HS217 – SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY  
(AY 14/15, Semester 1)

Day, Time, Venue: 
Lecture: 
  Tuesday, 11:30-13:30, LT-18

  T1:  Tuesday, 14:30-15:20, SPMS TR+19
  T2:  Tuesday, 15:30-16:20, SPMS TR+19
  T3:  Tuesday, 16:30-17:20, SPMS TR+16

Coordinator: 
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  patrick.williams@ntu.edu.sg

Text:  

Notices:
1. The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; changes, announced to the class by the professor, may be necessary.
2. Textbook (required) may be purchased through the campus bookstore. I will post any additional required and suggested readings on NTULearn.
3. Condensed lecture notes may be posted online at my discretion. Please do not complain to me about this—it’s a pedagogical decision and not negotiable except under circumstances of my choosing.

Course description: 
In this course I 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.

Grades: 
Note: Occasionally circumstances arise which are out of your control and that thus may prevent you from attending lecture or tutorial. Absences will be excused only when you can produce a certified and verifiable MC or similar document (e.g., police report). In cases where you miss an assignment (e.g., a quiz) and the absence is excusable, all make-up work will be 100% essay-format and must be completed within 5 days of the MC’s expiration date.

Quizzes: Over the course of the semester, there will be five quizzes, each consisting of 5 multiple choice questions. Quizzes will occur at the end of the lecture and will cover readings and lecture for
that week and the preceding week. Quizzes will be administered via Clickers and will serve as a method of continual assessment. At the end of the semester, I will use your best four scores to compute your quiz grade.

**Tutorial participation:** To help facilitate your active engagement with the concepts we will learn during the semester, I will expect your participation in tutorials. Credit will be given to those students who regularly attend tutorials and who take an active role during discussions. I expect students to be prepared for tutorials by having completed all assigned readings for the week.

**Team-based film paper:** We will watch one film during the semester in lecture. After viewing the film, you will work in teams of three to write a 1,500 word essay addressing specific questions about the film, which I will provide before the film begins. All team members will evaluate each other’s participation in the project. All team members will receive the same grade, unless peer evaluations suggest otherwise. Papers that are turned in after Monday, Oct. 27th @ noon will receive a 30% penalty (up to one week late). No papers will be accepted after Nov. 3rd @ noon.

**Final exam:** The final exam will consist of a mixture of close-ended, short-answer, and essay questions. Students should be prepared to discuss any and all readings, lectures, videos, writing assignments and tutorial topics from the semester.

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorial participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Team-based paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>50%</td>
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**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in any form. All students should understand University policies related to it: [http://www.ntu.edu.sg/ai/Pages/index.aspx](http://www.ntu.edu.sg/ai/Pages/index.aspx).

**Tentative Time Table:** The timetable is subject to change, but I will announce in class any changes and hand out new syllabi if need be. The assignment listed under each class meeting should be completed BEFORE that class meeting.

**Week 1 (12.Aug.)**
Primary readings

(19.Aug.) Annual symbolic interaction conference in the US
### Week 2 (26.Aug.)

**The social construction of reality**  
*Quiz 1 at the end of lecture (Clicker required!)*

**Primary readings**
- Essay 1: “What is real?”
- Ch. 1: “Islands of meaning.”
- Ch. 30: “Five features of reality.”

**Tutorial readings**
- Ch. 29: “Conceptual machineries of universe maintenance.”


### Week 3 (2.Sept.)

**Shared meaning and symbolic interaction**

**Primary readings**
- Essay 2: “Shared meaning is the basis of humanness.”
- Ch. 5: “A clue to the nature of man: The symbol.”
- Ch. 9: “Metaphors we live by.”

**Tutorial readings**
- Ch. 6: “Yes, father-sister.”
- Ch. 8: “Mindfulness and mindlessness.”

### Week 4 (9.Sept.)

**Methods of study in “sociological psychology”**

*Quiz 2 at the end of lecture (Clicker required!)*

**Primary readings**
- Ch. 4: “The perspective of social science.”


**Tutorial readings**

### Week 5 (16.Sept.)

**The social self**

**Primary readings**
- Ch. 11: “The self, the I, and the me.”
- Ch. 12: “Looking-glass self.”

**Tutorial Readings**
- Ch. 13: “A theory of genius.”
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<tr>
<th>Week 6 (23.Sept.)</th>
<th><strong>Socialization</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Note</strong></td>
<td>Quiz 3 at the end of lecture (Clicker required!)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Primary readings</strong></td>
<td>Essay 4: “Learning the script: Socialization.”</td>
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<td>Ch. 17: “Socialization: The internalization of society.”</td>
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<td>Ch. 18: “Reference groups as perspectives.”</td>
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<td><strong>Tutorial Readings</strong></td>
<td>Ch. 21: “The development of feeling norms underlying romantic love among adolescent females.”</td>
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<th>Recess Week</th>
<th>29.Sept—3.Oct</th>
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<th>Week 7 (7.Oct.)</th>
<th><strong>Identities and culture</strong></th>
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<td></td>
<td>Miles, Andrew. 2014. “Addressing the problem of cultural anchoring: An identity-based model of culture in action.” <em>Social Psychology Quarterly</em> [advance copy]</td>
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<td><strong>Tutorial readings</strong></td>
<td>Ch. 14: “Sissy boy, progressive parents.”</td>
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<th>Week 8 (14.Oct.)</th>
<th><strong>Establishing the social order</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Note</strong></td>
<td>Quiz 4 at the end of lecture (Clicker required!)</td>
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<td>Essay 5: “Meaning is negotiated through interaction.”</td>
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<td>Ch. 23: “Behavior in private places: Sustaining definitions of reality in gynecological examinations.”</td>
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Week 9 (21.Oct.)  
Applying social psychological concepts  
*Note*  
We will watch a 2-hour film in class. The film will start promptly at 11:30 in order for us to finish on time.

Film paper is due via NTULearn by Monday, 27.Oct. at 12 noon.

Tutorial  
There will no face-to-face tutorial meeting

Week 10 (28.Oct.)  
Negotiating the social order  
*Primary readings*  
Essay 6: “Building and breaching reality”


Ch. 24: “Smell, odor, and somatic work: Sense-making and sensory management.”

Tutorial readings  
Ch. 27: “The managed heart: commercialization of human feeling.”

Week 11 (4.Nov.)  
Deviance and the moral order  
*Note*  
Quiz 5 at the end of lecture (Clicker required!)

*Primary readings*  


Tutorial readings  

Week 12 (11.Nov.) Review  
*Note*  
No assigned readings. Bring your questions from the semester to the review session as I will not