**Synopsis**

This comprehensive examination of classical sociological theory introduces readers to the life, times, and ideas of the figures who have had the greatest influence on the development of the field. Readers will enjoy the background information on each theorist covered in the book, including such interesting highlights as Comte's days in military school, the death of Durkheim's son in World War I, Spencer's inability to commit to marriage, and Hegel's illegitimate son. Taking a critical and reflexive approach, Sociological Theory also discusses how classical theory affects sociology today.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

This solid sociological text reviews each of the major players in Classical Sociological thought. What's interesting is how each of the thinkers is given context in their life and times. Also, this book did a lot to undo the mis-teaching of Marx and Durkheim that I had experienced with earlier instructors. This book is worth reading for those chapters alone.

This textbook is very thorough but some of the writing style is so unnecessarily obtuse that it is frustrating to the college student, which is its audience. The difference between the two authors seems to be apparent in the clarity of the writing. I was left guessing which author I found readable and which one I didn't. Although I continue to use this text, I am always looking out for an alternative. Even I, the professor, have to go to secondary sources to see what the author is trying to say.
When I got this it was much more beat up than I was expecting. I am not for sure on the condition that they were advertising, but I know that I wouldn't have purchased anything that hadn't been advertised as at least good. This book will do for the semester and, to be fair, I only paid about $20 bucks for it. There is writing/highlighting on every single page, pages are dirty, damaged in places, and several are bent and the cover is really beat up. This book really should have been sold as poor condition in my opinion.

The book is brand new! The only downside is that it was way too expensive! I wish it was cheaper.


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