INTENDED AUDIENCE: Undergraduate as well as postgraduate students of sociology, aspirants of competitive examinations and general public who are interested in the discipline of sociology.

COURSE OUTLINE:
This course introduce students to the formative period of the discipline of sociology the socio-cultural and intellectual factors behind the emergence of the discipline. The course offers a comprehensive analysis of key theorists such as Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim, and Max Weber who are widely considered as the stalwarts in classical sociological theory. It explains how the theoretical concerns of these scholars laid foundation to the subsequent development of sociology as a distinct social science discipline with clear theoretical as well as methodological foundations. The course enables students to develop sociological perspective and theoretical insights through a systematic analysis of the key theorists of the discipline.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR:
Dr. R. Santhosh teaches sociology at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras. He specializes in field of sociology of religion, focusing on Hindu and Islamic religiosity in the late modern contexts in India.

COURSE PLAN:
- **Week 1**: Introduction to the discipline. Uniqueness of sociological perspective
- **Week 2**: Historical context of the emergence of Sociology: European Enlightenment
- **Week 3**: August Comte and Herbert Spencer
- **Week 4**: Karl Marx
- **Week 5**: Karl Marx(continued)
- **Week 6**: Emile Durkheim
- **Week 7**: Emile Durkheim(continued)
- **Week 8**: Max Weber
- **Week 9**: Max Weber(continued)
- **Week 10**: GH Mead
- **Week 11**: Classical theory and methodological orientations in sociology
- **Week 12**: Sociology and modernity: wrapping up and conclusion