

**Sociology 4031-001****Social Psychology****Spring 2018****Instructor: Dr. Mike Haffey****Department of Sociology****mhaffey@colorado.edu****Office hrs. Wed. 10am-12pm & by appt.****288 Ketchum Hall****office phone 303.492.8838**

Social Psychology is an interdisciplinary field of study located midway between sociology and psychology. Generally speaking, sociologists study the economic, cultural and political processes, patterned behaviors and trends, and social structures that shape the world that individuals inhabit. Psychologists, on the other hand, study the process of mental life: memory, cognition, perception, emotion, and reasoning. *Social Psychologists* study how interacting individuals “go about doing things” – being roommates, having family dinners, going to the game, offering accounts, waiting in line, negotiating contracts, joining an on-line community, standing-up to bullies, constructing gender, pursuing celebrities, generating legitimacy, being part of a team, texting and walking, heck, even attending and giving lectures. Language, identity, context and performance are all central to these social processes. In summary, social psychology involves the systematic study of the influence of the real, imagined and implied presence of others on an individual’s thoughts, feelings, and behaviors.

It is here where we will level our social-psychological gaze, the everyday world of people in interaction, co-constructing meanings within social systems of perceived opportunity and constraint. We will explore this rich interface between the individual and society by highlighting the latter, the social world, via the micro-sociological perspectives of symbolic interactionism, dramaturgy, ethnomethodology and role theory. My training as a sociological social psychologist greatly influences my selection of topics, theoretical perspectives, and texts for this course, as well as my general expectations of knowledge for young sociologists venturing into this micro-wing of our discipline. Each of these micro-interactionist approaches to the study of social life emphasize the reflexive, situated nature of human experience and highlight the self as a social product, the interpretive frameworks through which groups co-construct the social moment, and the symbolically-communicated, construction of the social order.

The objective of this course is provide you with a broad understanding of the current sociological field of social psychology by becoming well-versed in the concepts, analytical frameworks and applications / research questions at the center of this provocative and vital sub-discipline. More specifically, we will describe and analyze the many ways in which the interaction among individual’s, between an individual and a group, or among groups, within a particular social context, which gives meaning to unfolding behavior – the duality of social life. Toward that end, I have chosen two (required) well-known and widely-used textbooks to guide our discussion this semester. Since these texts will serve as a key organizing tool for all of our discussions this semester, please make a commitment to obtaining a copy of both texts and staying current with our reading schedule.

**Social Psychology: Individuals, Interaction, and Inequality** by Karen Hegtvedt & Cathryn Johnson  
**The Presentation of Self in Social Life** by David Shulman

**Exams and Grading:** I expect lively and thoughtful participation by all members of this class. I expect you to read the appropriate material for each class meeting and come ready to talk, share, apply, refine, and/or challenge the topic at hand. I favor frequent and informed participation. I strongly encourage you to make every effort to become a “regular member” of this class. Please bring your book to each class meeting. Your grade for this course will be based on the following criteria:

**Class attendance and engagement\*** (10%)

**Six quizzes** (10% each / 60% total). Quiz Dates: 2/1; 2/15; 3/1; 3/15; 4/12; and 4/26 (no “final exam”)

**“My social Self”** (on-going) writing assignment, (10%) (to be turned in & assessed three times)

**(Two) small-group projects** (10% each / 20% total) (to be presented in-class).

**\*Class Engagement (10%):** Your regular attendance and active participation in class discussions and activities is an essential component of this class. You are expected to engage in civil discourse on issues and readings relevant to each session, as well as help co-facilitate our class discussion. We all have a responsibility to make this interactive topic and class work well. Beyond two absences, your grade for engagement will be reduced by one-half letter grade for each subsequent absence, except in the case of high-holiday observance, family emergency or medical emergency.

### **Schedule of Readings / Quizzes / Presentations**

*Jan. 16 & 18 – Topic Introduction and Course Overview*

*Jan. 23 – ch. 1 in The Presentation of Self in Contemporary Social Life*

*Jan. 25 – ch. 2*

*Jan. 30 – ch. 3*

*Feb. 1 – ch. 4 / quiz 1*

*Feb. 6 – ch. 5*

*Feb. 8 – ch. 6*

*Feb. 13 – ch. 7*

*Feb. 15 – review / quiz 2*

*Feb. 20 – ch's 1 & 2 in Social Psychology: Individuals, Interaction, and Inequality*

*Feb. 22 – ch.3*

*Feb. 27 – ch.4*

*Mar. 1 – review / quiz 3*

*Mar. 6 – ch. 5*

*Mar. 8 – ch.6*

*Mar. 13- ch7*

*Mar. 15 – review / quiz 4*

*Mar. 20 & 22 – Group Presentations (Group Project 1)*

*Mar. 27 & 29 Spring Break – no classes*

*Apr. 3 & 5 - ch. 9*

*Apr. 10 & \*12 - ch. 10 / \*quiz 5*

*Apr. 17 & 19 - ch. 11*

*Apr. 24 & \*26 - ch. 12 / \* quiz 6*

*May 1 & 3 – Group Presentations (Group Project 2)*

**Accommodation for Disabilities:** 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) ([www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students](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](#) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website and discuss your needs with your professor.

**Religious Holidays:** Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, *{{insert your procedures here}}*. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

**Classroom Behavior:** Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

**Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation:** The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. CU's Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking or related retaliation. CU Boulder's Discrimination and Harassment Policy prohibits discrimination, harassment or related retaliation based on race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct under either policy should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127. Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation can be found at the [OIEC website](#).

**Honor Code:** All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to [the academic integrity policy](#). Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, resubmission, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); 303-735-2273). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code Council as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#)