

The University of Manitoba
Department of Sociology
THEORIES OF SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
077.336 L01, Slot 8, 3 credit hours

January 2005

Instructor: Prof. Albas
Office: 246 St. Paul's College
Telephone: 204-474-8274
Lectures: 258 St. Paul's College
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:30 - 2:20
Office Hours: by appointment

Course Objectives: This course will provide a review of the predominant theoretical perspectives currently utilized in social psychology in relation to contemporary sociological concerns.

TEXTBOOK

L. Reynolds and N. Herman-Kinney (eds.) Handbook of Symbolic Interactionism
Altimira Press, 2004.

COURSE OUTLINE

I Dominant Disciplinary Approaches to Social Psychology

1. Psychology. The focus is upon individual psychological processes (e.g. perception) resulting from social stimuli (e.g., group consensus) as observed mainly in laboratory settings.

2. Sociology:
 - (1) Social Structure and Personality
The focus is mainly on the effects of macrosocial structures and processes (e.g., division of labour, inequality, etc.) on personality and behaviour as observed in the wider society. This approach relies largely on survey methodology.

 - (2) Symbolic Interactionism
 - a) Chicago School. The focus is on social interaction in natural everyday settings. The approach relies heavily on qualitative methods (e.g., Anderson's The Hobo).
 - b) Iowa School. The focus is on self conception and role-playing in specific settings (e.g., classrooms, laboratories, etc.). The approach relies primarily on quantitative methods.

READINGS:

James S. House 1977 The three faces of social psychology Sociometry Vol. 40 no2 161-177.

Kehler

II Varieties of Symbolic Interactional Schools and Theories: Chicago, Iowa, Indiana, Dramaturgical, Ethnomethodology and Conversational Analysis.

READINGS:

M. Katovich, D. Miller, and R. Stewart, The Iowa School	pp.119-140.
C. Edgley, _____The Dramaturgical School	pp. 141-172
D. Maynard and S. Clayman, Ethnomethodology and Conversational Analysis	pp. 173-202

III Major Micro (face-to-face) Symbolic Interactional Concepts: Interaction, Mind, Self, Identity, Motive

READINGS

G. McCall	Interaction	pp.327-348
B. Meltzer	Mind	pp. 267-288
A. Weigert and V. Gegas	Self	pp. 289-306
K. Vryon, P. Adler, and P. Adler	Identity	pp.367-390
C. Albas and D. Albas	Motives	pp.349-366

IV Major Macro (Societal level) Symbolic International Concepts: Role, Social Organization, Community, and Society

READINGS

N. Dolch	Role	pp. 391-410
M. Stewart	Gender	pp. 761-786
W. Shaffir and D. Pawluch	Occupations and Professions	pp. 893-914
N. Williams and M. Correa	Race and Ethnic Relations	pp. 743-760
G.Sjobert, E. Gil, and J.E. Tan	Social Organization	pp. 441-433
L. Lofland	Community and Urban Life	pp. 937-974
M. Katovich and D. Maines	Society	pp. 289-306

V The Dominant Institutions in Contemporary Society (C.W. Mills)

1. The Economics
2. The Political
3. The Military

READINGS

J. Nash and J. Calonico	The Economic Institution	pp. 445-469
J. Nash and J. Calonico	The Political Institution	pp. 471-490
W. Cockerham	The Military Institution	pp. 491-510

VI Symbolic Interactionism: Past, Present, and Future Prospects

1. Theoretical Disputes: Micro/Macro
Agency/Structure
Realist/Interpretist
2. Emerging Voices: Feminism
Neo-Marxism
Postmodernism

READINGS

K. Sandstrom and G. Fine	Triumphs, Emerging Voices and The Future	pp. 1041-1058
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COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to complete two term tests and a written assignment.

Test 1	February 25	30%
Test II	April 4	20%
Assignment	March 30	50%

Due in Class
NO EXCEPTIONS

TENTATIVE GRADE DISTRIBUTION

A+	=	95 - 100	C+	=	68 - 69
A	=	85 - 94	C	=	60 - 67
B+	=	80 - 84	D	=	50 - 59
B	=	70 - 79	F	=	0 - 49

Student Responsibility and Academic Integrity

Disruptions due to excessive talking or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting in large classes. Please be considerate and respectful of the needs and rights of others in the class. Students should be aware that persistent disruption may result in debarment from the course. Any student who has a legitimate reason for leaving class early should inform the instructor at the beginning of class.

NOTE: You must notify me **before** the test if you must be absent and arrange for a re-write. If the reason for your absence is illness, please provide a note from your doctor. Failure to complete any test or assignment will result in a mark of zero for that test or assignment. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Cheating is a serious offense with grave consequences. Students are advised to acquaint themselves with the University policy of plagiarism and cheating, as outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar for the University of Manitoba.

The Faculty of Arts also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.

March 18th, 2005 is the final date for Voluntary Withdrawal without academic penalty.