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| **SOCY 3041: Self and Consciousness**  **MWF 12-12:50 HUMN135 FALL 2018** |
| **Instructor:** Benjamin L. Hutcherson  **E-mail:** [Benjamin.Hutcherson@colorado.edu](mailto:Benjamin.Hutcherson@colorado.edu)  **Office**: Ketchum 381  **Office Hours**: Friday 1-4 PM |

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| **About This Class:** |

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| Thanks for deciding to be a part of this class. I am glad you are here and hope your experience is meaningful.  **“It can be said that the first wisdom of sociology is this – things are not what they seem” – Peter Berger**  We’ll start with questions about what consciousness is from philosophical, neurological, and social psychological perspectives, weaving in ideas about self and kinds of consciousness, explore ideas about the origins and potential of consciousness and human development, apply those to specific questions about who has it and if it can be developed or expanded- along with political and social implications of this, and then move into self-awareness, reflexivity, consciousness “raising” and personal and social transformation. |  |
| **Course Materials:** | |

There is no assigned textbook for this course. You have a number of articles to read and videos to watch in order to complete each week’s assignments. They are available in Canvas. If you have not taken Classical Theory, I strongly suggest you purchase a theory reader and work through it on your own.

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| **Course Objectives:** |

* Utilize and nurture our sociological imaginations as we investigate the ideas, issues, and implications of these phenomena we call self and consciousness.
* Explore from an interdisciplinary perspective what we “know” about self, consciousness (in various forms), social structure, human and social development and transformation.
* Further develop our ability to see and understand different perspectives on various inquiries and issues.
* Demonstrate mastery of the course material and the accomplishment of the above on tests, papers, and in class discussions according to academic style and standards.
* Summarize the principal theoretical perspectives on the modern self and consciousness.
* Define the related sociological terms and theories in the study of the social self and consciousness.

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| **Communication:** |

I respond to all e-mails in 24 hours or less as long as they are sent by 5 PM on Friday. Weekend e-mails will be answered before class on Monday. You **must** use your CU e-mail address when contacting me. I expect all e-mails to be professional, which means a proper introduction, your full name at the end of the message, and the course name in the e-mail subject. I will not respond to e-mails that fail to adhere to these guidelines. Avoid using text lingo or emojis in your e-mails with me and any other professor.

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| **Assignments and Grades:** | | |
| Reading Notes:  In Class Assignments:  Course Paper: Presentation:  Exams (2) | 20% 15% 25% 10% 30%  Total= 100% |  |
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**Reading Notes:** You will submit reading notes in Canvas prior to each week’s meeting. In these notes, you will write an original summary for **each** assigned article and video (5-7 sentences per summary) and answer all reading questions in that week’s folder.

**In Class Assignments:** Throughout the semester, there will be myriad in-class assignments. These are low stakes ways of ensuring you’re keeping up with the assignments and that you have a good grasp of what we’re doing. These include, but are not limited to, quizzes, short response papers, and group work.

**Course Paper:** All students will complete **one** 6-10 page reflection and analysis paper in this course.The prompt is in Canvas.

**Presentation:** Students will work together in small groups, put together a presentation on that week’s theme(s), and facilitate class discussion for one day. We will discuss this further in class and I will divide the class into groups. Each group will also evaluate the contributions from each member; if you don’t do your fair share, you will not earn the same grade as the rest of your group.

**Exams:** All students will complete two essay exams in this class. Each exam will cover the material from one half of the course, though the last exam is cumulative in a *thematic* sense (i.e., the exam covers readings from the last half of the course, but students are expected to demonstrate mastery of the major theories from the full semester).

**Attendance/Participation:**  In this class, attendance is not mandatory. You’re adults and this is an upper division course. However, there will be unscheduled in-class assignments (e.g., quizzes, reflection papers, group work) that cannot be made up without an official excuse. I encourage you to participate in class discussions as much as you can. We all have important and interesting ideas to share.

I think participation is too difficult to grade directly. However, I will use it to ‘bump you up’ if you are on the borderline (**one** point away or less) of a higher grade. Participation means speaking out in class, taking risks, engaging your classmates, being open to new ideas, sharing your own ideas and enthusiastically engaging the course material. If I don’t know your name by the end of the semester, you haven’t participated in an adequate fashion.

**A Note on Grades:** You are all students at a research university with high standards. If you read/watch all course materials, understand most of the material, and complete all of the assignments in a satisfactory manner, you will be in the high ‘C’ to low 'B' range. If you go **above and beyond** the requirements, push yourself, and exceed my expectations, you will be able to enter the ‘B+’ to ‘A ‘range. **Remember, your grade reflects neither what I think of you nor your potential as a human being**.

**Grading Scale:**

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| **Letter** | **Percentage** | **Description** |
| A  A- | 93-100  90-92 | Exceptional: Exceeds all required elements of the assignment, and the quality of the work is considerably greater than what is required. The quality of the work is considerably above the class average and impressive to the evaluator. |
| B+  B  B- | 87-89  83-86  80-82 | Good: Meets all required elements of the assignment, and the quality of the work is better than what is required. |
| C+  C  C- | 77-79  73-76  70-72 | Average: Meets all required elements of an assignment, no more, no less. Quality of assignment is satisfactory for college level work. |
| D+  D  D- | 67-69  63-66  60-62 | Below average: Does not meet all the required elements of the assignment, and/or the quality of the assignment is considerably lower than satisfactory. |
| F | 59 and below | Failing: Almost none of the requirements of the assignment are met and/or the quality of the assignment is well below basic standards of writing, comprehension, and/or ability to follow instructions. |

**You must receive a “C” or better in this course if it is a required course in your major or minor. If you receive a “C-” or lower grade, you will be required to retake the course.**

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| **Extra Credit:** |

I do not offer extra credit in my courses. You have a number of assignments to complete, and if you put in the necessary time and effort, you will succeed in the course. **Do not e-mail me and ask me about extra credit.**

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| **Late Work:** |

I do not accept late work, save for the most serious circumstances. If you miss an assignment for a medical or university-related reason, I will need official documentation for you to make it up. If you are having issues with D2L, you must contact OIT in a timely manner.

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| **CU Honesty Policy:** |

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu)); 303-492-5550). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](https://www.colorado.edu/osccr/honor-code).

Cheating and plagiarism are both violations of the student code and I approach them with **utmost seriousness**. Evidence of either of these behaviors will result in an **automatic failure** in the course and I will hand the case over to university officials. To be clear, plagiarism refers to using the work, ideas, or knowledge of other people as your own. It includes all forms of exam or quiz cheating, using other people’s work, copying all or sections of papers from the web, and “borrowing” (without citing) from published sources. Please do not give me ANY reason to suspect this type of behavior. If you are unclear about the rules regarding plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, or collaboration, please ask for further clarification.

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| **Accommodations:** |

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed.  Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment.  Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance.  If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students/temporary-medical-conditions) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

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| **Religious Accommodations:** |

It is the responsibility of every instructor to explain clearly her or his procedures about absences due to religious observances in the course syllabus so that all students are fully informed, in writing, near the beginning of each semester’s classes.  [Campus policy regarding religious observances](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/observance-religious-holidays-and-absences-classes-andor-exams) states that faculty *must* make reasonable accommodations for students and in so doing, be careful not to inhibit or penalize those students who are exercising their rights to religious observance. Faculty should be aware that a given religious holiday may be observed with very different levels of attentiveness by different members of the same religious group and thus may require careful consideration to the particulars of each individual case. For more information on the religious holidays most commonly observed by CU Boulder students, consult the [online interfaith calendar](http://www.interfaith-calendar.org/).

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| **Discrimination and Harassment:** |

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, exploitation, harassment, dating or domestic violence, and stalking), discrimination, and harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](https://cuboulder.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0PnqVK4kkIJIZnf), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](http://www.colorado.edu/institutionalequity/). Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

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| **Course Calendar:** |

This is a tentative calendar. As with all else in life, it is subject to change. I will announce any significant changes in class and on Canvas. Students are responsible for these announcements whether they are in class or not. I expect you to have completed all readings and assignments **before coming to class**.

Week 1: Getting Started – Week of August 27  
🕮 **What to read:** Course Syllabus, Week 1 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** None!

Week 2: Perspectives and Theoretical Groundwork – Week of September 3   
🕮**What to read**: Week 2 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes

Week 3: Important Questions, Terms, and Themes – Week of September 10  
🕮**What to read**: Week 3 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes

Week 4: Different Ideas and Perspectives – Week of September 17  
🕮 **What to read**: Week 4 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes

Week 5: Consciousness and Self – Week of September 24  
🕮 **What to read:** Week 5 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes   
  
Week 6: Consciousness and the Body – Week of October 1  
🕮 **What to read:** Week 6 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes  
  
Week 7: Deviance and Different Forms of Consciousness – Week of October 8  
🕮 **What to read:** Week 7 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes  
  
Week 8: Exam – Week of October 15  
🕮 **What to read:** Nothing new!  
🖳 **Assignments:** Exam #1

Week 9: Altered Consciousness, Altered Self? - Week of October 22  
🕮 **What to read:** Week 9 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes

Week 10: Institutions and Identities – Week of October 29   
🕮 **What to read:** Week 10 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes

Week 11: Models of Development – Week of November 5  
🕮 **What to read:** Week 11 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes

Week 12: Social and Moral Development – Week of November 12  
🕮 **What to read:** – Week 12 Readings (on Canvas)🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes

Week 13: Consciousness Raising and Social Transformation – Week of November 26  
🕮 **What to read:** Week 13 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes, Course Paper

Week 14: Models of Cultural Shift and Social Change – Week of December 3  
🕮 **What to read:** Week 14 Readings (on Canvas)  
🖳 **Assignments:** Reading Notes

Week 15: New Directions in the Study of the Self/Wrap Up – Week of December 3  
🕮 **What to read:** Week 15 Readings (on Canvas)

**Final Exam: Dec 18 4:30 PM**