

ANTH 304 - Social Theory

Exam 1 - Prompt 2

Class is an integral part of contemporary societies, including the United States. Yet, most Americans lack a language and integrated analytical framework for discussing class in American society.

For this essay, briefly present the basic theoretical frameworks and concepts that Marx, Weber and Gramsci (as discussed in Hebdige) use to explain class and social change. Then, discuss how you think these three theorists would analyze **either** the (1) the Tea Party Movement, (2) the Occupy Movement, (3) the 2013 walkouts/strikes by U.S. fast food workers, or (4) the 2011 battle over public unions in Wisconsin.

Be sure to discuss the origins, class dynamics and possible outcomes of these movements, as well as what they tell us about class and social change in US society today. The goal - integrate the three theorists' conceptual frameworks into your own unique analysis.

If you don't know anything concrete about any of these events/political movements, you'll need to do some research. I expect to see actual events, strategies, slogans, etc. discussed.

Grading Matrix

| Grading Category | Points |
|---|--------|
| | |
| Presentation/Understanding of Theoretical Concepts | 10 |
| Analysis (rigor, creativity, integration of concepts, depth/subtlety of analysis, use of concrete examples) | 15 |
| Organization | 5 |
| Clarity of Writing | 5 |