

Sociology 150

Social Psychology

Section 1, MW 1:30-2:45p
AIRC 3009

Professor Todd A. Migliaccio

Office: Amador Hall 451D

Hours: T/TR 12-1:30p or by appointment

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Course Objectives:

This course examines the relationship between individuals and the groups of which they belong. We will look closely at our social behavior in everyday life in order to uncover some of the taken for granted assumptions and knowledge we share (or don't share) with other members of the larger US culture, as well as different subcultures. Some questions we will address in this course include: How do individuals present themselves to other people? How do gender, race, social class, and sexuality play a role in who we are as individuals and as group members? How do individuals become competent group members? How do individuals form and shape groups, and in turn, how do groups influence individuals? In order to answer these questions, we will not only read about and discuss these issues but we will also make observations about social behavior in everyday life and reflect on our own participation in social interaction.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to:

1. Explain the Structure vs Agency debate
2. Describe different perspectives in Social Psychology and how they explain key issues in the field
3. Identify each of the major theories and their major tenets, then apply the theories
4. Identify the different components of both social interactions and self in a social context and explain their existence in the social world around them
5. Explain how social groups and social positions influence our identities and interactions
6. Use their sociological imagination for the connection between course concepts, ideas and theories

Required Text:

O'Brien, Jodi. 2016. The Production of Reality, 6th ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge.

Online Readings: Located on Sacct.

Policies:

The due dates for each of the papers are stated in the syllabus. DO NOT rely on sacct due dates. While they are often correct, just check the syllabus to make sure. 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.

You need to regularly check sacct email (the email account on sacct) for information sent to you by your group members and the professor. It is assumed you are reading those regularly so any information missed is your responsibility. This does not mean all information is disseminated through email.

Throughout the course, each student will be allotted three extensions for the papers/assignments. This means you are turning a paper/assignment in late, but as long as you are using extensions, it will not lose points. One extension allows you to turn it in the following class day. A second extension means it will be two class days late. 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 three 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 class periods late.*
- 3) Any paper that is submitted later than the next class 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. If it is submitted over two weeks late, further penalties may occur.*
- 4) You cannot use an extension on any exams, quizzes or group-based work.*
- 5) You are responsible to keep track of your own extensions.*

All papers must be typed and submitted online (if you cannot submit online. Required information on the front of each paper: Title of the paper, your name, and the name of the class (Sociology 150 for those of you not paying attention).

NO MAKE UP EXAMS. (This is why the dropped exam policy exists.)

Use of SacCT: The class is located on the SacCT campus server. Accessing this site requires a login and password, which are the following: Login: your saclink id; Password: same as your saclink account password. 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 submission links for all assignments and syllabus. You will also be able to locate your assignment grades online if you desire (the full grade will not be determined until just before finals week).

While there are times when the SacCT 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).

CSUS complies with the regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and offers accommodations to students with disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability that may necessitate accommodations being made in the classroom, please contact SSD, (916) 278-6955. If you have any questions, feel free to ask me. All information will be held in the strictest confidence.

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. The policy can be accessed here: <http://www.csus.edu/umannual/student/stu-0100.htm>. If you are caught engaging in such activities, you will receive an F, and will be reported to the campus Judicial Affairs Officer.

Writing Center:

For free, one-on-one help with reading or writing in any class, visit the University Reading and Writing Center (URWC) in Calaveras 128. The URWC can help you at any stage in your reading and writing processes: coming up with a topic, developing and organizing a draft, understanding difficult texts, or developing strategies to become a better editor. Students can sign up for up to an hour a week with a tutor by visiting the URWC in CLV 128—visit the URWC during week two of the semester to sign up for regular weekly tutoring. Students may drop in at any time, but the best time to drop is during our “drop-in only” hours M-R 2:00-4:00. We also offer tutoring for one unit of academic credit through ENGL121. For URWC hours and more information, visit the website at www.csus.edu/writingcenter.

Course Structure

This class relies on a collaborative learning experience in which students are active rather than passive learners, engaging with one another in applied group activities. Team will work together not only for the discussion, but also for readiness check quizzes (i.e., short quizzes on readings before lecture) and application activities. In order to be the effective member of your team, your individual preparation (i.e., understanding the basics based on online lecture and reading textbook) is critical. Every member of the group will be required to respond to questions, taking turns. Also, each group member will have to assume a leadership role, and thus report out to the larger class at least one time during the semester. Every student is required to speak during the group activities. The team leader makes sure every person has shared before the conversation move forward. Your contribution to the teamwork is important in making your learning experience most worthwhile and successful in this class. You will be graded by your group members on your contribution to the group.

The general course process:

Course Readings and Video Preparation	Outside of Class
Individual Quiz	Inside of Class
Group Quiz	Inside of Class: Group
Discussion	Inside of Class: Class: Key concepts
End of Class	
Video Preparation	Outside of Class
Short Assignment (not always)	Outside of Class
Short Lecture (integrated with group activity)	Inside of Class
Group Application Activity(integrated)	Inside of Class: Group
End of Class (the group activity/lecture will occur over several classes)	
New Class: Exam	Inside of Class

Submitting your Assignments online:

When you log onto SacCT and connect into the course page. On the Course Menu on the left side of the course page, click on the “Assignment Submission Links” There will be a list of folders for different groupings of class assignments. Choose the folder that represents the class assignment (for example, if you are turning in paper 2, go to the paper assignment folder, then locate paper analysis 2 submission in the list). You can attach the paper here (need to be a word document: .doc, .docx, .rtf, or at least a PDF), as well as other materials needing links (depending on the assignment). If you do not submit using one of these, it will be returned and considered late. If I am unable to open the word document, I will let you know and you will have to resubmit it correctly immediately (ultimately, it is up to you to get that taken care of). **REGULARLY CHECK EMAILS.** If I am unable to open an attachment, I will ask for you to resubmit it in a new format. You are responsible for doing so, or the submission will be considered late. Many of the class assignments you can type in the given box, as opposed to attaching documents, so do this when possible. You **MUST** attach a document for the analysis papers. **DO NOT** submit those in a text box.

NOTE: Any attachments must NOT include any symbols (e.g. \$#&*, etc) in the title for the document.

NOTE: You can resubmit a paper/assignment if you make a mistake, but the new date will be considered the date submitted. Once the paper/assignment has been graded, you cannot change it.

To review comments on papers submitted back to you:

Most comments will appear in the text box of your sacct assignment. If there is an attached document, open up the document that was submitted back to you online (it is usually listed under your last name). Go to "review" tab. Click on "track changes." If it does not show up, then sure the option for the viewing is identified as "Final showing markup" and not just "Final" (it is just above "Show markup") Or you should be able to just click on "Show markup," and make sure "Comments" is clicked to *show*.

Exams:

Four exams will be given throughout the semester, but only three will be recorded, allowing students to drop one during the course of the semester. Each exam will consist of several short answer questions and a number of multiple-choice questions. Questions for the exams will derive from the class discussions, lectures, videos, readings and on-line discussion postings. The final will not be a comprehensive final. You will need to bring scantrons and a bluebook for all of the exams. The exams will be worth 15% each, for a total of 45% of their total grade. All exams are online.

Assignments:

Preparation Material Quizzes: You will have 10 minutes to complete each quiz independently. You will be allowed to miss one quiz during the semester without it hurting your grade. You need to bring a short scantron as there will be no more than 10 questions per quiz (each question is worth 2 points). It is an open-book quiz, so the time frame is limited to support those who prepared in advance for the quiz. After you submit it, you retake the same quiz with your group for 1 point per question. This will be answered with the IF-AT form that will be given to your group. For every missed response (for every answer scratched off that is incorrect), it will reduce your group score for that question by $\frac{1}{4}$. If you do not answer at all, you receive a zero for the grade. Your final score will be based on a combination of your individual score and group score. This will be worth 10% of your total grade in the class.

You also have the opportunity to receive extra credit points (0-2 points) during any quiz. To receive the credit, for any question that you found excessively confusing or unclear, you can propose an alternative wording to the question. It needs to be extensive enough to warrant it (not a minor edit). You will need to offer an explanation as to why you are making the suggested change. If there are no questions you find confusing or unclear, you are welcome to write a new question, but you must use the readings and cite, using ASA citation, correctly from where you obtained the information.

Group Work Evaluation: Your group members will evaluate each of you on the last day of the section of the class before the exam is opened (four times throughout the semester). The average score for all four will be used for your final grade. These will be submitted online. They will be shown to you so you are aware of your group score during the semester. Not submitting one for your group members will cost you 1% of your grade. If you do not submit any, it will be a loss of 5% off your grade for this assignment. It will be worth 10% of your total grade.

Group Application Activities: In class, you will be required to work on and produce group application activities surrounding the issues/topics of the class, using the course material You will all receive the same grades, but you need to be present in class when the activity is developed to receive the credit. Assignments will be worth 15% of your total grade.

Video Questions and Short Assignments: You are required to submit video questions prior to the first class of a new topics area of the class to help prepare you for class ideas and discussion, as well as the quiz (there are not questions for every topic area, as there are not videos in every topic area). Submit all of the video questions for that topic area all at once online and then bring a copy of your responses to be used as notes for the quiz. You also will be asked to complete short assignments to help set up and prepare for discussion in your group application activities. You will submit them online before you attend class. They will be worth 5% of your total grade.

Written Assignments: Each of the papers is a short, 2 page paper, requiring you to write a cohesive, organized (use an argumentative thesis when necessary) paper, citing 2-3 references from class (using ASA citation). Each paper will show your engagement and understanding of the key issues within the class. One of the papers requires outside activity to gather information for your paper. All three will papers will draw on group work and short assignments you conduct

in class, so be engaged and involved with your group, which will help with the papers. As a whole, the papers will be worth 15% of your total grade.

Structure vs. Agency: Take a position on the Structure vs Agency debate, applying one of the major theories in the class to present your position. You will need to cite at least 2 references to support your ideas and include the articles in an attached bibliography.

Social Interaction Analysis: You are required to observe, record and analyze a short, ritualized public interaction on campus. You will identify all aspects of the interaction, including the rituals involved, what each means, the symbols used and their utility in the interaction, the identity of each player, and how you came about knowing their role, i.e. what symbols were used to display their roles. What was the definition of the situation? How was that conveyed? How was power conveyed? What were the rules of engagement? Were their subversive aspects of the interaction from either side? Note if the ritual was changed in anyway. What were the reactions to these changes? Then, you will draw on a course theory to explain what occurred. This can be submitted as a report, but will need full paragraphs to explain ideas, not bullet points. Make sure that is clear, organized and has an organizing thesis to structure the report around. You will need to cite 3 references to support your ideas, and include them in a bibliography. You will submit both your interaction description (the explanation of what is required of this is located in sacct in several locations) and the final paper.

Stigma and Privilege Reflection: You will consider the existence of at least one privilege and one stigma in your life and discuss how it has influenced your own self/identity development. You need to cite at least 3 articles from class to support your ideas and include them in a bibliography. To help focus you, choose one interaction during which you had to engage in impression management, making both identities (the privileged one and the stigmatized one) part of the interaction (this is not always a choice of your own, as others may make an identity relevant in an interaction). Develop a concise and clear thesis that has you assume a position to organize your paper around.

Grading Scale*

A	=	92-100
A-	=	90-91
B+	=	88-89
B	=	82-87
C+	=	78-79
B-	=	80-81
C	=	72-77
C-	=	70-71
D+	=	68-69
D	=	62-67
D-	=	60-61
F	=	59 or below

Grade Breakdown

3 Exams * 15%=	45%
Quizzes =	10%
Group Evals=	10%
Application Activities=	15%
Short Assignments=	5%
<u>Papers=</u>	<u>15%</u>
Total =	100%

* This scale may be lowered but will not be raised

Calendar:

TOPIC:

Section 1: What is Social Psychology?

August 28 & 30: Introduction to the class; What is Reality?
Sociological Imagination

September 6- 18: Theory

No Class: September 4: Labor Day

September 20- 27: Symbol, Language and Meaning

September 27: Group Member 1 Review Due

Section 2: Self and Identity

October 2- 11: Self

October 4: Structure vs Agency Paper due

October 16- 25: Self & Identity

October 25: Group Member 2 Review Due

Section 3: Social Interactions

October 30 - November 6: Social Interactions and Performance

November 8: Social Interaction Project Observation Due

November 8-15: Breaching and Emotions

15: Social Interaction Analysis Paper Due

November 15: Group Member 3 Review Due

November 23 & 24: Thanksgiving Break: ENJOY

Section 4: Social Forces

November 20 - 27: Stigma, Inequality and Privilege

November 29- December 6: Socialization, Social Relationships
and Groups

December 4: Stigma/Privilege Reflection Due

December 6: Group Member 4 Review

??, December ??, ??: Exam 4 Due

VIDEOS/READINGS DUE ON FIRST DAY:

O'Brien (Essay: pg 2-10); Langer (Ch 9)

ONLINE: Videos

ONLINE: Cherry; General Social Exchange
Theory; Posard, et al; Foschi; McClelland;
Bottomore & Nisbet; Multiple Videos

Lakoff & Johnson (Ch 10); Babbie (Ch 3)

ONLINE: Sensales, et al.

Mead (Ch 12); Cooley (Ch 19); Scheff (20)

ONLINE: Videos

O'Brien (Ch 25)

ONLINE: Stryker & Burke; Kornienko, et al;
Video

Becker (Ch 17); Turner & Edgley (Ch 29);

Goffman (Ch 27); Video

Garfinkel (Ch 37); Hochschild (33);

ONLINE: Deshotels & Forsyth; Carr; Videos

Du Bois (24); Watzlawick (38);

Perry (15); Hughes (5)

ONLINE: Stigma- Goffman; Video

Davis (Ch 8); Bergman & Luckman (Ch 13);

Shibutani (Ch 14)