Abstract
This article identifies, among Georg Simmel’s various writings, his conception of one of modern social theory’s founding concepts: the tension between individual and society. Simmel insists that the question How is society possible? requires a philosophical, as much as a purely sociological, answer. In this article we argue that Simmel’s objective in founding a science of society cannot be separated from his interpretation of modernity. We shall try to bring out what we see as the clear and specific connection between his two projects.

Keywords
Simmel, Social Theory, Sociology of modernity