SOC 6573

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University of New Orleans

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Sociology 6573
Graduate Social Psychology
Spring 2015

Instructor: D’Lane Compton    Class hours: TH 6pm-8:40pm
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Course Description
This course provides an overview of sociological social psychology. Although this course is interdisciplinary, in that research and theory from both sociology and psychology are covered, we will focus on the unique contributions made to the field by sociologists. In addition, this course assumes some familiarity with sociological or psychological principles.

❖ Required Texts
Contemporary Social Psychological Theories, Ed. Peter Burke
Interaction Ritual, Erving Goffman
Why are all the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?, Beverly Tatum

Selected Readings will be posted to Moodle.

Course Requirements
❖ Attendance and Participation
Students are expected to attend class and participate in discussions. Everyone is expected to contribute to the teaching/learning experience. It is important that you respect the contributions of your classmates. Grades for attendance and participation will be based on the following guidelines: A = no absences and frequent meaningful contributions, B = up to 2 absences and regular contributions, C = 4 absences and occasional contributions, D = 5+ absences and sporadic contributions, F = 5+ absences and/or no contribution. Attendance and participation is worth 10 percent of your grade.

❖ Assignments
You will have 5 assignments throughout the semester. However, you are only responsible for submitting 4. This means that you may skip one assignment of your choice. No late papers will be accepted.
Assignments will receive a check for a good understanding/application of the reading, Papers that provide a particularly good evaluation/application will receive a check-plus, while papers that provide a weak understanding/application will receive a check-minus. At the end of the semester, your papers will be graded as follows: check-pluses = A, checks = B, check-minuses = C. Papers are worth 60 percent of your grade.

❖ Discussant and Talking Points
During the semester, you will be responsible for coming to class read and prepared for scholarly discussion. As such, you are to come to class with “notes,” observations, and questions from your readings. While you may employ your own style and format, I will also provide an example that I have found to be very helpful for class interaction, student understanding, and future aspirations. Throughout
the semester on approximately 3-4 occasions you will be asked to be a discussion leader. On these occasions, you will make your talking points available to the class, present summaries of the material, and develop 3-5 questions to stimulate class discussion. This will be worth 10% of your grade.

Final Project
Your final paper will be a literature review on any relevant topic of your choice, including issues not covered in class and approved by me. You will use sociological and other social science journals and/or books for this paper. The following questions should help guide you: What have other researchers learned about your topic? Describe what others have found. Are there agreements or disagreements among previous research? Are there shortcomings to any of these studies? What else should we know about this topic? Look at journal articles (including class readings) for examples of literature reviews. Lastly, you will propose an extension to this literature—what would you suggest to contribute to this thread of social psychology? This paper should be approximately 10-12 pages double-spaced. The final paper is worth 20 percent of your grade.

Grading
- Attendance and participation: 10%
- Talking Points: 10%
- Assignments: 60%
- Final Project: 20%
- Total: 100%

Academic Dishonesty
As stated in the UNO Student Handbook available at:
http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/studentpolicies/policymanual/academic_dishonesty.cfm

“Academic honesty and intellectual integrity are fundamental to the process of learning and to evaluating academic performance. Maintaining such integrity is the responsibility of all members of the University. All faculty members and teaching assistants should encourage and maintain an atmosphere of academic honesty. They should explain to the students the regulations defining academic honesty and the sanctions for violating these regulations.

“However, students must share the responsibility for creating and maintaining an atmosphere of honesty and integrity. Students should be aware that personally completing assigned work is essential to learning. Students who are aware that others in a course are cheating or otherwise committing academic dishonesty have a responsibility to bring the matter to the attention of the course instructor and/or academic unit head, or the Associate Dean. To promote academic integrity, students will assign the following pledge when required by the instructor.”

By submitting work in your name, I assume you are certifying the work as yours and yours alone. I have a zero tolerance for Academic Dishonesty.

Students with Disabilities
Students with documented disabilities can seek a variety of accommodations. If you have a disability, you must register with the Office for Disability Services and they will work with you to determine appropriate accommodations. Further information is available at:
http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/studentpolicies/policymanual/disabilities_policy.cfm

***** Please no recording (video or audio), duplication, copying, etc. any materials or lectures from this course without previous permission. ****************************
Course Outline and Lecture Schedule

[Week 1]
**Introduction: What is Social Psychology?**
Humans as Social Beings

[Week 2]
**Section II: Theory, Methodology, and Design: Formal Approaches to Knowledge**

CSPT Preface, Ch. 15

[Week 3-4]
**Section II: Expectation States (Stereotyping and Legitimation)**

CSPT, Ch 12, 13, 14

Assignment 1 Due:

[Week 5-8]
**Section III: Symbolic Interaction**

Interaction Ritual
Mead, George H. Mind, Self and Society excerpt
Goffman, E. Presentation of Self excerpt
CSPT Ch 1

**Identity**

CSPT Ch. 5, 6

Assignment 2 Due:
[Week 9-10] Mid Semester Break October 15

**Section IV: Sentiment, Affect, and Emotion**

CSPT Ch. 7, 11

Heise, David. [www.indiana.edu/~socpsy/ACT/acttutorial/basicideas.htm](http://www.indiana.edu/~socpsy/ACT/acttutorial/basicideas.htm)


Ties that Bind?

Assignmet 3 Due:

**Definition of a Situation**


T. Love

Assignment 4 Due:

[Week 11]

**Section IV: Ethnomethodology**


Assignment 5 Due:

Paper Topic Due

[Week 12-13]

**Section VI: Learning, Exchange, and Equity Theories**

CSPT Ch. 2, 9, (10)


[Week 14-16] Thanksgiving Break November 26th

**Section VIII: Applied Social Psychology**

Bullying, Standardize Testing, Racism and Poverty, Gossip

Drawing from sp: Your Questions

Ex. How should we punish our children? Pets?
    How do we stop racism?
    What type of programs should be created for…?

Final Paper Due ____________________________