

Self, Role, and Identity

Lecture:	M 3:30-6:30 pm	Professor:	Dr. Dawn T. Robinson
Classroom:	Baldwin 307	Office:	217A Baldwin Hall
Office Hrs:	MW 11:00-12:00 pm and by appointment*	Phone:	542-8948
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*I also welcome brief drop-in visits at your convenience. However, please make an appointment for more involved meetings. You can make an appointment email, phone, or by catching me before or after class. E-mail is also a great way to ask quick questions, or to share brilliant insights.

Overview: Social identity is the link between society and individual action. In this course we will read and discuss a variety of attempts to understand the nature of social identity and the relationship between identity and social action. Students will (1) become familiar with the state-of-the-art sociological literature on identity, (2) explore a variety of measurement tools and analytic techniques for studying social identity, including contemporary, technology-assisted methods for theoretical exploration, data collection, and qualitative data analysis, and (3) refine some specific professional skills – including academic reviewing, presenting, and research proposal writing.

Evaluation:

I. Seminar Portfolio (approximately 50%):

At the end of the semester you will submit a course portfolio containing all of your weekly discussion questions, mini-projects, project review, and book review. This portfolio will be described in more detail in a separate handouts. The main components for this portfolio are as follows.

Weekly Participation. Naturally, you are expected to complete all assigned readings before class and to actively participate in class discussions. Periodically throughout the semester you will also post commentary on readings, the theoretical orientations they adopt, the methodologies used, the conclusions drawn, and their implications. In any given week you will be assigned to post “Commentary” or “Response.” On the days you’re assigned to post Commentary, you should complete the assigned readings and then post a critical commentary on the readings for the week. This critical commentary should be integrative when possible, and can apply to the ideas, arguments, methodologies, findings, of any or all of the readings for the week. On the days you are assigned to post *Response*, you should complete the assigned reading, read the *Commentaries* posted that week, and respond to one or more of the posted *Commentaries*. In your *Response*, you should take the role of the author(s) and provide a thoughtful reaction to the posted critique(s). You are encouraged to respond to one another's comments and responses by following up their threads. The course will be more interesting if we participate actively throughout the week. *Comment* and *Response* schedules will be posted online. As with all in-class and online discussions, you should maintain a professional and respectful tone in your postings. All commentaries are due by Fridays at 10:00 am and all responses are due by Mondays at 10:00 am. Everyone should read all comments and responses and bring them to class on Monday evening.

Book Review. There is a considerably wider literature on the subject of Self, Role & Identity than we could possibly cover together this semester. As a way of making some inroads into that literature, each of you will choose one book to review for the rest of the class. The written book reviews will be compiled into a single, bound volume for each of us to have as resource after the course is over. I will bring a list of recommended books to class. If you would prefer an alternate selection, please see me. A separate handout lists the book review choices and format requirements.

Mini-projects. In this class we will be exploring several methodological and theoretical tools for furthering our understanding of social identity. You will be asked to complete two short projects using your choice of these tools. At least one of these will be an interview study in which you will collect data from one of your classmates. In addition, you will be required to “provide data” yourself for at least one other person in the class. These projects will be submitted in your portfolio at the end of the semester. A separate handout describes the project choices in more detail.

Project Presentations Each student will deliver a presentation each of one mini-project in class. We will talk more about timing, format, and scheduling of these presentations in class.

II. Research Proposal (approximately 50%):

For your final paper I would like you to write a research proposal. The guidelines for this paper will be included in a separate handout. I will consider requests for combining this paper requirement with projects you are currently working on or with paper requirements for other courses on an individual basis. You must, however, clear this with me in advance.

Course Materials

I. Readings

Some of the required readings are available at the University Bookstore. Others are available at the library or online. Manuscripts, articles, and chapters that are not readily available through the UGA library or bookstore will be available as pdf files through the course website. Check the online syllabus for information about locating [the various readings](#). To search bookstores nationwide for used & out of print books, try: www.bookarea.com

II. Course Website

On the course website you will find the expanded course syllabus, guidelines for preparing mini-projects, instructions for assignments and activities, links to course related information, a bulletin board for posting weekly contributions, and more. *You should check the course website every week.* Please forward your WebCT mail to the [email address of your choice](#). To access the course web site, go to the following url: <https://webct.uga.edu/www/> Log on using your UGA myID and password. This course should appear as one of your courses. If you successfully log on and do not see this course listed, please email me so that I can make sure you are registered. If you follow the above procedures but cannot successfully log on, then check this website for help: <https://webct.uga.edu/www/student/guide/#login-mywebct>

(Very) Tentative Course Schedule

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course. There will likely be several changes and substitutions to the list below. I will give you an updated reading list as this information becomes available. Please go to the course website for the newest information about course readings and assignments and for direct links to many of these readings.

August 22 **Introduction:** Overview of classical & contemporary work on self and identity

August 29 **Classical Background: Self, Role, Identity**

Read: Mead, George Herbert. “Self” from *Mind, Self and Society*

Cooley, Charles Horton. 1909/1962. “Social and Individual Aspects of the Mind.” Ch. 1 in *Social Organization*. Schocken Books.

Cooley, Charles Horton. 1902. “The Looking Glass Self.” Pp. 175-192 in *Human Nature and the Social Order*. New York: Scribner's

- Deutsch, Morton & Robert M. Kraus. 1965. "Role Theory" Ch. 6. in *Theories in Social Psychology*
- McCall, George J. and J.L. Simmons. 1966. *Identities and Interactions*. Free Press. Chapters 1-4 and 8-9.
- Znaniecki, Florian. 1965. "The Concept of the Social Role" Ch. 10 in *Social Relations and Social Roles*. Chandler Publishing Company.

September 5 No Class - Labor Day Holiday

September 12 **Self-Concept and Self-Esteem**

- Read:* Rosenberg, M. 1986. *Conceiving the Self*. Krieger Publishing Co.
- Owens, Timothy J. 1994. "Two Dimensions of Self-Esteem: Reciprocal Effects of Positive Self-Worth and Self-Deprecation on Adolescent Problems" *American Sociological Review*, 59(3):391-407.
- Owens, Timothy J. 1993. "Accentuate the Positive-and the Negative: Rethinking the Use of Self-Esteem, Self-Deprecation, and Self-Confidence." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 56(4): 288-299.
- Peck, B Mitchell and Howard B. Kaplan. 1995. "Adolescent Self-Rejection and Adult Political Activity: The Mediating Influence of Achieved Social Status." *Social Psychology Quarterly*. 58(4):284-297

September 19 **Identity Theory**

- Read:* Stryker, Sheldon. 1980. *Symbolic Interactionism: A Social Structural Version*.
- Burke, Peter J. and Donald C. Reitzes. 1981. "The Link Between Identity and Role Performance" *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 44, 2, 83-92.
- Callero, Peter L. 1985. "Role-Identity Salience", *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 48, 3, 203-215.
- Burke, Peter J. and Donald C. Reitzes. 1991. "An Identity Theory Approach to Commitment", *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 54, 3, 239-251.
- Stryker, Sheldon and Richard T. Serpe. 1994. "Identity Salience and Psychological Centrality: Equivalent, Overlapping or Complementary Concepts?" *Social Psychology Quarterly* 57(1):16-35.

September 26 **Identity Control Theory**

- Read:* Burke, Peter. 1991. "Identity Processes and Social Stress." *American Sociological Review* 56: 836-849.
- Burke, Peter. 1997. "An identity model for network exchange." *American Sociological Review* 62:134-150.
- Burke, Peter J., and Jan E. Stets. 1999. "Trust and Commitment in an Identity Verification Context". *Social Psychology Quarterly* 62:347-366.
- Stets, Jane E. and Peter J. Burke. 2000. "Identity Theory and Social Identity Theory." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 63:224-337.
- Stets, Jan E. and Michael M. Harrod. 2004. "Verification Across Multiple Identities: The Role of Status." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 67:155-171.
- Stets, Jan E. and Teresa Tsushima. 2001. "Negative Emotion and Coping Responses Within Identity Control Theory." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 64:283-295.

Stets, Jan E. 2005. "Examining Emotions in Identity Theory" *Social Psychology Quarterly* 68:39-56.

October 3 **Affect Control Theory**

- Heise, David R. 1987. "Affect Control Theory: Concepts and a Model" *Journal of Mathematical Sociology* 13(1-2):1-33.
- MacKinnon, Neil J. 1992. *Symbolic Interaction as Affect Control*. SUNY Press.
- Smith-Lovin, Lynn 1987, "Affect Control Theory: An Assessment" *Journal of Mathematical Sociology* 13(1-2):171-192.
- Robinson, Dawn T. and Lynn Smith-Lovin. 1992. "Selective Interaction as a Strategy for Identity Maintenance: An Affect Control Model" *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 55, 1, 12-28.
- Robinson, Dawn T. 1996. "Identity and Friendship: Affective Dynamics and Network Formation" *Advances in Group Processes*, 13, 91-111.
- Smith-Lovin, Lynn and Dawn T. Robinson 2005. Affect Control Theory.
- Smith-Lovin, Lynn and Dawn T. Robinson 2005. In Search of Testable Differences Between Identity Control Theory and Affect Control Theory.

October 10 **Social Identity Theory**

- Stets, Jane E. and Peter J. Burke. 2000. "Identity Theory and Social Identity Theory." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 63:224-337.
- Grant, Peter R. and Rupert Brown. 1995. "From Ethnocentrism to Collective Protest: Responses to Relative Deprivation and Threats to Social Identity", *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 58, 3, 195-211.
- Hogg, Michael A., Deborah J. Terry, and Katherine M. White. 1995. "A Tale of Two Theories: A Critical Comparison of Identity Theory with Social Identity Theory" *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 58, 4, 255-269.
- Lalonde, Richard N. and Randy A. Silverman. "Behavioral Preferences in Response to Social Injustice: The Effects of Group Permeability and Social Identity Salience." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 66(1):78-85.

October 17 **Methodological and Measurement Issues: Part One**

- Carley readings – see online resources
- Q-sort readings – see online resources
- King, Nigel. "The Qualitative Research Interview."
- Rees, Anne and Nigel Nicholson. "The Twenty Statements Test"

October 24 **Methodological and Measurement Issues: Part Two**

- Heise, David. 1988. *Introduction to ETHNO*.
- William Corsaro and D. Heise, 1990. "Event Structure Models from Ethnographic Data." In C. Clogg (ed.), *Sociological Methodology: 1990* (Cambridge, MA: Basil Blackwell), pp. 1-57. .
- Eder, Donna and Janet Lynne Enke. 1991. "The Structure of Gossip: Opportunities and Constraints on Collective Expression Among Adolescents." *American Sociological Review* 56:494-508.
- Burke, Peter J. and Stephen L. Franzoi. 1988. "Studying Situations and Identities Using Experiential Sampling Methodology." *American Sociological Review* 53(4):559-568.
- Franzoi, Stephen L. , Jennifer J. kessenich and Patricia A. Sugrue. 1989. "Gender

Differences in the Experience of Body Awareness: An Experiential Sampling Study." *Sex Roles* 21(7-8):499-516.

October 31 **Collective Identities and Collective Action**

- Demo, David H. and Michael Hughes. 1990. "Socialization and Racial Identity Among Black Americans." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 53(4):364-374.
- Kawakami, Kerry and Kenneth L. Dion. 1995. "Social Identity and Affect as Determinants of Collective Action." *Theory & Psychology* 5(4):551-577.
- Quillian, Lincoln. 1995. "Prejudice as a Response to Perceived Group Threat: Population composition and Anti-Immigrant and Racial Prejudice in Europe." *American Sociological Review* 60:586-611.
- Soule, Sarah H. 1992. "Populism and Black Lynching in Georgia: 1890-1900." *Social Forces* 71(2):431-449.
- Snow, David A., Louis A. Zurcher, Jr. and Sheldon Ekland-Olson. 1980. "Social Networks and Social Movements: A Micro-structural Approach to Differential Recruitment" *American Sociological Review* 45:787-801.

November 7 **Identity & Emotion**

- Darwin, Charles. "Self-attention – Shame – Shyness – Modesty: Blushing."
- Johnson, Cathryn. 1992. "The Emergence of the Emotional Self: A Developmental Theory." *Symbolic Interaction* 15(2): 183-202.
- Smith, Allen C., III, and Sherryl Kleinman. 189. "Managing Emotions in Medical School: Students' Contact with the Living and the Dead." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 52(1): 56-69.
- Smith-Lovin, Lynn. 1990. "Emotion as the Confirmation and Disconfirmation of Identity: An Affect Control Model" Pp. 238-270 in *Research Agendas in the Sociology of Emotions*, edited by T. D. Kemper. SUNY Press.
- Heise, David R. 1990. "Affect Control Model Technical Appendix." Pp. 270-280 in *Research Agendas in the Sociology of Emotions*, edited by T. D. Kemper. SUNY Press.
- Robinson, Dawn T., Lynn Smith-Lovin and Olga Tsoudis. 1994. "Heinous Crime or Unfortunate Accident? The Effects of Remorse on Responses to Mock Criminal Confessions." *Social Forces* 73(1):175-190.
- Lovaglia, Michael J. and Jeffrey A. Houser. 1996. "Emotional Reactions and Status in Groups." *American Sociological Review* 61:867-883.

November 14 **Sex, Gender and Identity**

- Eagly and Wood. "Explaining Sex Differences in Social Behavior: A Meta-analytic Perspective." *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, vol 17, pp. 306-315.
- Maltz and Borker, "A Cultural Approach to Male-Female Miscommunication. Pp. 196-216 in *Language and Social Identity*, edited by J. Gumpertz. New York: Cambridge University Press. 1982.
- Maccoby, "Gender and Relationships: A Developmental Account." *American Psychologist* 1990, vol. 45, pp. 513-20.
- Thorne. "Girls and Boys Together...But Mostly Apart: Gender Arrangements in Elementary Schools." Pp. 167-184 in *Relationships and Development*, edited by W. Hartrup and Z. Rubin. Erlbaum, 1986.

Smith-Lovin, Lynn and J. Miller McPherson. "You Are Who You Know: A Network Approach to Gender." Pp. 223-51 in P. England (ed.) *Theory on Gender/Feminism on Theory*. Aldine.

November 21 **Cross-Cultural Research on Identities**

Markus, Hazel Rose and Shinobu Kitayama. 1994. "The Cultural Construction of Self and Emotion: Implications for Social Behavior." Chapter 4 in *Emotion and Culture*, edited by S Kitayama and H.R. Markus

Scheff, Thomas J. "Emotions and Identity: A Theory of Ethnic Nationalism."

Schneider, Andreas. 1996. "Sexual-Erotic Emotions in the U.S. in Cross-cultural Comparison." *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*. 16: 123-143.

Schneider, Andreas. 1998. "The Violent Character of Sexual-Eroticism in Cross-cultural Comparison." *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*. Vol.18 No. 11/12.

Smith, Herman W., Takanori Matsuno and Shuuichirou Ike. 1998. "The Social Construction of Japanese and American Attributional Expectations." Manuscript.

November 28 **Networks & Identities**

Keeton, Shirley. 1998. "To Thine Own Self (And One's Associates) Be True: The Strategic Management of Competing Identities Among Academic Women."

Thoits, Peggy A. 1983. "Multiple Identities and Psychological Well-Being: A Reformulation and test of the Social Isolation Hypothesis." *American Sociological Review* 48: 174-187.

Feld, Scott L. 1981. "The Focused Organization of Social Ties" *American Journal of Sociology* 86(5):1015-1035.

Breiger, Ronald L. and Philippa E. Pattison. 1986. "Cumulated Social Roles: The Duality of Persons and Their Algebras" *Social Networks*, 8, 215-256.

Wu, Lawrence L. "Local Blockmodel Algebras for Analyzing Social Networks" Chapter 9 in *Social Networks Analysis*.

December 5 **Wrap Up & Project Discussions**