

Sociology 0150
Notes from 1.5.06
Recorded by Erin Davis & Shawn Adamczyk

We filled out 3x5 cards with:

Name
Preferred email
semesters in college
Accomplishment of which most proud
Rate theory course anticipated difficulty 1-5 and why
Strategy for dealing with “hard” course

The anticipated difficulty of a Theory class on a scale of 1-5 with 1 being very easy and 5 being the most difficult: distribution

- **0 students gave a score of 1**
- **2 students gave a score of 2**
- **14 students gave a score of 3**
- **19 students gave a score of 4**
- **2 students gave a score of 5 being the most difficult**

Theory course might be difficult because:

- are less related to personal experience so harder to understand - something further from what you experienced or believed might be harder to understand
- abstract and difficult to connect
- don't always agree with them
 - sometimes it is easier to learn things you either strongly agree or disagree w/
 - ex.) \cap -shaped curve – difficulty is highest when learner is “neutral” or in between strongly agree and strongly disagree (when you disagree, it might be easier to learn because you are strongly motivated to “get it right” in order to argue against it)
- Difficulty is influenced by a person's feelings
- Has a specialized vocabulary
- Ideas and concepts related to theories are confusing and open to interpretation

Strategies to make the course easier:

- hearing other peers' input
 - can show different interpretations and perspectives better
- schedule meeting w/ Dr. Brush
 - check syllabus 4 details
- Put concepts into everyday terms
 - apply to other topics
- Read assignments and be prepared as much as possible
 - **Peer input introduces diversity of opinion, approach, and interpretation**
 - **Discussion of topics in class**
 - **Study groups outside of class- meet people and exchange contact info.**

- **Teacher should articulate expectations- (see syllabus)**
- **Class should welcome opinions from others**

Main Goal of Sociological Theories class: wants us to learn what to do when we encounter big ideas

Canon- information that is part of the body of knowledge

Q-Cards Note cards that each student will write a question or comment pertaining to the reading along with the page # it was located.

For The Next Class:

Think about what makes something:

A classic?

Sociological?

A theory?