

Sociology 150
Social Psychology

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UC Berkeley
Spring 2022
5:00pm-6:00pm M, W, F

This course introduces the major approaches, issues, and debates within social psychology. It begins by exploring the foundational concepts in the field, emphasizing the nature of self in society. We use major paradigms--symbolic interactionism, phenomenology, ethnomethodology, critical-structural, attachment theory, and emotion management-- to study identity, meaning making, cognition, emotion, interaction, behavior, and the social construction of reality. We also explore themes in a number of substantive areas, including automaticity and implicit bias, health and illness, humor and laughter, anger, shame attraction and flirting, medication use, care giving, social media/trolling, obedience and conformity, power and status differentiation, stigma, empathy, collective effervescence, solidarity and division, religion, and conspiracy culture. We also apply core concepts to various social inequalities.

A central goal is understanding the connection between individuals and society, especially how people influence each other through situated processes. How do people construct “reality” in social interactions? How do situations shape behavior, interactions, cognition, feelings, and sense of self? How do individuals create situations? How do culture, institutions, and structures affect these processes?

Students should come away from this course with four core competencies: 1) the ability to read social psychology articles; 2) the ability to think critically about social psychological theories and methods; 3) a general understanding of key findings and concepts in the major substantive areas; and 4) ability to apply—and enjoy— social psychology in everyday life. The first three competencies mainly require *explicit* knowledge gained through lectures and readings while the fourth requires the *tacit* knowledge gained through hands-on field studies.

Coursework and Grading

Participation.....	10%
Field Studies.....	45%
Midterm Exam.....	15%
Integrative Concepts Journal.....	10%
Final Exam.....	20%

Attendance & Participation: The first part of this course is taking place online. Class meetings will consist of lecture and discussion via Zoom during class meeting times. Attendance is not mandatory; lectures will be recorded and posted on bCourses after class when possible. Lecture slides will be posted before class when possible. For students who attend class: I invite you to ask questions that are relevant to the whole class, but please do not ask personal questions during class. If you have a personal question or need extra help with the material or assignment, please email me.

Participation grades will be based on your contribution to the written discussions on bCourses. This will begin the first week of class and end the last week of class. A total of 10 relevant posts of at least 50 words each are required for full credit. No more than 2 posts per week will be counted. Detailed instructions are available at bCourses/discussions.

Attention: online classes will be recorded, so people who attend lecture may be recorded and might appear on the recording posted at bCourses/files.

Field Studies: There will be five different field study assignments. Each will require a write-up of 2-3 pages. They are due by 11:59pm on the dates indicated on the schedule below (due dates are also on bCourses/assignments). Detailed instructions for each field study will be available on bCourses/assignments at the appropriate time.

Integrative Concepts Journal: Students will keep a journal in which they integrate how course concepts apply to their personal experiences. A one-page entry of at least 200 words will be due four times in the semester. Details will become available at the appropriate time at bCourses/assignments/journal.

Late policy: The due date is the last possible time that you may submit an assignment without penalty, so you should turn it in before then. You may turn assignments in past the deadline (up to a point), but they will be subject to a late penalty: 10% of the assignment's total possible points will be deducted every 24 hours it is past the due date, with a maximum penalty equivalent to three letter grades (e.g. an A becomes a D). If you don't submit an assignment within a week after the deadline, it may not be accepted. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to ask if an assignment that is more than a week late can still be turned in.

Nothing short of an emergency (verified with adequate documentation) or DSP accommodations (verified with official DSP letter), will exempt anyone from this policy, so please submit your assignment well before the due date/time to avoid potential problems. *Thinking about asking for an extension on any of the assignments?* Although you may have a legitimate reason for making such a request, not all of your classmates—perhaps even some with more difficult situations—necessarily feel entitled or comfortable to ask. The same goes for exams. If circumstances beyond your control might keep you from passing the class, please let me know.

If you cannot submit your assignment for any reason on bCourses, you must email it to the instructor before the deadline to avoid the late penalty. Note that technical problems with internet, bCourses, etc., do not constitute grounds for exception to this policy. Last minute problems occurring the day before something is due are not appropriate grounds for exception

from the policy, because you have the option of turning it in before then. Assignments will not be graded until they appear on bCourses.

Midterm and Final Exams: This course has a midterm and a final exam, both through Canvas Quiz on bCourses. The midterm will begin at 5:10pm on March 11. The University has set the date/time of the final exam: May 13 at 3:00pm. At the minimum, you should know the main concepts and theories presented in our lectures. We will have a review session for each exam. The final exam will emphasize the second half. Anyone who misses an exam for any reason may not be able to make it up. A make-up exam, if available, may be different--and possibly more difficult--than the original exam.¹

Reading: Course readings will be available on bCourses/files. Always read analytically and take notes as you go.

Guidelines and Resources

Formatting guidelines:

header with your name, due date, and assignment (single space the header) on the first page only
creative title, in bold and centered at the top of the first page between your header and the start of your report (no title page);
1" margins;
indented paragraphs (no extra spaces between paragraphs);
doubled-spacing;
12-point Times New Roman font;
page number (bottom, centered)

Disability Accommodations: If you need disability-related accommodations in this class, be sure that the DSP has sent the instructor your letter. If your accommodations include extensions on assignments and you wish to make use of your accommodation for a particular assignment, you need to email the instructor at least 12 hours before the deadline for that assignment. Since some of our assignments are due on Sunday you will automatically receive a 24 hour extension at the minimum (you still need to email me if 24 hours is all you want). When I come back to work, I will reply to your request. Extensions of more than three days may require support from your DSP advisor.

Once your DSP deadline is determined, it will be subject to the course policy for submitting assignments: no additional extensions will be allowed and if you submit your assignment after your DSP deadline it will be subject to the course policy for late assignments.

When you turn in your paper, indicate your DSP deadline in the comments section (e.g. DSP deadline: 4/20). Extensions on exams will be provided per each student's accommodations as stated in their DSP letter. Note that accommodations are not granted retroactively. Non-DSP

¹ Anyone requesting to take an exam at a different time must provide acceptable documentation of the circumstances that necessitate such an exception to course policy. No exams will be given *before* the set time.

students who need academic accommodations should contact the Disability Students Program, 260 Cesar Chavez Center.

Student Learning Center (SLC): The SLC provides peer writing tutors. You are encouraged to make use of their services. You do not need an appointment. Find them in the Chavez Center (<http://slc.berkeley.edu>).

NOTE: Plagiarism, broadly put, is the presentation of another's words and/or ideas as one's own. It is grounds not only for automatic failure, but also for administrative disciplinary action. This also applies for other forms of academic dishonesty (a.k.a. cheating). Please see the Berkeley Campus Code of Student Conduct, Section III B, Academic Violations, and Section IV, Disciplinary Procedures. We use TurnItIn to screen for plagiarism.

Wellness Resources: In the event that you need mental health support, or are concerned about a friend, UC Berkeley offers many services, such as free short-term counseling at University Health Services. An excellent campus website having links to many resources is: <http://recalibrate.berkeley.edu/> Another campus website addressing mental health services in specific reference to this time of the coronavirus pandemic: <https://uhs.berkeley.edu/coronavirus/student-mental-health>

Remember that seeking help is a good and courageous thing to do — both for yourself and for those who care about you. Berkeley offers several types of counseling services. You can call to talk to someone for help or to make an appointment: 642-9494. There is also on-campus drop-in counseling that does not require an appointment: <https://uhs.berkeley.edu/counseling/lets-talk>. You can also drop in at the Tang center if you need immediate and urgent support (first 5 sessions are free). Those hours are Monday-Friday 10am-5pm.

Office Hours and Email: My email address is j_kaiser@berkeley.edu. Please allow at least 24 hours for a reply. I usually do not check email on the weekends and holidays. Please do not use bCourses to communicate with me. Just email me directly.

Our course has three Readers who will grade assignments: Diego Aristizabel daristi@berkeley.edu, Anna Miller annacmiller@berkeley.edu, and Mike Adamick adamick@berkeley.edu. If you have a question about your grade on an assignment, please email the Reader who graded it.

Office hours are an important part of college learning, and I encourage you to make use of them. My office hours are Fridays 2pm-4pm. Sign up [here](#). Please email if you would like to meet but cannot make that time. [Here](#) is the link for Zoom office hours.

Note: this syllabus may change at the discretion of the instructor. Always refer to the syllabus on bCourses for current course information.

Course Schedule

WEEK ONE **January 19 and 21**

Introduction to the Course and Symbolic Interactionism (SI)

- Sandstrom, et al. *Symbols, Selves, and Social Reality*. Ch. 1.
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WEEK TWO **January 24, 26, and 28**

Symbolic Interaction (SI) and Impression Management (IM)

- Mead. "The Self, the I, and the Me."
- O'Brien. "Meaning Is Negotiated through Interaction."
- Goffman. "Presentation of Self in Everyday Life. (optional)"
- Albas and Albas. "Aces and Bombers."
- Ekman. "Smiles when Lying." (optional)

Field Study 1 due Sunday, January 30

WEEK THREE **January 31, February 2, and 4**

Identity Work and Stigma

- Snow and Anderson. "Identity Work among the Homeless."
 - Vinitzky-Seroussi and Zussman. "High School Reunions." (optional)
 - Goffman. *Stigma*, Ch. 1.
 - Thoits. "Resisting the Stigma of Mental Illness."
 - Rosenhan. "Being Sane in Insane Places." (optional).
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WEEK FOUR **February 7, 9, and 11**

Stigma and Phenomenology

- Granberg. "Stigma Exits after Weight Loss."
- Phillips et al. "Courtesy Stigma in Medical Care of Sex Workers." (optional)
- Maravasti. "Being Middle Eastern: Identity Negotiation in the Context of the 'War on Terror'."
- Du Bois. "Double Consciousness and the Veil."

- Schutz. "The Stranger."
- Pollner. "Mundane Reason." (optional)

Field Study 2 due Sunday, February 13

WEEK FIVE
February 14, 16, and 18

Phenomenology and Automaticity

- Becker. "Becoming a Marihuana User."
- Bargh, Chen, and Burrows. "Automaticity of Social Behavior."
- Rivers, et al. "On the Roles of Stereotype Activation and Application in Diminishing Implicit Bias." (optional)
- Wilson. "The Adaptive Unconscious."
- Bonilla-Silva. "The Central Frames of Color-Blind Racism."

WEEK SIX
No class February 21 (holiday)
February 23 and 25

Ethnomethodology and Obedience

- Garfinkle. "A Conception of and Experiments with Trust as a Condition of Concerted Stable Actions."
- Tannen. "The Pragmatics of Cross-Cultural Communication."
- McLeod. "The Milgram Shock Experiment."
<https://www.simplypsychology.org/milgram.html>
- Burger. "Replicating Milgram: Would People still Obey Today?"
- Dolinsky et al. "Would You Deliver an Electric Shock?" (optional)

First journal entry due Sunday, February 20

WEEK SEVEN
February 28, March 2 and 4

Conformity and Power

- Asch. "Effect of Group Pressure upon the Modification and Distortion of Judgments."
- Hornsey, et al. "Donald Trump and Vaccination."
- Bearman. "Just-so Stories: Vaccines, Autism, and the Single-bullet Disorder." (optional)
- Moon. *God, Sex, and Politics*. "Introduction."
- O'Brian. "Wrestling the Angel of Contradiction: Queer Christian Identities." (optional)

Field Study 3 due Sunday, March 6

WEEK EIGHT
March 7, 9, and 11

Status, Review & Midterm

- Fisk. "Comparing Ourselves to Others."

Midterm Friday

WEEK NINE
March 14, 16, and 18

Emotion Management Theory (EMT)

- Hochschild. "Emotion Work."
- Cahill and Eggleston. "Managing Emotions in Public."
- Jooyoung Lee. "Escaping Embarrassment."
- Smith and Kleinman. "Managing Emotions in Medical School."

Second journal entry due Sunday, March 20

WEEK TEN
March 21, 23, and 25

Spring break

WEEK ELEVEN
March 28, 30, and April 1

Doing and Being Done by Emotion

- Francis. "Humor as Emotion Management."
- Billig. "Humor and Embarrassment." (optional)
- Katz. "Families and Funny Mirrors."
- Katz. "Pissed off in L.A." (optional)
- Tavory. "The Structure of Flirtation."
- Goodboy and Brann. "Flirtation Rejection Strategies." (optional)

Field Study 4 due Sunday, April 3

WEEK TWELVE

April 4, 6, and 8

Signal Theory of Emotion and Attachment Theory

- Scheff. "Shame in Self and Society."
- Gaskins. "The Puzzle of Attachment: Unscrambling Maturational and Cultural Contributions to the Development of Early Childhood Bonds."
- Samaran. "The Opposite of Rape Culture is Nurturance Culture."

Third journal entry due Sunday, April 10

WEEK THIRTEEN
April 11, 13, and 15

Dis/Empathy, and Altruism

- Darley and Batson. "From Jerusalem to Jericho."
 - Bruneau et al. "Parochial Empathy Predicts Reduced Altruism and Endorsement of Passive Harm."
 - Quinn. "Masculinity and Sexual Harassment."
 - Wang and Tod. "Evaluations of Empathizers Depend on the Target of Empathy." (optional)
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WEEK FOURTEEN
April 18, 20, and 22

Ability/disability

- Berry. "Minimizing Confusion and Disorientation."
- Timmermans. "Social Death as Self-fulfilling Prophecy."
- Mingus, Mia. 2017. "Access Intimacy, Interdependence, and Disability Justice"
<https://bit.ly/34e6CDN>
- Heasman and Gillespie. "Neurodivergent Intersubjectivity."

Field study 5 due Sunday, April 24

WEEK FIFTEEN
April 25, 27, and 29

Collective Effervescence and Review

- Forbes. "Seeking Sanity."
- Draper. Effervescence and Solidarity in Religious Organizations."
- Boyns and Luery. "Negative Emotional Energy."
- Ehrenreich. "An Epidemic of Melancholy." (optional)

Fourth journal entry due Sunday, May 1

Final Exam Friday, May 13 at 3:00pm