

COURSE CONTENT

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| Course Code / Title | : HS3054 Social Psychology |
| Pre-requisites | : HS1001 Person and Society HS2001 Classical Social Theory HS2002 Doing Social Research |
| No. of AUs. | : 3 |
| Contact Hours | : 39 |

Course Aims

This course will introduce you to the sociological study of social psychology. Sociological social psychology aims to understand how we as human beings make sense of ourselves, others, and the social world. There are several sociological perspectives on social psychology; we will focus primarily on symbolic interactionism. We will study a number of different aspects of social life, including perspective, reality, language and meaning, minds, selves and identities, interaction and social order, and broader conceptions of social behavior and relationships.

The course should provide working answers to the following questions:

- What is social psychology, from a sociological perspective? What is symbolic interactionism? Why are symbolic interactionists concerned with the psychology of people?
- What methods do symbolic interactionists use to study the social world?
- How do people construct an understanding of reality and the social world?
- How do symbolic interactionists theorize the relationship between individuals and society?
- How do symbolic interactionists explain social order, and in particular its negotiated qualities?

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Recognize and use a symbolic interactionist perspective to observe and analyse everyday life.
2. Describe major theories, concepts and methods used by symbolic interactionists.
3. Analyze how individuals and groups construct social reality.
4. Describe and evaluate the significance of socialization, selfhood and social action in society.
5. Debate the extent to which the social order is a product of continuous human action vs a pre-existing system that determines human lives.

Course Content

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| Week 1 | Introduction to sociological social psychology |
| Week 2 | The social construction of reality |
| Week 3 | Shared meaning and symbolic interaction |
| Week 4 | Methods of studying symbolic interaction |
| Week 5 | The social self |
| Week 6 | Applying symbolic interactionist concepts |
| Week 7 | Socialization |
| Week 8 | Identities and culture |
| Week 9 | Social action and social order |
| Week 10 | Deviance and social order |
| Week 11 | Stigma, self and identity |
| Week 12 | Applying symbolic interactionist concepts |
| Week 13 | Semester-end review/revision |

Course Assessment

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| CA1 | Online quiz | : 10% |
| CA2 | Tutorial assignment | : 10% |
| CA3 | Film analysis 1 | : 25% |
| CA4 | LAMS assignment | : 20% |
| CA5 | Film analysis 2 | : 25% |
| CA6 | Tutorial participation | : 10% |
| Total | | ----- 100% |