

## Sociology 168 Self and Society

TTh 12-1:15p

Yosemite 135

Professor Todd A. Migliaccio

Office: Amador Hall 451D

Hours: TTh 10:30-12, or by appointment

Phone: 278-7573

[tmigliac@csus.edu](mailto:tmigliac@csus.edu)

Website: <http://online.csus.edu/>

### **Course Objectives:**

This course examines the relationship between the individual and society: social interaction, human development, behavior in groups and collectivities, personality and social structure. Theories and empirical studies that look at self and identities will be discussed to show the issues that arise concerning the concept of self, its social construction and the multiple identities that are related to it.

This class is a GE writing intensive course. As a result a prerequisite of the course is a passing score on the WPE. As a writing intensive course, you will complete a significant amount of writing during this summer session (5,000 words minimum), and you will use writing as a way to reflect on course topics as a critical thinker and analyst.

### **Required Text:**

Course Reader, located at University Copy and Print (behind Safeway), 446 Howe Avenue (929-6147).

Edin and Kefalas. 2007. Promises I can Keep (PICK). University of California Press. 0520248198

Blanco. 2003. Please Stop Laughing at Me... (PSLM) Adams Media. 1580628362

Tuaolo. 2007. Alone in the Trenches (AT). Sourcebooks Inc. 1402209231

### **Course Objectives:**

Students will:

1. Recognize and critically examine the development of one's self as an integrated physiological, psychological, and social being resulting from social processes of categorization centered on race, gender, sexual orientation, and social class.
2. Identify the internal and external influences that interact and influence the process of self development and behavior throughout a person's life.
3. Critically examine their own sense of self and identity in relation to topics such as individual behavior, the social and natural environment, human sexuality, nutrition, health, stress, family, aging and death.

## **Policies:**

The due dates for each of the papers are stated in the syllabus. No late papers will be accepted. The paper guidelines are on the web, as well as in a handout given at the beginning of class. As well, a brief statement in class about what is expected will be given. The due dates for each assignment are listed in the course calendar at the end of the syllabus. While I will attempt to offer reminders to impending due dates, it is ultimately your responsibility to insure that all papers are ready to be turned in by the expected due date.

Throughout the course, each student will be allotted four extensions for the papers/assignments. Each extension is worth one class day (ex. If the paper is due on Tuesday, and you turn it in on Thursday, that is one extension. Turning it in on Wednesday is still an extension). You do not need permission from the professor. You may use these extensions whenever you want, subject to the rules given below:

- 1) You get four extensions. Don't ask me for more- you will not get them. Hence, you should use extensions wisely when you really need them, such as sickness or an athletic event.*
- 2) You may use a maximum of two extensions on any one paper; by using two on one paper, you can turn the paper in two classes late (one week late).*
- 3) You can use only one on any assignment given in the class (except discussion postings on line), meaning the assignment can be turned in one class period later. Any assignment turned in later, or if you have used all of your extensions, will not be accepted.*
- 4) You CANNOT use extensions on any quizzes or postings.*
- 5) Any paper that is submitted later than two classes after it is due (regardless of your extension situation), or is turned in late after you have used all of your extensions will be penalized two full grades.*
- 6) Any assignments submitted after one class period (regardless of extension situation), or after you have used all of your extensions, the assignment will not be accepted.*

All papers must be typed and stapled and not placed in any covers, folders or any other such contraption. A title page is expected, which will contain the following information: Title of the paper, your name, and the name of the class (Sociology 168 for those of you not paying attention). Thank you.

Use of WebCT: While there are times when the site will be down, this is not an excuse for a missed assignment or late paper. The material will be up with sufficient time to copy it before it comes due. Ultimately it is your responsibility to either obtain it, or let me know of any problems you are having with it. Most problems are related to the computer department, so contact the help desk. If they are unable/unwilling to help you let me know, and I will attempt to correct any problems, but on occasion they are not my fault (I know, that is hard to imagine, but it is true).

If you are a student who has a disability that may necessitate accommodations being made in the classroom, please contact SSD, (916) 278-6955.

Turn off all pagers and cell phones before entering class. I accept the right to answer any that ring (and make up any wild stories about you to the person who has called).

Finally, cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. If you are caught engaging in either of these activities, you will receive an F.

All assignments will be discussed in class.

### **Online Component:**

The class is located on the WebCT campus server. Accessing this site requires a login and password, which are the following: Login: your saclink id; Password: Your saclink password (if you do not have one, you can obtain one online). You will be able to access the outlines for the course, any overheads used in class, any material that was handed out, a glossary of terms (if there is one not listed that you can not locate elsewhere, please let me know so I can include it), all of the assignments, as well as the posting questions and syllabus. You will also be able to locate your grade on-line if you desire.

POSTINGS: Several Friday afternoons I may be putting up posting questions/assignments on-line. I will attempt to let you know about it in class. As for the postings, they will be questions that you will be required to answer that engage the ideas in the class, the readings and possibly current events. As well, you will be required to respond to at least two other student's comments, preferably on a different day than you originally posted. This is to help in the comprehension of the material, ideas and readings from the class, as well as to generate topics of discussion within the classroom.

### **Assignments:**

**Papers:** You are required to write three papers throughout the class, which will total 5000 words. Handouts will be given to explicitly state what will be required for each assignment. You will be expected to utilize both the readings online and the books within your papers, as well as to offer accurate citations of the resources. The first paper will be worth 20% of your grade. The second paper and third paper will each be worth 25% of your total grade. All three papers will be worth 70% of your total grade.

**Class Discussion Co-Leader:** You will be required, along with a partner to create a class discussion during the day, using ideas from the class readings to organize the discussion. The focus will be on a contemporary issue in society and how self is perceived/presented from two different perspectives in relation to the issue. This will be about looking at a contemporary issue from a different standpoint (from the self presentations of the people involved). Avoid including a position (i.e. opinion) about the topic, as much as you can. The full discussion should last at least 20-30 minutes (including presentation and discussion). You can use materials from the media, popular culture, current events to help begin the discussion. You will set up the discussion first, i.e. explain the basic idea and relevance to the class. You will need to make sure you give a balanced discussion about both sides (this is not about taking a position, but instead generating discussion on a contemporary issue around self presentation). Then you will need to offer questions, discussions, or even group work to help the other students in the class to respond to the topic. If students do not respond, as a leader, you need to be able to help the class in the discussion. You also need to make sure that you use theories, concepts, ideas from the class and/or readings in your presentation. Use them to help you create the discussion, and not as simple references. You will get a chance to pick the date you lead the class discussion. If you have another issue you want to do that is not listed, let me know. The assignment will be worth 15% of your total grade.

**Group and Class Assignments:** Throughout the semester a series of short assignments will be given that incorporate the concepts of the class into your own lives. They can range from group work, short quizzes (on the readings), video assignments, online discussion posting, or short reflection pieces. They will be both given out during class and on the web, so you will need to periodically check the web for new assignments or postings. Assignments will be due the class following when the assignment was given, as we will discuss them then. No make-ups for these are possible, unless you choose to use one of your extensions, and that is only available to be used on assignments. They are graded on a 0-2 scale. Assignments will be worth 15% of your total grade.

#### **\* Grading Scale**

|    |        |   |       |    |       |   |      |
|----|--------|---|-------|----|-------|---|------|
| A+ | 98-100 | A | 92-97 | A- | 90-91 |   |      |
| B+ | 88-89  | B | 82-86 | B- | 80-81 |   |      |
| C+ | 78-79  | C | 72-76 | C- | 70-71 |   |      |
| D+ | 68-69  | D | 62-66 | D- | 60-61 | F | 0-59 |

A grade of Incomplete (I) will not be given, except under the most extreme circumstances and in accordance with university policy.

## **Calendar:**

### TOPIC:

September 1 & 3: Introduction to the class.  
Soc Psych/Symbolic Interaction  
What is the Self?

September 8 & 10: Self Theory: Cooley, Mead

September 15 - 22: Performance of Self

September 24 – October 1: Sexuality Identity

October 6-13: Identity

**October 6: Paper 1 Due**

October 15 & 20: Self Evaluations

October 22-29: Gender Identity

November 3 & 5: Technology and Social Change

**November 5: Paper 2 Due**

November 10-12: Deviance, Labeling and Power

November 17-24: Bullying Identity

**November 26: THANKSGIVING!!! ENJOY!!!**

December 1 & 3: Social Forces

December 8 & 10: Race Identity

**December 15 (Tuesday), 12:45-2:45: Paper 3 Due**

### READING DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS:

Mead (I and Me); Cooley (Looking Glass Self)  
Tuaolo (AT): Chapt 1-6

Tuaolo (AT): Chapt 7-12  
Grazian (Girl Hunt)

Tuaolo (AT): Chapt 13-19  
O'Brien (sexuality)

Edin & Kefalas (PICK): Chapt 1 & 2  
Garot (gang identity)

Edin & Kefalas (PICK): Chapt 3 & 4  
Allen, et al. (class)

Edin & Kefalas (PICK): Chapt 5, 6 & conc.  
Henslin (socialization of men)  
Gillespie (women's identity)

Van doorn, et al. (gender online)

Blanco (PSLM): Chapters 1-5  
Watzlawick (self fulfilling prophecy)

Blanco (PSLM): Chapters 6-9  
Lutgen-sandvik (workplace bullying)

Blanco (PSLM): Chapters 10-14  
Butterworth (baseball)

Du Bois (race); McIntosh (race)