Study Guide 1

* Sociology - systematic study of human behaviour
* Peter Berger - see the general in the particular
* Durkheim - father of sociology, found lots of suicide (white, male, wealth, protestant)
* Comte - coined the term sociology, founded positivism (look below)
* Theoretical Approach - basic image of society that guides thinking and research
* Social Structures
  + Structural-Functional (functionalism) - society as a complex system whose parts work together to promote solidarity and stability
    - parts include: family, religion, education, economics, medical
    - functions
      * manifest - intended consequences
      * latent - unintended consequences
  + Social-Conflict - sees society as an arena of inequality that generates conflict and change
    - haves - bourgeoisie - have the means of production
    - have-nots - proletarians - the workers
    - conflicts occur
      * gender
        + feminism - the desire for men and women to have equality society
      * race
  + Symbolic-Interaction - sees society as the product of everyday interactions with the meanings we place on things
* Research Methods
  + Positivist/Scientific - uses positive facts (empirical evidence), sees society as objective reality
    - quantitative data
    - tied with functionalism
  + Critical - focuses on the need for social change
    - promotes social equality
    - tied with social-conflict
  + Interpretative - focuses on the meanings people attach to their world
    - qualitative data
    - tied with symbolic-interaction
* Culture - ways of thinking, acting, and the material objects that form a people's way of life
* Symbols - anything that carries a particular meaning in one’s culture
* Norms - rules and expectations by which a society guides the behaviour of its members through sanctions (consequences)
  + Folkways - routine or casual interactions
  + Mores - widely observed, carry moral significance
* Patterns of Culture
  + Subculture - set apart a segment of society
  + Countercultures - go against widely accepted patterns
* Cultural Lag - some cultural elements change more quickly than others
* Ethnocentrism - judging one culture based on the standards of your own (belief that one’s own culture is supreme)
* \*\*Culture\*\*
  + Functionalism - considers values to be the core of culture
    - pros: shows how culture operates to meet human needs
    - cons: downplays importance of change
  + Conflict -
  + Symbolic Interaction
* Socialization - lifelong experience by which people develop their human potential and learn culture
* Freud
  + Id (slut) - basic drives, demands immediate gratification
  + Ego (balancer) - conscious efforts to balance these two
  + Superego (utah mormon) - cultural values and norms
* Looking-glass self - Cooley’s term, self-image based on how we think others think of us
* Erikson’s stages of development
  + 1. trust vs mistrust - learn that world is safe
  + 2. toddlerhood - autonomy - failure of self-control leads to doubt in abilities
  + 3. preschool - initiative - learn to engage surrounds, feel guilt
  + 4. preadolescence - industriousness - fear of messing up, proud of accomplishments
  + 5. adolescence - gaining identity - teen years
  + 6. young adulthood - intimacy, relationships - bond with the need of separate identity
  + 7. middle adulthood - making a difference, contribute to others
  + 8. old age - people look back on past events and accomplishments
* Agents of Socialization
  + family
  + school
  + peer group
  + mass media
* Ageism - prejudice and discrimination against older people
* Kubler-Ross - Death and Dying
  + proposed people go through 5 stages: denial, anger, negotiation, resignation, acceptance
* Resocialization - integrating people back into society by controlling their environment (change their behaviour)
  + use total institutions - place where people are isolated from society, manipulated by administrative care
    - supervision, control, standardization
* Status - position someone holds in society
* Status Types
  + Ascribed - position someone receives involuntarily
  + Achieved - position someone receives voluntarily, based on skill and abilities
  + Master - the identifying position of someone in society
* Role - behaviour expected of someone who holds a status
* Role Types
  + conflict (teacher vs friend) - conflict among roles connected to two or more statuses
  + strain (mother) - tension among roles connected to single status
  + exit - the process by which people disengage from important social roles
* Goffman’s dramaturgical analysis - study of social interactions in terms of theatrical performance
  + presentation of self: person’s efforts to create and impression
  + Nonverbal communications - communications with body movements, gestures, facial expressions, etc.
  + tact - minimize embarrassment
* Personal space - the space around which a person claims as their own and does not want others intruding
* Humor - how we ‘play’ with conventional reality
  + ‘getting it’ - adds to the pleasure of humor and laughter
  + functions - relieve tension in uncomfortable situations, safety valve
  + conflict - put others down, conflict provides things to laugh about
  + symbolic - means of mental escape
* Social Group - two or more people who identify with and interact with one another
* Crowd - loosely formed group of people; group - people who hold similar things; category - people who hold a similar status
* Group Types
  + primary - small, close, personal, relationships
  + secondary - large, impersonal, pursue a specific goal or activity
* leadership focuses
  + instrumental - focuses on the completion of tasks
  + expressive - focuses on the group’s well being
* leadership styles
  + authoritarian - take charge, demand strict obedience (my way or the highway)
  + democratic - includes everyone in decision making
  + Laissez-faire - let’s the group do their own thing, just wants them to meet the deadline
* groupthink - the tendency of group members to conform, results in an narrow minded way of thinking
* size of groups
  + dyad - group of two people
  + triad - group of three people
  + dyad is less stable than the traid because:
    - no mediator
    - if one is passive, the other will have their way
* network - a web of weak social ties
* bureaucratic - organizational model rationally designed to perform tasks efficiently
  + ritualism - focus on rules and regulations to the point where it interferes with the original goals
  + innovation -
  + inertia - the tendency of a bureaucratic system to perpetuate itself
* oligarchy - the rule of many by the few
* Titanic - various ways Sociology fits in - about 2 questions per chapter