GROUPS AND IDENTITY  Spring  2011
SOC 424  002 TTh 1000 - 1150 PROFESSOR: Collier
OFFICE: 217-0 CH OFFICE HOURS: TTh 9:00 - 945
PHONE: (503) 725-3961 AND TTh 1245 – 1345
E-mail:cfpc.pdx.edu or by arrangement

This class meets in Cramer Hall 171

TA: Claudia Plesa Phone: (503) 725-5820
Office: CH 217-W Hours: TTh 900-945 & 1245 – 1345
E-mail: plesac@pdx.edu & by arrangement

IMPORTANT: use the emails on this syllabus to contact the professor and
TA for this course – do not send emails from within D2L

COURSE OUTLINE

TEXT: This will be discussed in class
Note: you have to have Adobe Acrobat Reader to open or view documents.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course focuses on the important concepts and issues
associated with the study of the social self -- that part of a person that is defined based on
group membership -- as well as current theoretical perspectives in this area.

LEARNING GOALS:
Upon completion of this course students will be able to demonstrate:
• familiarity with major sociological / social psychological theoretical perspectives on
  identity acquisition and maintenance
• understanding of how multiple social identities are organized
• understanding of identity related processes including cohesiveness, prominence,
  commitment, salience, and depersonalization,
• the ability to analyze identity acquisition and maintenance through a sociological lens
  -- an approach that incorporates both individuals and institutions.
• the ability to develop and write essays that integrate multiple perspectives on identity-
  related topics

PREREQUISITE: Social Psychology (SOC/PSY 342 or 343 ). Due to the nature and
amount of reading, as well as the pace of the class, it is essential that all students have
a basic familiarity with social psychological concepts (i.e. identity) as well as processes
associated with groups (i.e. social influence). If you have questions as to your
knowledge level regarding this material, please see me and I can recommend a
introductory Social Psychology text.

REQUIRED WORK:
Undergraduate Students: exams 70% of course grade
in-class writing 15%
class participation 15%
Graduate Students: 

- exams: 50% of course grade
- in-class writing: 10%
- class participation: 10%
- seminar participation: 10%
- term paper: 20%
- total: 100%

**Grading Scale**

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<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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**EXAMS**: Exams will be take-home, essay format. It is all right to confer with other students, however I expect each student to "do her/his own work." I will mark down papers with obviously identical answers. Late exams will be penalized.

**IN-CLASS WRITING**: every Thursday, there will be a 15 minute, in-class writing assignment over that week's reading and lecture material. Students will be allowed to use their notes, however the 15 minute time limit will be enforced. **IMPORTANT**: You want to be prepared for the Thursday writing as the in-class writing questions are similar to the exam questions so this is a chance to get feedback on your understanding of each week's class material. **If you miss the Thursday in-class writing AND you notify me, you can make the writing up during my office hours.**

Papers will be scored on the following scale:

- "\+" = 2 pts
- "\-" = 1.5 pts
- "-" = 1 pt
- "0" = no credit

**The 10 in-class writing assignments will count for 15% of your final grade.**

**CLASS PARTICIPATION**: I expect all students to come to class prepared to participate in the class discussion. This includes being "caught up" with the reading assignment for that week's class. I will ask questions over the reading material during the class lectures and will keep track of which students participate.

**Participation will count for 15% of your final grade.**

**GRADUATE STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS**: SEE GRADUATE SYLLABUS FOR DETAILS
**MISSED EXAMS:** If an emergency prevents you from taking an exam, please notify the Sociology office (725-3926) as soon as possible. No early exams. Makeup exams only under extreme circumstances. All students must take the final exam.

**NOTE:** This class involves considerable outside reading, writing, and class participation. If you are not willing to make this kind of time commitment, please consider other class options. Also, if you wish to carry on conversations with your friends, please do so outside of class; not during the lecture / class discussion. If these or other types of distracting behavior persists, the students involved will be asked to leave the class.

**week 1  March 29 - 31  Introduction to Self-Concept**

Readings: week 1


**week 2 April 5 - 7**

Readings: week 2


**week 3 April 12 - 14  Identity theory**

Readings: week 3


**week 4 April 19 - 21 Identity Control Theory**

Readings: week 4  


**week 5 April 26 - 28 Role-as-Resource theory**  

***** MID-TERM *****  
Passed out at the end of class Friday April 30th  
Due in class or my mailbox (217 CH) by 1120 Friday May 7th

**week 6 May 3 - 5 Role-as-Resource theory (continued)**

Readings: week 6  


**week 7 May 10 - 12 Role Mastery**

Readings: week 7  

week 8 May 17 - 19 Social Identification theory

Readings: week 8


week 9 May 24 - 26 Social Identity and Self Categorization theories

Readings: week 9


week 10 May 31 -- June 2 Comparing Approaches to the Social Self

Readings: week 10


***** FINAL EXAM *****
Passed out at the end of class Tuesday May 31st
Due in class during scheduled exam period
Tuesday June 7th 1015 - 1115