Focus Questions:

What prompted the development of the Frankfurt School?
What are the main ideas of the Frankfurt School?
How does advanced capitalism affect the development of a healthy public sphere?
How does the legitimation crisis develop?
How does Habermas conceptualize the problem of social integration?
What are the main concerns of economic postmodern theorists?
For Fredric Jameson, how does late-multinational capitalism lead to the creation of a fragmented subject?
For David Harvey, how do temporal and spatial displacement lead to a lag between cultural responses and capital overaccumulation?
How do postmodern dispositions emerge?
What are the four stages of the sign?
For Thomas Luckmann and Zygmunt Bauman, how does de-institutionalization affect the construction of meaning and identity?

Key terms:

Frankfurt School
Superstructure
Hegemony
Critical theory
Public sphere
Lifeworld
Communicative action
Postmodernism
Overaccumulation
Schizophrenia of culture
Temporary/spatial displacement
Entropy
Culture of the self
Symbolic tokens
Tribal politics
Imagined communities