



**Western University**  
**SOCIOLOGY 2233-001**  
**Social Psychology**  
**Fall/Winter 2016-2017**

**Room: SSC 2024**  
**Class Time: Tuesdays 10:30am-11:30am & Thursdays 10:30am-12:30pm**

**Instructor: Darren Rainhard**

Office Hours: Tuesdays 9am-10am & Thursdays 9am-10am

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### **Course Description**

*An analysis of the theories and research of human conduct in social settings.*

### **The Aim of this Course and Its Objectives**

This course introduces the student to basic information required to appreciate what constitutes a social psychological perspective on “individuals and social processes.” However, I do not teach this course simply as a “survey” of the most popular research areas of interest in social psychology. Instead, the course focuses on the problems encountered when one attempts to generate a logically defensible notion of “the individual.” It is this theme that is investigated through the “lenses” provided by various sub-disciplines of social psychology.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. The successful student will be able to analyze and critically evaluate a number of major theoretical perspectives in social psychology, sociology, and psychology. She/he will be able to identify and critically evaluate how proponents of each of the introduced theoretical perspectives conceptualize the individual and social structure. She/he will be able to deconstruct complex theoretical arguments into their element parts and critically evaluate them. She/he will also be able to highlight divergences between and among different theoretical perspectives as well as make recommendations regarding their possible integration.
2. The successful student will be able to construct logical arguments and defend them. She/he will be able to make recommendations regarding the practical application of the introduced theoretical ideas and constructs. She/he will also be able to develop evidence-based arguments.
3. The successful student will be able to demonstrate well-developed communications skills. She/he will be able to demonstrate proficient verbal communication skills evidenced in in-class discussions. She/he will also be able to demonstrate effective written communication skills evidenced in the written components of the course.

### **Prerequisite(s)**

1.0 from Sociology 1020, 1021E, 1025A/B, 1026F/G, 1027A/B.

### **Antirequisite(s)**

Sociology 2234E

**Note:** “Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the even that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”

### **Required Textbook, Other Required Readings, and Weekly Reading Schedule**

#### **Required Textbook:**

Social Psychology: A Sociological Perspective (Christine M. Von Der Haar)

#### **Other Required Readings:**

The Art of Loving (Erich Fromm)

Other required readings are available at [owl.uwo.ca](http://owl.uwo.ca). (You can find them in “Resources”)

#### **Reading Schedule:**

Note: My lectures throughout the year address several topics that are not included in your reading. Thus, the lectures I give on the subjects you do read about will not necessarily correspond with the schedule of reading that appears below.

#### ***First Term***

*Week of:*

Sept 8	Bring Course Outline to Class
Sept 13	Von Der Haar: Chapter 1 / Fromm: The Art of Loving
Sept 20, 27	Hewitt: Chapter 1 (on <a href="http://owl.uwo.ca">owl.uwo.ca</a> ) / Fromm: The Art of Loving
Oct 4, 11	Von Der Haar: Chapter 2 / Fromm: The Art of Loving
Oct 18	Fromm: The Art of Loving
Oct 25	Work on First Term Assignment
Nov 1	<b>First Term Assignment due (November 1)</b>
Nov 8	Von Der Haar: Chapter 3
Nov 15	Muuss: Chapter 3 (on <a href="http://owl.uwo.ca">owl.uwo.ca</a> )
Dec 22, 29	Von Der Haar: Chapter 9
Dec 6	<b>Review</b>
<i>Mid-Year Exam Period</i>	<b>Term Test</b>

#### ***Second Term***

*Week of:*

Jan 5	Von Der Haar: Chapter 2 (pages 40-47 (Piaget Only!))
Jan 10	Muuss: Chapter 9 (on <a href="http://owl.uwo.ca">owl.uwo.ca</a> )
Jan 17	Von Der Haar: Chapter 6
Jan 24	Von Der Haar: Chapter 11

Jan 31	Von Der Haar: Chapter 12
Feb 7	Von Der Haar: Chapter 7
Feb 14	Von Der Haar: Chapter 8
<i>Reading Week</i>	
Feb 28	Work on Second Term Assignment
Mar 7	Work on Second Term Assignment
Mar 14	<b>Second Term Assignment due (March 14)</b>
Mar 21	Von Der Haar: Chapter 4
Mar 28	Manis and Meltzer: Chapter 1 (on <a href="http://owl.uwo.ca">owl.uwo.ca</a> )
April 4	<b>Review</b>
<i>April Exam Period</i>	<b>Final Exam</b>

### **First Term Assignment & Second Term Assignment**

Both the *First Term Assignment* and *Second Term Assignment* will be based on Erich Fromm's book The Art of Loving (see above). As you will notice in the course reading schedule, I have made the reading of this book a regular part of your weekly readings during much of the first term. This reading is quite difficult and I very much expect that you will need to revisit parts of this book several times as you prepare both your *First Term Assignment* and *Second Term Assignment*.

Detailed instructions for the writing of both your *First Term Assignment* and *Second Term Assignment* will be posted on OWL.

#### **A Note about the First Term Assignment:**

The First Term Assignment will be posted on OWL on October 11 and will be **due (in class) on November 1**. Your submission **must be 5 pages** in length, typed (in size 12 font), and double-spaced.

Important: Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of 3% per day for the first five days, including weekends. (Of course, medical and other emergencies will be respected provided that proper documentation is provided.) After the fifth day, late assignments will not be read.

#### **A Note about the Second Term Assignment:**

The Second Term Assignment will be posted on OWL on February 21 and will be **due (in class) on March 14**. Your submission **must be 5 pages** in length, typed (in size 12 font), and double-spaced.

Important: Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of 3% per day for the first five days, including weekends. (Of course, medical and other emergencies will be respected provided that proper documentation is provided.) After the fifth day, late assignments will not be read.

### **Exams, Assignments, Grades, and Student Obligations**

#### **Exams:**

There will be **two exams** in this course:

- 1. Term Test (During the Mid-Year Exam Period)**
- 2. Final Exam (During the April Exam Period)**

**Both exams** will contain:

1. Multiple Choice Questions

2. Short Answer Questions
3. Short Essay Questions

Note: No electronic devices will be permitted for student use during either the Term Test or the Final Exam.

### **Assignments:**

Each student is required to submit a:

1. **First Term Assignment on November 1**
2. **Second Term Assignment on March 14**

### **Grades will be calculated as Follows:**

<b>First Term Assignment (November 1)</b>	15% of final grade
<b>Term Test (Mid-Year Exam Period)</b> <i>lectures)</i>	30% of final grade <i>(based on first term reading and</i>
<b>Second Term Assignment (March 14)</b>	15% of final grade
<b>Final Exam (April Exam Period)</b> <i>as year's lecture material)</i>	40% of final grade <i>(based on second term reading, as well</i>

Department of Sociology guidelines require a particular course grade distribution, which may require curving or otherwise adjusting your course grade in order to meet this requirement. As much as possible, your earned course grade will be the grade you receive. For 2200-level courses, the course mean is to be between a 66-70%, and there are to be more Bs than As.

### **A Word about Emails, Office Hours and How to Get Important Information**

It is best that you come to see me during office hours with any questions you have about the readings you are doing and lecture material. I do not say this to discourage you from sending me emails – please feel free to do so. Please be aware, however, that if I feel the issue you have requires us sitting and talking about it, I will suggest that you come to see me during office hours. You will also want to check your email and OWL regularly, as my main means of communicating with you outside the classroom will be via OWL's "Announcements."

### **Important Policies**

#### **A Note on Plagiarism:**

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence (the Scholastic Offence Policy can be viewed in the Western Academic Calendar).

#### **Plagiarism Checking:**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ([www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)).

### **Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class:**

As a courtesy to your fellow students, I ask that you do not text or email during class and that your phones are either turned off or set to silent (with vibrate function disabled). If you intend on using a laptop or electronic tablet in class to record your notes, I also ask that you refrain from browsing the web and making use of social networking sites – these activities can be very distracting to those sitting around you.

### **Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness**

Western's policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at [www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf).

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation:

[http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical\\_accommodation.html](http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html)

### **Accessibility Options:**

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website: [www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated\\_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

### **Scholastic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: [www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### **Mental Health**

Students who are in **emotional/mental distress** should refer to Mental Health@Western ([http://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/index.html](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html)) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.