Weber on method and sociology
How is a science of the social possible?

**Durkheim Central Problem**
*social cohesion in the face of specialization
*shared common values

**Epistemology**
*objectivist (facts as things), positivist (social world like natural world), social realist (social world is real and consequential)

**Privileged actor/agent**
*industrialists
*moderns

**History of Social Change**
*transition from traditional to industrial society
*evolution (long duration) Not revolution (short duration)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Idiom</th>
<th>Goals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>holistic</td>
<td>*rational recognition of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>positivist</td>
<td>*collective interests → organic</td>
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<tr>
<td>funcutalism</td>
<td>*solidarity</td>
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<tr>
<td>casual explanation</td>
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Possible?
Weber’s definition of Sociology (pp. 178)

*Interpretive* (intentional) *understanding of social* (taking account of others behaviors) *action* (subjective meaning – individual attached to behaviors)

*Pp. 185-186 – types of social action*

**4 Types of social action**
1.) Instrumentally rational – expectations are used as “means” for the attainment of the actor’s own rationally pursued and calculated ends
2.) Value ration – do something because it is the right thing to do. (most effective mean to an end
3.) Affectual – action because of self-benefit
   Ex.) Cheating on a test because stressed out, but not thinking of the consequences of actions
4.) Traditional – most borderline habit – determined by embedded habituation
How Marx, Durkheim, and Weber categorize sociology

Marx: industrial, capitalist through materialism and criticism
Durkheim: organized/industrial
Weber: organized, capitalist (not Marxist type)