

Selected Topics in Sociology A – Week #03 Reading Notes

Weber, M. (2000). Bureaucracy. In Stillman, R. (Ed.), *Public Administration: Concepts and Cases*, Seventh edition (pp. 54-63), Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.

- What are the key characteristics of bureaucracy?
- What are technical advantages of bureaucratic organization?
- How do bureaucracies persist?
- What are the social consequences of bureaucracies?

Ritzer, G. (2013). The Weberian Theory of Rationalization and the McDonaldization of Contemporary Society. In Kivisto, P. (Ed.), *Illuminating Social Life: Classical and Contemporary Theory Revisited* (pp. 29-50), London: Sage Publications. How does Rubenstein link Weber's theory of bureaucracy to the Holocaust?

- What does Ritzer's theory of McDonaldization refer to? How does it relate to Weber's theory of rationalization and bureaucracy?
- What are the downsides of McDonaldization? Why can it lead to negative consequences?
- In what aspects of life in Japan can you detect McDonaldization at work?

UniSA Learning Advisers and Librarians (2018) *Harvard Referencing Guide UniSA*. Retrieved from <https://lo.unisa.edu.au/mod/resource/view.php?id=930824>.

- When is it appropriate to reference a text?
- In the Harvard referencing system, how do you reference a book, book chapter, edited volume, journal article, etc.?
- What is the purpose of an in-text reference?