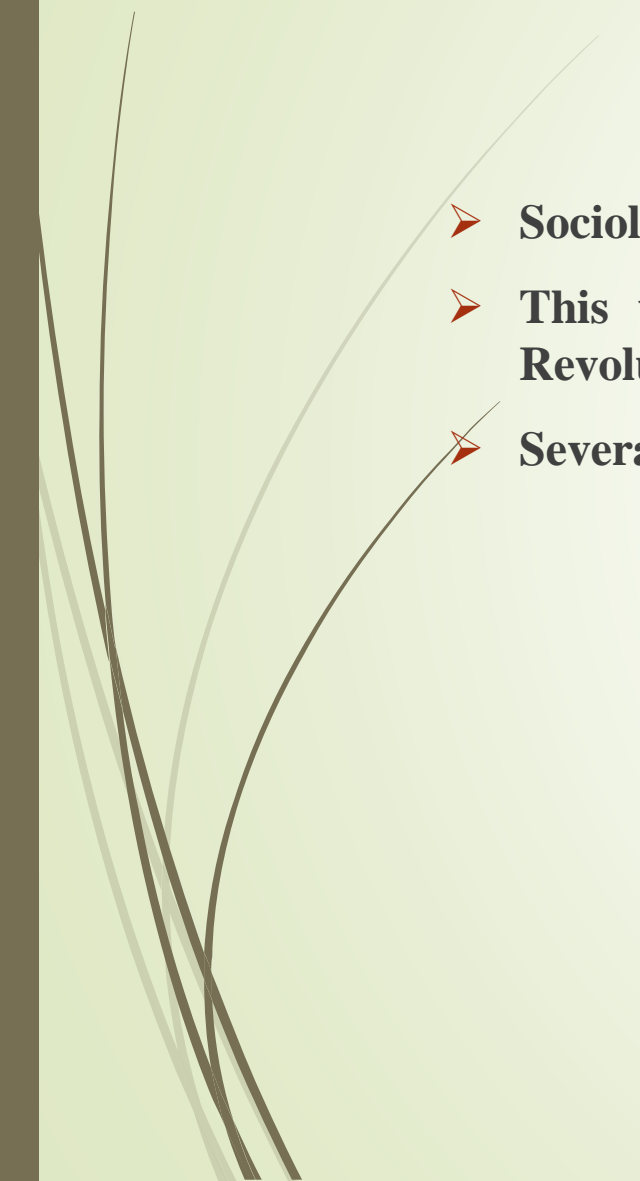




DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIOLOGY



The Development of Sociology

- **Sociology as separate discipline in the nineteenth century**
 - **This was a time of great social upheaval due largely to the French and Industrial Revolutions**
 - **Several early Sociologists shaped the direction of the discipline**
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August Comte (1798 – 1857)



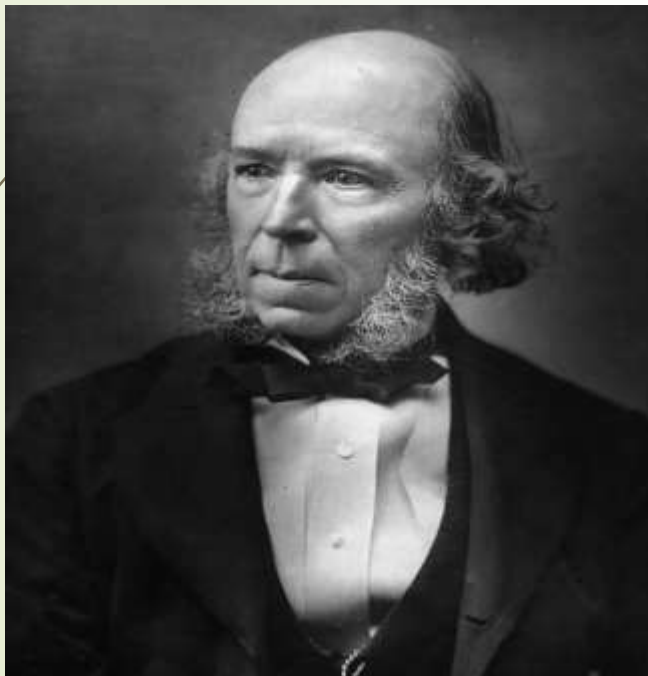
- **Responsible for coining the term “Sociology”**
- **Set out to develop the “ science of man” that would be based on empirical observation**
- **Focused on two aspects of society:**
 - **Social Statics – forces which produce order and stability**
 - **Social Dynamics – forces which contribute to social change**

Harriet Martineau (1802 – 1876)



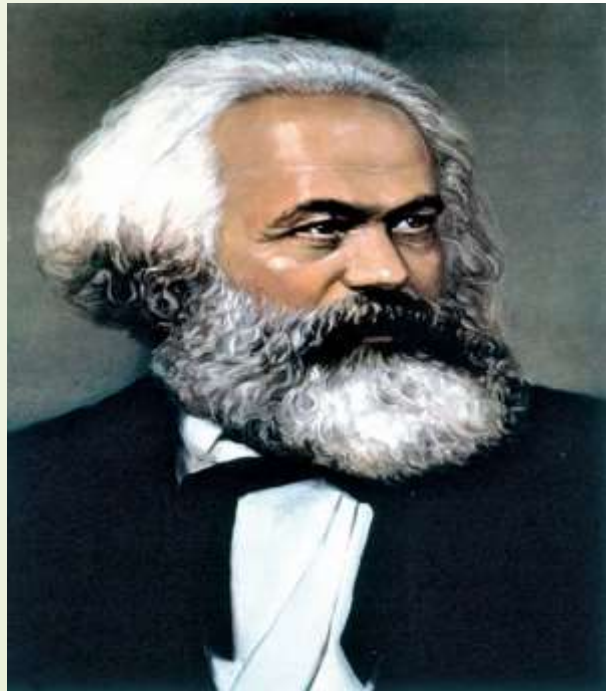
- Authored one of the earliest analyses of culture and life in the United States entitled “Theory and Practice of Society in America”
- Translated Comte’s Positive Philosophy into English

Herbert Spencer (1802 – 1903)



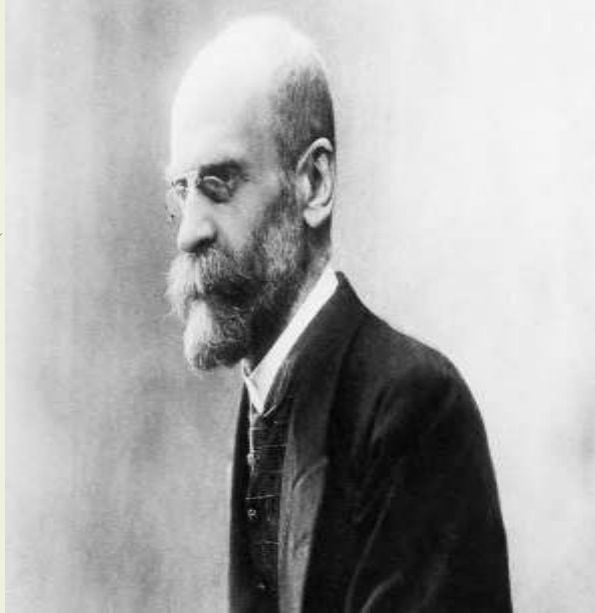
- **Authored the first sociology text, *Principles of Sociology***
- **Most well known for proposing a doctrine called “Social Darwinism”**
- **Suggested that people who could not compete were poorly adapted to the environment and inferior**
- **This is an idea commonly called survival of the fittest**

Karl Marx (1818 – 1883)



- **Marx is the father of conflict theory**
- **Saw human history in a continual state of conflict between two major classes:**
 - **Bourgeoisie-owners of the means of production (capitalists)**
 - **Proletariats-the workers**
- **Predicted that revolution would occur producing first a socialist state, followed by a communist society**

Emile Durkheim (1858 – 1917)



- Durkheim moved sociology fully into the realm of an empirical science
- Most well known empirical study is called *Suicide*, where he looks at the social causes of suicide
- Generally regarded as the founder of functionalist theory


Max Weber (1864 – 1920)



- **Much of Weber's work was a critique or clarification of Marx**
- **His most famous work, *The Protestant Ethic and Spirit of Capitalism* directly challenged Marx's ideas on the role of religion in society**
- **Weber was also interested in bureaucracies and the process of rationalization in society**



The Development of Sociology in the United States

- **American sociology had its beginnings at the University of Chicago in the early 20th century**
 - **The early emphasis was on empirical study of communities and neighborhoods**
 - **Later, East Coast schools such as Columbia and Harvard Universities began sociology departments, producing scholars such as W.E.B. Dubois, Talcott Parsons and Robert Merton**
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Thank You