# Study Guide for Social Theory Final Exam

**Georg Simmel**

Define the four levels of Analysis

Categories of actors and exchanges

Fashion

Objective and Individual Culture

Social Geometry: Dyad and Triad

Stranger

Social Distance

Tragedy of Culture

**Neo-Marxist Theories**

**Lukacs** – Reification, fetishism of commodities

**Gramsci** – Hegemony and communist party

Irrationality of rationality

**Marcuse** – Culture Industry – Media pacifies and represses

**Habermas**

Critical Knowledge

Democracy, Communication and Rationality – Don’t really have

Colonization of the Lifeworld – don’t debate ideas, simply are told what to believe – we are stripped of our ability to decide for ourselves

Iron Cage – In a cage, but consumerism blinds us to this fact

**Modernity**

**Giddens**

Juggernaut

Self-identity – Reflexivity

Sequestration of Experience

Ontological Security

**Beck** – Boomerang Effect

**Feminist Theories**

Patriarchy – leadership, identified, centered

Misogyny

First Wave – suffragettes – cultural feminism

Second Wave - Gender Differences – Biological, institutional, interactional (constructionist) and phenomenological (Simone de Beauvoir)

Liberal Feminism – individualist approach – change the way we raise girls

Focus on reproductive rights, marriage

Psychoanalytic Feminism – women subjugate and oppress themselves

Radical Feminism – Oppression and violence

Symbolic Violence

Overt Violence

Socialist Feminism – Class oppression on top of gender oppression

Materialist focus means women in poverty taken advantage of

Focus on women’s role – encourages spending – weddings, makeup, clothes, diets

Third Wave – Intersectionality Theory

**Integrative Theories**

**Giddens** – Structuration

Reflexivity - don’t blindly act, we think about our actions (reflect on them)

Double Hermeneutics – Society shapes us, but we act back upon and reshape society

Discursive actions – aware of motivations

Practical consciousness – routine

Routine behaviors become set, predictable – those become structures

Agency – we can always decide to not engage in those actions

Social Structures – provide rules but also resources

**Pierre Bourdieu**

Practice – actions – structures do act on us by influencing our worldview – not constraining

Habitus

Field

Capital – financial, cultural, social, and symbolic

Symbolic Violence

**Claude Levi-Strauss** – Structuralism

Form and Content

**Derrida** – Theatre of Cruelty

**Foucault**

Sexuality

Mentally Ill

Prison

**Jameson** – Postmodernism

Characteristics of postmodernism

Postmodernism and capitalism