuration Theory	611
Giddens' Critique of "Scientific" Social Theory	612
The "Theory of Structuration"	613
Reconceptualizing Structure and Social System	613
Reconceptualizing Institutions	616
Structural Principles, Sets, and Properties	617
Structural Contradiction	619
Agents, Agency, and Action	619
Routinization and Regionalization of Interaction	622
Conclusion	625
Chapter 29: Network Analysis	627
Basic Theoretical Concepts in Network Analysis	628
Points and Nodes	628
Links, Ties, and Connections	628
Patterns and Configurations of Ties	630
Number of Ties	630
Directedness	631
Reciprocity of Ties	631
Transitivity of Ties	631
Density of Ties	631

Strength of Ties	632
Bridges	633
Brokerage	634
Centrality	635
Equivalence	635
Conclusion	637
PART VII: THE CHALLENGE OF CRITICAL THEORIZING	639
Chapter 30: The Rise of Critical Theory	641
Lines of Critical Theorizing in Europe	641
The Critical Thrust of Karl Marx's Analysis of Capitalism	642
Weber's Pessimism and the Basic Problem for Early European Theory	645
Simmel's Defense of Modernity and Implicit Attack on Marx	646
The Rise of the Frankfurt School of Critical Theory	647
The Frankfurt School and the Cultural Turn	647
The Transformation of Marx's Project	654
American-Style Critical Theory	654
Chapter 31: Critical Theories of the Frankfurt School	657
Jürgen Habermas' Analysis of "The Public Sphere"	658
The Critique of Science	659
Legitimation Crises in Society	662
Early Analyses of Speech and Interaction	663
Habermas' Reconceptualization of Social Evolution	666
The Theory of Communicative Action	668
The Overall Project	669
The Reconceptualization of Action and Rationality	669
The Lifeworld and System Processes of Society	672
Evolutionary Dynamics and Societal Crises	673
Conclusion: The Goal of Critical Theory	674
Chapter 32: Postmodern Critical Theories	677
The Postmodern Critique of Science	677
Jean-François Lyotard	679
Richard Rorty	680
Illustrative Elaborations and Extensions Within Sociology	681
Economic Postmodernism	684
Frederic Jameson	685
David Harvey	687
Scott Lash and John Urry	689
Cultural Postmodernism	691
Jean Baudrillard	692
Further Elaborations of Cultural Postmodernism	694
Conclusion	698

Chapter 33: American-Style Critical Theories	701
The Feminist Critique of Sociological Theory: Gender, Politics, and Patriarchy	702
Representation and the Construction of Gender	704
A Sociology for Women: Feminist Methodologies, Epistemologies, and “Standpoint” Theories	707
Critiquing the Critique: Challenges to Critical Feminist Theories	717
Conclusion: Two or More Sociologies of Gender?	719
Critical Theories on Race and Ethnicity	720
Critical Race Theory	720
Critical Theories of Race and Racism	723
Conclusions	723
General Conclusion	724
Index	727
About the Author	749