***Instructor Information***

Colleen Ray, MS

Email: colleen.ray18@gmail.com

Office: 736 Oldfather Hall

Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 11:00-12:00

***Required Materials***

**Text**: Rohall, David E., Melissa A. Milkie, and Jeffrey W. Lucas. 2013. *Social Psychology: Sociological Perspectives* (3rd edition). Pearson Higher Ed.

Any additional readings will be provided to you on Canvas. These will either be uploaded in a downloadable format or as links to sites where you can read the necessary material. These will be available on Canvas at least one class in advance.

***Course Description***

Social Psychology is an area of overlap between Psychology and Sociology. This course will take a sociological approach to the field of Social Psychology, while focusing on how inequalities are formed, understood, and perpetuated. The **first** section of this course will focus on what each of these fields encompasses, the major theoretical perspectives, and how research is conducted within them. The **second** section of this course examines how societal structures influence individuals throughout their life course. The **third** and final section explores how inequality functions in different areas of social life. Overall this course aims to define Social Psychology and use that perspective to examine inequality.

This is an ACE course, and fulfills ACE requirement #9 “Exhibit global awareness or knowledge of human diversity through analysis of an issue.” This will be accomplished through the social psychological analysis of inequality in a number of different contexts and levels.

***Course Objectives***

* To create an understanding of Social Psychology using a sociological perspective or “sociological imagination,” rather than simply the use of “common sense.”
* To help students gain a better understanding of what inequality is, how it is formed, defined, and perpetuated in a number of different contexts.
* To apply sociological, psychological, and social psychological theories to better understand inequality.
* To gain an understanding of how inequality functions at both a personal (micro) and structural (macro) level.
* To foster an opportunity to explore how to resist inequality, and to learn about movements or collective actions that exist to combat inequality.

***Course Format***

*Structure*

As this is an honors course, it will primarily be discussion based, with some short lectures for concepts that are particularly challenging or important. All of the relevant information, documents, assignment information, videos, audio clips, study guides, etc. will be provided via Canvas. You will also find the email addresses of not only your instructor, but your fellow classmates through your Canvas page. You can keep track of the new things occurring within the class via the home page, as well as monitor your grades through your grade book. There is an option on Canvas so that you receive a text when anything new is posted to the course. Please do what makes sense for you, but I advise that you regularly check both your Canvas page and your email so that you stay apprised of any new information for this course or any of your other courses.

*Communication*

All communication will occur during class time, during office hours, or through email. My email address, colleen.ray18@gmail.com, can also be found at the top of the syllabus or through Canvas. All emails should be addressed appropriately with a salutation (i.e., “Good afternoon Colleen” or “Hello Ms. Ray”) rather than jumping directly into the content. You can call me Colleen, Ms. Ray, Instructor Ray, or Professor Ray. You may NOT address your emails with “hey” “what’s up,” “yo,” etc. Please sign your emails with your name so that I know who you are, not all email addresses provide the information needed to identify the sender. This will help you to form professional habits for email communication, and will be necessary for your careers after college. I tend to be pretty quick at replying to email, but you should allow for at least 24 hours during the week and 48 hours on weekends. If I do not reply within those time frames please send a follow-up email.

*Office Hours*

Office hours will be held at the same time each week, Mondays and Thursdays from 11:00-12:00. I understand that this time may not work for some of you. Please email me or speak to me in class about setting up another time to meet if the times provided do not work for you. There may be some times in the semester where I will not be able to hold my office hours at the regularly scheduled times, I will send out an announcement/email and will have a sign on my door if they ever need to be cancelled.

*Assignment Submission*

All assignments will be due during class time. If it is an assignment that is worked on outside of class, such as your reflection papers or your final project, it will be due at the start of class. All in class assignments will be due before leaving the classroom unless otherwise specified by your instructor.

**NO LATE SUBMISSIONS will be accepted** unless previously approved by the instructor or accompanied by a documented medical excuse. If you think you will not be able to turn an assignment in on time, you must contact me in advance of the due date, any requests after the fact must be accompanied by documentation.

**Assignments**

*Exams*

There are **three** exams for this course. They will be given during class time, and will be a combination of multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching, and short answer. During the class period in which the exam is given, the first 15 minutes will be dedicated to any last minute questions and review. The exam will be 50 questions, and you will have one hour to complete it. While these exams are not cumulative, they will build off of material in prior sections. For instance, you must always understand what Social Psychology is and the perspectives used. The exams will cover all material that has been given in that section, including information from your textbook, supplementary readings, any videos that you are provided, as well as any power points.

*Reflection Papers*

You will submit two short reflection papers throughout the course of the semester. You will have the option of submitting a paper following the first 10 chapters in your textbook. These papers will be due the class period following the end of that chapter. For instance, if we finish chapter 2 on a Tuesday, your reflection on chapter 2 will be due by the start of class Thursday. You need to submit a **hard copy** of your reflection paper to me by the start of the class period. These papers are meant as an opportunity for you to further reflect on the content from a chapter and to connect it to other materials. The content of these papers can be things that you agree or disagree with, are troubled or excited by, etc., but you should be prepared to critique the chapter in some way. In addition, you must include in a minimum of one additional source that was not provided by the instructor. This can be in the form of a news article, a video clip, a magazine article, a research article, or a fact sheet. If you are unsure about whether your source is appropriate feel free to ask your instructor during class, office hours, or via email. A full description of this assignment, as well as a detailed rubric will be provided on Canvas at a later date.

*In Class Assignments*

Rather than taking attendance or recording a participation grade, each week there will be one in class assignment. This can occur on either Tuesday or Thursday, and students must be present in class in order to receive a grade for an in class assignment. The only way a student can submit an in class assignment without being in class is if they have a written medical excuse, or if they receive permission from the instructor **before** the start of the class period. These in class assignments will take on a variety of forms, may be individual or group, and will require a firm grasp on the course content.

*Group Project*

Rather than having a cumulative finals exam or requiring a course paper, you will instead turn in a group project. Each group will be assigned a social movement that aims to end some form of inequality. You will be given two separate class periods to work with your group members on this assignment. On the last class period each group will be responsible for giving a 10-minute presentation to the class. Each group will also need to pass out a one page information sheet about their social movement. Each group member will be graded on their portion of the oral presentation given in class. Each group member will receive the same grade based on the handout. Further information about this assignment will be provided on Canvas at a later date.

**Grading Policy**

All grades will be posted to your gradebook on Canvas. All grades will be posted within one week of the due date, unless otherwise indicated by the professor. Honors students are required to earn a B (not B-) or better in a course for it to count for Honors credit. Since this 189H course is a requirement for first-semester Honors students, if you think you may earn a B- or lower grade, please speak with your instructor and/or an Honors advisor as soon as possible. You may request a meeting with an Honors advisor in MyPlan or by contacting [(402) 472-5425](tel:(402)%20472-5425) or [uhon-office@unl.edu](mailto:uhon-office@unl.edu).

Diversity and inclusion are central to the mission and pursuit of excellence at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and within the Honors Program (<http://diversity.unl.edu/diversity-home>).  To support this priority, the University encourages incoming first-year students to participate in Husker Dialogues (<http://diversity.unl.edu/husker-dialogues>) on Wednesday, September 6, 2017, 6:30-8:30pm in the Devaney Center. The Honors Program asks all first-year Honors students to demonstrate their leadership on campus by attending. To facilitate this, there will be an extra credit opportunity based on attendance and reflection. Your instructor will also be attending this event, and you **must** come check in with her and assure that she checks your name off from her list. Following the event you will have until the start of class on Tuesday, September 12, to turn in a short reflection about the event. In order to receive credit you must check in with your instructor at the event **and** provide a short reflection. This extra credit opportunity will count for 15 points.

There may be additional extra credit opportunities that are given throughout the semester, and the instructor will provide further information about them in class.

Below is a table of the grading procedures that will be used within this class. The first set of numbers show the percentage, while the numbers in parentheses show the number of points needed to receive that grade.

A+ 97-100 (579-600) B+ 87-89 (519-536) C+ 77-79 (459-476) D+ 67-69 (399-416)

A 93-96 (555-578) B 83-86 (495-535) C 73-76 (435-458) D 63-66 (375-398)

A- 90-92 (537-554) B- 80-82 (477-494) C- 70-72 (417-434) D- 60-62 (357-374)

F <=59% (<=356)

*Grade Breakdown*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Breakdown (points x #)** | **Total** | **Percent** |
| *Exams* | 100x3 | 300 | 50% |
| *Reflection Papers* | 25x2 | 50 | 8% |
| *In Class Assignments* | 10x15 | 150 | 25% |
| *Final Project: Presentation* | 60x1 | 60 | 10% |
| *Final Project: Handout* | 40x1 | 40 | 7% |
| *Total Overall* |  | 600 | 100% |

\*All points hold equal weight

**Course Schedule**

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| --- |
| *Part One – August 22nd – September 14th* |
| Chapter 1: Introduction to Sociological Social Psychology |
| Chapter 2: Perspectives in Sociological Social Psychology |
| Chapter 3: Studying People |
| **Assessment: Exam 1** |
| *Part Two – September 19th - October 10th* |
| Chapter 4: The Social Psychology of Stratification |
| Chapter 5: Self and Identity |
| Chapter 6: Socialization over the Life Course |
| **Assessment: Exam 2** |
| *Part Three – October 12th – November 30th* |
| Chapter 7: The Social Psychology of Deviance |
| Chapter 8: Mental Health and Illness |
| Chapter 9: Social Attitudes |
| Chapter 10: The Sociology of Emotions and Relationships |
| Chapter 11: Collective Behavior |
| **Assessment: Exam 3** |

\*Most weeks you will have additional readings that are provided on Canvas.

***Course Policies***

*Students with Disabilities*

In accordance with the University policy, if a student has a documented disability and requires accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, he/she should contact the Instructor via email as soon as possible and make this need known. It is the policy of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to provide flexible and individualized accommodation to students with documented disabilities that may affect their ability to fully participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. To receive accommodation services, you must be registered with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) office, 132 Canfield Administration, 472-3787 voice or TTY. Please contact the Service for Students with Disabilities (SSD) office as soon as possible to have them advance the paperwork to the instructor in a timely manner.

*Technical Difficulties*

Canvas can be accessed from any device connected to the Internet, and for this reason technical difficulties will not result in an excused late assignment. For any technical issues that you may have with Canvas, you can contact tech support through phone, email, or chat through the Canvas site.

**Canvas Help Desk**

* Phone: 877-244-8884
* Email: [mysupport@unl.edu](mailto:mysupport@unl.edu)

*Academic Integrity*

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln has set education objectives that aim to maintain academic integrity. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, *plagiarism, cheating, submitting unoriginal work in whole or part, fabrication or falsification, abuse of academic materials, complicity in academic dishonesty, and falsifying grade reports*. At minimum, any student found guilty of committing an act of academic dishonesty will receive a failing grade in this course and will be reported to the Chair of the Department of Sociology and the University Judicial Officer. However, further academic and disciplinary sanctions may also be applied.

If you are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty, please become familiar with UNL’s Student Code of Conduct and other policies: <http://stuafs.unl.edu/dos/code>

*Personal Identities*

Not all students go by their legal name, or feel that the information that is in Canvas accurately portrays who they are. If you are unhappy with the name or pronouns that are provided in Canvas, please contact me to inform me of how you would like to be addressed. For instance, I go by Colleen Ray, and my preferred pronouns are she/her.

Finding restrooms that are gender neutral can be an issue. I have attached a link that helps to locate these spaces on campus for anyone who is interested. <http://involved.unl.edu/unl-gender-neutral-bathrooms>

**If there is anything that in unclear please feel free to contact me for clarification. I reserve the right to revise the syllabus.**