

Contemporary Social Theory

Final year module

Lecturer: [Dr Justin Cruickshank \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/cruickshank-justin.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/staff/profiles/cruickshank-justin.aspx)

This module builds upon Level I Modern Sociological Theory. The module takes a thematic approach to three key areas of contemporary social theory. First, the emergence of postmodernism is analysed in terms of its implications for understanding both the nature of contemporary societies and the enterprise of theory itself. Second, contemporary macro social theories are analysed through key debates such as the character of globalisation and the information society. Finally, the implications for social theory of contemporary debates in the philosophy of social science are examined.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module the student should be able to identify and examine in critical depth key issues in contemporary social theory, including some cutting edge debates.

Assessment

- Term Two: 1 x 4,000 word assessed work (50%)
- Term Three: 3 hour examination (50%)