

**Social Structure and the Individual**  
**Sociology 441**  
**Spring, 2009**  
**Preliminary Syllabus\***

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Barbara Joyce  
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Office Hours: WMF 1:00-4:00, T 10:00-3:00

**COURSE ASSISTANT:**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** In this advanced social psychology course, we will examine the relationships between the members, the culture, and the social structure of our society, focusing in particular on the concept of individuals' motivation. Gender, and to a lesser extent, race and class, will be examined in terms of their impact on members' motivation to participate in society.

Lectures will focus on the specifics of socialization and the resulting motivational systems of individuals in American society, while the readings will focus on symbolic interaction theory (Hewitt), the dominant social system (Schaef), and an examination of several theories as they address the impact of the social structure in terms of gender, and to a lesser extent, race and class (Howard and Hollander),

**TEXTS:**

*Self and Society* by John P. Hewitt

*Women's Reality* by Anne Wilson Schaef

*Gendered Situations, Gendered Selves* by Judith A. Howard and Jocelyn Hollander

**ATTENDANCE:** You are required to attend class each day the class meets. Attendance will be taken daily. If you have more than five absences, you will lose one point for each absence over five. You will receive a bonus of five points if you have five or fewer absences and a bonus of 10 points for perfect attendance. In the computation of grades, these will be handled as if they are extra credit points. (See "Grades" below.)

**WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:** There are three brief written assignments and a final paper. All of these must include proper citations and a list of works cited. **Form is as important as content.** I expect you to spell words correctly, use appropriate punctuation, write complete sentences, and compose a coherent paper, using quotations sparingly and effectively. Details count. For example, contractions are not acceptable, and you must double space after periods. Use Italics for book titles, and remember that books do not say things, authors do. Be sure to number the pages, with the exception of the title page and the first page. Follow the instructions in the ASA Style Guide.

The three brief written assignments, which will be three to five pages long, are worth up to 30 points each. The final paper will be about ten pages long, plus the title page and the works cited page, and worth up to 50 points. See the "Schedule of Events" on page four for the due dates.

*\*See the Note to Students at the end of the syllabus.*

**Plagiarism:** Understanding what is and is not plagiarism can be tricky. The following is an excerpt from the Student Conduct Code, which, I hope, adds some clarification to the issue:

“Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or "drylabbing," which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms” (University of Hawaii at Manoa, Student Conduct Code, Section H. Academic Dishonesty, Part 2, Page 6).

The complete Student Conduct Code can be viewed at:  
[http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct\\_code/](http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/)

*It is ultimately each student's responsibility to learn about plagiarism and how to avoid it. Ignorance of the rules, saying "I forgot about that" or "I made a mistake," are not considered valid excuses when it comes to plagiarism.*

**Writing Assignment Number One:** Based on the information in Hewitt's *Self and Society*, explain what motivates people to participate in society from the symbolic interactionist perspective. Be sure to differentiate between “motives” and “motivation.”

**Writing Assignment Number Two:** Based on Schaefer's book, answer the question: Who am I as a man or woman who is a product of what Schaefer calls the White Male System? (You have to explain what the white male system is to do this.) Focus on the concepts that are most relevant to you.

**Writing Assignment Number Three:** Drawing on the information in *Gendered Situations*, *Gendered Selves*, answer this question: Of the three major social psychological theories discussed by Howard and Hollander, which do you think is most useful in understanding the impact of the social structure on individuals? Why?

**Paper Assignment:** In this paper, you will incorporate material from all three books, as well as lectures, to answer the following questions:

1. In what kind of world do you want to live?
2. What do you want our society -- the culture, the social structure, and the members -- to be like? Why?
3. What will it take to accomplish that? (Are there particular values that would be beneficial?)

**Important Note:** In addition to a paper copy, you must submit an e-copy of your final paper when the papers are due. It is best if your papers are Word documents and you e-mail them as attachments. For accreditation purposes, UH and the Sociology Department must evaluate the effectiveness of our programs, and the e-copy of your papers will be used for that.

Before you send your file, please re-name it to fit with this format: course number, semester, name, and assignment, e.g., 441S09JohnSmithFinalPaper.doc.

**STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:** Students will present a synopsis of their last papers to the other students in class. These ten-minute presentations will occur during the last six class meetings and during the final exam period. The presentations will be worth 25 points. To get credit for your presentation, you must attend the presentations of the other students, including the presentations during the final exam period.

**MID-TERM EXAMS:** There will be two non-cumulative, fifty-question, multiple-choice exams. The first exam will be on February 9<sup>th</sup> and will cover lecture material up to that date and material from the first book. The second exam will be on April 15<sup>th</sup> and will cover lecture material from February 11<sup>th</sup> on and material from the second and third books.

**FINAL EXAM:** In addition to the student presentations during the final exam period, there is a written part to the final exam that is worth 10 points. It consists of a one-page answer (typed in size 12 font and double-spaced) to the following question: What idea(s) did you find most important, useful, or relevant from this entire course, including the student presentations to date, lectures, readings, and written assignments? Bring this to the final exam period. This is the only time that your answer may be submitted.

**GRADES:** Grades will be based on a percentage of the total points possible (papers, presentations, and exams) as follows:

96-100% = A+	82-84% = B+	71-74% = C+	57-59% = D+	Less than 50% = F
90-95% = A	78-81% = B	65-70% = C	53-56% = D	
85-89% = A-	75-77% = B-	60-64% = C-	50-52% = D-	

The attendance bonus points will be added after the grade distribution is computed. In that way, they will be handled as if they are extra credit points. Likewise, the penalty for poor attendance will be deducted before letter grades are assigned.

You must get at least a "C" to have this course count toward a major in sociology. If you are registered Cr/NCr, you must achieve a "C" or better to receive credit for the course. Incompletes will be given only in emergency situations.

**KOKUA for Students with Disabilities:** If you feel you need accommodations because of the impact of a disability, please 1) contact the KOKUA Program (V/T) at 956-7511 or 956-7612 in room 013 of QLCSS, and 2) speak with me to discuss your specific needs. I will be happy to work with you and the KOKUA Program to meet your access needs related to your (documented) disability. (The KOKUA program will assist you in the documentation process if you have not yet completed it.)

### Schedule of Events

Key: H= Hewitt; S = Schaef; H&H = Howard and Hollander

Jan. 12 14 H: chapter 1 16 H: chapter 2	Mar. 16 H&H: chapter 1 18 20 H&H: chapter 2
Jan. 19 <b>HOLIDAY</b> 21 H: chapter 3 23	Mar. 23 <b>SPRING BREAK WEEK -- ENJOY!</b> 25 27
Jan. 26 H: chapter 4 28 30 H: chapter 5	Mar. 30 H&H : chapter 3 Apr. 1 3 H&H: chapter 4
Feb. 2 H: chapter 6 4 6 H: chapter 7	Apr. 6 H&H: chapter 5 8 10 H&H: chapter 6
Feb. 9 <b>EXAM 1</b> 11 S: Prefaces, Introduction 13 S: chapter 1	Apr. 13 H&H: chapter 7 15 <b>EXAM 2</b> 17
Feb. 16 <b>Assignment Number One is Due</b> 18 S: chapter 2 20 S: chapter 3	Apr. 20 <b>Assignment Number Three is Due</b> 22 24 Student Presentations
Feb. 23 S: chapters 4 25 27 S: chapter 5	Apr. 27 Student Presentations 29 Student Presentations May 1 Student Presentations
Mar. 2 S: chapter 6 4 6 S: chapter 7	May 4 <b>Final Paper is Due, SP</b> May 6 Student Presentations
Mar. 9 <b>Assignment Number Two is Due</b> 11 13 H&H: Introduction and Preface	May 15 (Friday) 12:00-2:00 Student Presentations <b>Written Final Exam is Due</b>

*Note to Students: Please be advised that this syllabus is provided for informational purposes only. YOU SHOULD NOT PURCHASE ANY BOOKS OR MATERIALS ON THE BASIS OF THIS SYLLABUS AS IT MAY CHANGE PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS. Please wait until the first day of instruction at which time you will be given the final version of the syllabus.*