

Theories of Social Psychology
Sociology 8730
Spring 2008
T/TH 11:00 – 12:15
G1 Baldwin Hall

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Office Hours: 10-11 T/TH
and by appointment

This course will serve as a general introduction to sociological social psychology. We will be exploring a number of theoretical perspectives and applying these theories to various substantive areas. I have two main goals in this class. The first is to provide you with a working knowledge of social psychology. The second is to help you use social psychological approaches to better understand your own substantive area of interest. With these goals in mind, I have divided the course into the traditional areas of Self and Identity (which is mostly Symbolic Interactionism), Social Cognition, Exchange Theory, and Social Structure and Personality. These divisions, however, are not rigid, and I feel that some of the most interesting work currently going on in social psychology is that which crosses the boundaries between these areas. Our textbooks are the Handbook of Social Psychology and Contemporary Social Psychological Theories. Treat these texts as your guides. You will also be reading recently published articles from major sociology journals. I have attempted to bring together a diverse set of articles to show you the wide range of topics and applications that are possible within the realm of social psychology. Have fun!

Required Readings

DeLamater, John (ed). 2003. *Handbook of Social Psychology*. New York: Kluwer.

Burke, Peter J. (ed). 2006. *Contemporary Social Psychological Theories*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Additional readings are available on-line or are on reserve in the sociology department mailroom.

Course Requirements

- (1) 15-20 page paper – 60%. While this paper must use social psychological theory and evidence, you do not have to limit yourself to topics covered in class. You must have all paper topics approved, however, and I strongly encourage you to meet with me early in the semester to begin discussing possible topics. It is my goal that each paper written in this class will live beyond this class as a portion of a thesis, proposal, or even a published paper. **USE THIS PAPER ASSIGNMENT TO GET SOMETHING DONE!**
- (2) Class Participation is worth 10% of your grade. You are expected to have read the assigned chapter/articles before coming to class. Therefore, you should participate actively in class discussions, providing thoughtful comments on the course material. All class sessions will be discussion-oriented, meaning that you should not come to class expecting a lecture (you are likely to be disappointed). You are also expected to have well-informed responses to each of the “reading questions” that will be handed out prior to class. If students are not prepared to discuss the questions and the readings, I will cancel class. This means if you haven’t done the reading, don’t expect me to do it for you!
- (3) Class Facilitation is worth 10% of your grade. Each of you will be responsible for three class sessions. This will typically mean two or three different topics. You will receive a hand-out detailing the expectations for class facilitation.
- (4) Critiques will be worth 10% of your grade. I strongly believe that we cannot be shy about sharing our work, and that we benefit from the comments of others. With this in mind, each of you will have the rough draft of your paper critiqued by two class members. You will also critique two papers. You will receive a grade on the quality of your critiques. You will receive a handout that gives tips for writing “reviews,” and I will supply you with a collection of reviews that I have received for my own work (mostly from rejected papers!)
- (5) Summary and Critique of One Reading – 10%. You will turn in a 3-5 page summary and critique of one empirical article from our reading list. You are free to choose the article with the only stipulation that you NOT choose an article from the section in which you are a facilitator or a related section. For example if you have taken one week of Symbolic Interaction, you could not choose an article for ANY of the classes on Symbolic Interaction. The paper critique is due in class the day that the reading is scheduled to be discussed. While I will give you a hand-out about how to approach this critique, I will also allow you to do up to two critiques (on different articles) and drop the lower grade.

Attendance Policy

You are expected to attend all class sessions and to have the assigned material completed prior to each class meeting. It is detrimental to class, as a whole, when individuals do not attend regularly. Therefore, I reserve the right to administratively withdraw students for excessive absences. If an emergency arises that forces you to miss class, you should get notes from a classmate. While I am happy to discuss any questions you may have about the class you miss, please do so only **after** reading

the assigned material and reviewing the notes. In short, do not expect me to “re-play” classes due to your absence.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic and Reading</u>
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Defining the Field

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| January 8 | Introduction to the Course |
| January 10 | House, James S. 1977. “The Three Faces of Social Psychology” <i>Sociometry</i> (now <i>Social Psychology Quarterly</i>) 40:161-177.
Stolte, John F., Gary Alan Fine, and Karen S. Cook. 2001. “Sociological Miniaturism: Seeing the Big Through the Small in Social Psychology.” <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i> 27:387-413 |

Symbolic Interaction

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| January 15 | <u>Classical Symbolic Interactionism</u>
DeLamater – “The Symbolic Interactionist Frame (Styker and Vryan – Chapter 1)
Burke – “Symbolic Interaction” (McCall – Chapter 1)
Mead, George Herbert. 1934. “The Self,” pp. 135-226” in <i>Mind, Self, & Society</i> (edited by Charles W. Morris). University of Chicago Press.
Fine, Gary A. 1993. “The Sad Demise, Mysterious Disappearance, and Glorious Triumph of Symbolic Interactionism.” <i>Annual Review of Sociology</i> 19:61-87. |
| January 17 | <u>Contemporary SI: Identity Theory</u>
DeLamater (Owens – pp. 214-218)
Burke- “Identity Theory” (Stets, pp. 95-105)
Stryker, Sheldon. 1980. <i>Symbolic Interactionism: A Social Structural Version</i> . (Chapter 3: “Contemporary Symbolic Interactionism: A Statement”). Menlo Park, CA: Benjamin/Cummings Publishing Company.
Stryker, Sheldon and Richard T. Serpe. 1994. “Identity Saliency and Psychological Centrality: Equivalent, Overlapping or Complementary Concepts?” <i>Social Psychology Quarterly</i> 57:16-35. |
| January 22 | <u>Contemporary SI: Identity Control Theory</u>
Burke – “Identity Theory” (Stets, pp.88-95)
Burke, Peter J. 1991. “Identity Processes and Social Stress.” <i>American Sociological Review</i> 56:836-849.
Stets, Jan. E. and Peter. J. Burke. 2000. "Identity theory and social identity theory." <i>Social Psychology Quarterly</i> 63:224-237. |
| January 24 | <u>Contemporary SI: Affect Control Theory</u>
Burke – “Affect Control Theory” (Robinson and Smith-Lovin, Chapter 7) |

Robinson, Dawn T. and Lynn Smith-Lovin. 1992. Selective Interaction as a Strategy for Identity Maintenance: An Affect Control Model. *Social Psychology Quarterly* 55:12-28.

Lively, Kathryn J. and David R. Heise. 2004. Sociological realms of emotional experience. *American Journal of Sociology* 109:1109-1136.

Expectation States Theory

Jan. 29

Background and Theory

Burke – “Expectations, Status, and Behavior” (Berger and Webster, Chap. 12)

DeLamater (Correll & Ridgeway, pp. 29-40)

Bales, Robert F. 1950. "A Set of Categories for the Analysis of Small Group Interaction." *American Sociological Review* 15: 257-263.

Berger, Joseph, Susan J. Rosenholtz, and Morris Zelditch, Jr. 1980. “Status Organizing Processes.” *Annual Review of Sociology* 6:479-508.

Jan. 31

Classic Empirical Works

February 5:

SCT: Focus on Gender

Ridgeway, Cecilia L. and David Diekema. 1992. "Are Gender Differences Status Differences?" Pp. 157-180 in *Gender, Interaction, and Inequality*, edited by Cecilia L. Ridgeway. New York: Springer-Verlag.

Johnson, Cathryn, Jody Clay-Warner, and Stephanie J. Funk. 1996. “Effects of Authority Structures and Gender on Interaction in Same-Sex Task Groups.” *Social Psychology Quarterly* 59:221-236.

Okamoto, Dina G. and Lynn Smith-Lovin. 2001. “Changing the Subject: Gender, Status, and the Dynamics of Topic Change.” *American Sociological Review* 66:852-873

February 7

Status Construction Theory

DeLamater (Correll & Ridgeway, pp. 40-48)

Ridgeway, Cecelia L. 1991. “The Social Construction of Status Value: Gender and Other Nominal Characteristics.” *Social Forces* 70:367-386.

Ridgeway, Cecilia L. and Kristan Glasgow Erickson. 2000. "Creating and Spreading Status Beliefs." *American Journal of Sociology* 106: 579-615

February 12

EST Elaborations

Social Exchange Theory

February 14

Background and Overview

DeLamater – “Social Exchange Theory” (Cook and Rice, Chap. 3)

Burke – “Power, Dependence, and Social Exchange” (Cook et al., Chap. 9)

Emerson, Richard. 1962. Power-dependence relations. *American Sociological Review* 27:31-40.

February 19 Empirical Research

Cook, Karen S. and Richard M. Emerson. 1978. "Power, Equity, and Commitment in Exchange Networks." *American Sociological Review* 43: 721-739.

Molm, Linda D., Gretchen Peterson, and Nobuyuki Takahashi. 1999. "Power in negotiated and reciprocal exchange." *American Sociological Review* 64: 876-890

February 21 Affect Theory of Social Exchange

Burke – “The Affect Theory of Social Exchange” (Lawler, Chapter 11)

February 28 Justice and Equity

Burke – “Justice Frameworks” (Hegtvedt, Chapter 3)

Walster, Elaine, G. William Walster, and Ellen Berscheid. 1976. *Equity: Theory and Research* -- Chapters 2 & 3). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Jasso, Guillermina. 1983. Fairness of individual rewards and fairness of the reward distribution: Specifying the inconsistency between the micro and macro principles of justice. *Social Psychology Quarterly* 46:185-199.

March 4 Perceptions of and Reactions to Distributive Injustice

Mueller, Charles W., and Jean E. Wallace. 1996. "Justice and the Paradox of the Contented Female Worker." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 59:338-349.

Hegtvedt, Karen A. 1990. The Effects of Relationship Structure on Emotional Responses to Inequity. *Social Psychology Quarterly* 53:214-228.

Hegtvedt, Karen, Jody Clay-Warner, and Elizabeth Feringno. 2002.

“Reactions to Injustice: Factors Affecting Workers’ Resentment toward Family-Friendly Policies.” *Social Psychology Quarterly* 65:386-400.

- March 6 Procedural Injustice
 Tyler, Tom R., Peter DeGoey, and Heather Smith. 1996. "Understanding why the Justice of Group Procedures matters: A Test of the Psychological Dynamics of the Group-Value Model." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 70:913-930.
- Clay-Warner, Jody, Karen A. Hegtvedt and Paul Roman. 2005 (forthcoming). Procedural Justice, Distributive Justice: How Experiences with Downsizing Condition Their Impact on Organizational Commitment." *Social Psychology Quarterly*

March 18

March 20

March 25

March 27

April 1

Social Structure and Personality

- April 3 Socialization and the Lifecourse
 DeLamater (McLeod & Lively, Chapter 4)
 Elder, Glen H., Jr. 1994. "Time, Human Agency, and Social Change: Perspectives on the Life Course." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 57:4-15.
 Johnson, Monica Kirkpatrick. 2001. "Job Values in the Young Adult Transition: Change and Stability with Age." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 64:291-317.
- April 8 Social Psychology of Health
 DeLamater (Ross & Mirowsky, Chapter 17)
 Mirowsky, John and Catherine Ross. 1995. "Sex Differences in Distress: Real or Artifact?" *American Sociological Review* 60:449-68.
 Umberson, Debra, Meichu D. Chen, James S. House, Kristine Hopkins, and Ellen Slaten. 1996. "Gender Differences in Relationships and Psychological Well-Being: Are Men and Women Really So Different?" *American Sociological Review* 61:837-857.
- April 10 Social Psychology of Health
 Whitbeck et al. 2001. "Perceived Discrimination and Early Substance Abuse among American Indian Children." *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 42:405-424.
 Jackson, Pamela Braboy and Montonique Finney. 2002. "Negative Life Events and Psychological Distress Among Young Adults." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 65:186-201.

April 15 Social Psychology of Crime and Deviance
DeLamater (Kaplan, Chapter 18)
Agnew, Robert. 1992. "Foundation for a General Strain Theory of Crime and Delinquency." *Criminology* 30:47-88.
Akers, Ronald L. and Christine Sellers. 2004. "Social Learning Theory," chapter 5 in *Criminological Theories*, 4th edition (Akers and Sellers). Los Angeles: Roxbury.

April 17 Social Psychology of Crime and Deviance
Braithwaite, John. 1989. *Crime, Shame, and Reintegration* (chapter 4).
Braithwaite, John. 2002. *Restorative Justice and Responsive Regulation* (chapter 3). New York: Oxford University Press.

April 22
April 24

Social Identity Theory and Intergroup Relations

DeLamater – "Self and Identity" (Owens – pp. 205-214; 224-228)
DeLamater – "Intergroup Relations" (Hogg, Chapter 19)
Clay-Warner, Jody. 2001. "Perceptions of Procedural Injustice: The Effects of Group Membership and Status." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 224-238.

Contemporary SI: Dramaturgy

Goffman, Erving. 1959. *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*. Chapter 1 ("Performances"). New York: Doubleday.
Goffman, Erving. 1963. *Stigma*. New York: Simon and Schuster.
Snow, David and Leon Anderson. 1987. "Identity Work among the Homeless: The Verbal Construction and Avowal of Personal Identities." *American Journal of Sociology* 92:1336-1371.

Emotions

February 5 DeLamater (Stets – Chapter 13)
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* 73:175-190.
Kemper, Theodore D. 1991. "Predicting Emotions from Social Relations." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 54:330-342.

February 7 Hochschild, Arlie R. 1979. "Emotion Work, Feeling Rules, and Social Structure." *American Journal of Sociology* 85:551-575.
Johnson, Cathryn. 1992. "The Emergence of the Emotional Self: A Developmental Theory." *Symbolic Interaction* 15(2): 183-202.

Social Cognition

February 12 Perception and Impression Formation

DeLamater (Howard & Renfrow – Chapter 11)

Asch, S.E. and H. Zukier. 1984. "Thinking about Persons." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 46:1230-1240.

Snyder, Mark., E. D. Tanke, and Ellen Berscheid. 1977. "Social perception and interpersonal behavior: On the self-fulfilling nature of social stereotypes." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 35:656-666.

Hill, Mark E. 2002. "Race of the Interviewer and Perception of Skin Color: Evidence from the Multi-city Study of Urban Inequality." *American Sociological Review* 67:99-108.

- February 14 Attributions
 Kelley, Harold H. 1973. "The Processes of Causal Attribution. *American Psychologist* 28:107-128.
 Howard, Judith A. and Ken C. Pike. 1986. "Ideological investment in cognitive processing: The influence of social statuses on attribution." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 49:154-67.
- February 19 Attitudes and Behavior
 DeLamater (Maio et al – pp. 295-300)
 Fazio, Russell. H. 1990. Multiple processes by which attitudes guide behavior: The MODE model as an integrative framework. Pp. 75-109 in *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology*, edited by M.P. Zanna. New York: Academic Press.
 Barber, Jennifer S. 2001. "Ideational Influences on the Transition to Parenthood: Attitudes toward Childbearing and Competing Alternatives." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 64:101-127.
- FEB 21
- Feb. 26 Overview
 DeLamater (Cook & Rice – Chapter 3)
 Homans, G.C., 1974. *Social Behavior: Its Elementary Forms*. New York: Harcourt Brace. (Chapters 2-4)
 Thibaut and Kelley. 1959. *The Social Psychology of Groups* - Chapters 2 & 3. New York: John Wiley.