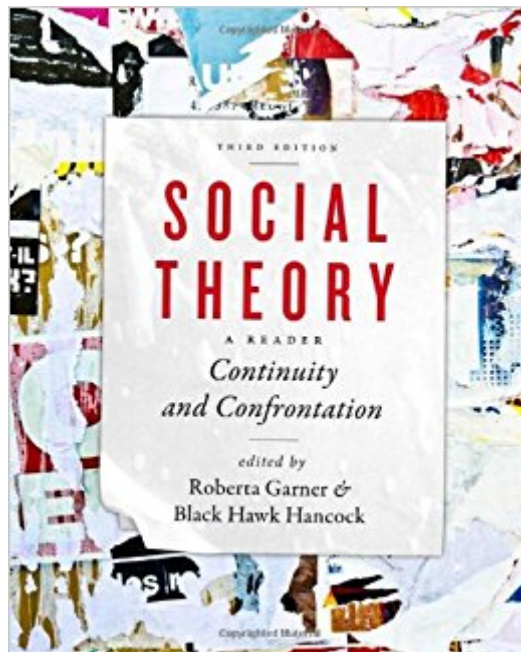




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# Social Theory: Continuity And Confrontation: A Reader, Third Edition



## Synopsis

The third edition of this popular reader reflects considerable changes. With over seventy readings representing a wide diversity of theorists, it offers a breadth of coverage not available in other collections. The framework for understanding theory as a set of conversations over time is maintained and deepened, with a focus on key transitional theorists who helped pave the way from classical to contemporary theory. New contextual and biographical materials surround the primary readings, and each chapter includes a study guide with key terms, discussion questions, and innovative classroom exercises. The result is a fresh and expansive take on social theory that foregrounds a plurality of perspectives and defines contemporary trends in the field, while being both an accessible and manageable teaching tool.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Garner and Hancock offer a selection of readings that are well chosen and wide reaching, providing theoretical materials which reflect the continuing relevance of the classics and the contemporary expansion of the discipline, but which also transcend strict disciplinary boundaries. Social Theory is an excellent resource for undergraduate and graduate instruction alike. (Claire Laurier Decoteau, University of Illinois, Chicago) Social Theory: A Reader is a sweeping review of sociological thought like no other. (Jonathan R. Wynn, University of Massachusetts, Amherst) This collection offers a dynamic juxtaposition of original text, biography, history, and practice-based exercises that allow readers to become apprentice-theorists, able to navigate the complex and contested meanings and

mechanisms of society. Garner and Hancock's revised edition is an indispensable tool for teacher and student alike. (Erin O'Connor, Marymount Manhattan College) In this new edition, Garner and Hancock have established a forum for effective and productive learning, offering an exemplary balance between a comprehensive text that facilitates students' ability to read original statements, and a compendium of essential readings. (Preston Rudy, San Jose State University) At a time when even some 'contemporary' theories are getting old, Garner and Hancock have given us something new: a reader that resists oversimplification and shows students the living relationships between classical and contemporary theory. The sheer number of authors presented here is impressive, and would be daunting if the organization of the book was not so ingenious. As a bonus, pedagogical materials at the end of each chapter help instructors to help their students become a part of these theoretical dialogues. (David Yamane, Wake Forest University)

Roberta Garner is Professor of Sociology at DePaul University in Chicago. She is the author of *The Joy of Stats: A Short Guide to Introductory Statistics in the Social Sciences*, Second Edition (2010). She teaches courses on theory, research design, statistics, and Greek mythology. Black Hawk Hancock is Associate Professor of Sociology at DePaul University in Chicago. He is the co-author with Roberta Garner of *Changing Theories: New Directions in Sociology* (2009) and author of *American Allegory: Lindy Hop and the Racial Imagination* (2013).

I purchased this book for my social theory class this past spring. The readings are going to be tough at some point, but the selection of readings and the concepts inside are fundamental to understanding society and its structures. That said, if this book is a required text, there's no way you can avoid buying this. It's probably going to be used heavily and it's going to be integral to the course. I've made it through some classes where I've been able to avoid buying a text, one way or another, but not with this one.

The readings are fine, but what textbook DOESN'T HAVE AN INDEX?! It's madness!

Books devalue fast but this book was a lot more last semester.

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