

Fall '13 · Tu 9:50am to 1:00pm · Classroom: West Duke 105 · Office: 255 Sociology/Psychology

Soc 710

## Social Theory Through Complaining

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### Course Description

This course is an intensive introduction to some main themes in social theory. It is required of first year Ph.D students in the sociology department. Each week we will focus on something grad students complain about when they are forced to take theory. You are required to attend under protest, write a paper that's a total waste of your time, and complain constantly. Passive-aggressive silence will not be sufficient for credit.

### Course Schedule

Week 1 **Introduction: This has Nothing to do with my Research Interests**

Week 2 **This is all just Obfuscatory Bullshit and Empty Jargon**

Week 3 **It's Not Like We Can Even Predict Anything**

Week 4 **Isn't it more *Complicated* than that?**

Week 5 **Aren't these things Mutually Constitutive?**

Week 6 **But what about *Power*?**

Week 7 **We could easily Fix this mess with some Basic Math**

Week 8 **This field is Sexist and Racist to its rotten core**

Week 9 **What is Theory without *Praxis*?**

Week 10 **THANKSGIVING BREAK. If You Can Call it a Break.**

Week 11 **Look, if Everything is Socially Constructed, then Nothing is**

Week 12 **Can you Believe we didn't Read any \_\_\_\_\_?**

Week 13 **Conclusion: This Whole Project was an Exercise in Symbolic Violence**