

SOCIOLOGY 761

GRADUATE SEMINAR IN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY: THE SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY OF EMOTIONS

Spring 2012

206 DuSable Hall

6-8:40 Tuesdays

Instructor

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Office Hours

11-12:15 Tuesdays and Thursdays; or by appointment.

Course Overview

This is a graduate-level course that introduces students to the field of the social psychology of emotions, which is the social scientific study of how social experiences, interactions, relationships, and institutions influence individual's emotional experiences. We will begin by reviewing some basic concepts and typologies of emotions and then review the universality of emotional expression. The majority of the course will review major theoretical frameworks for the social psychological study of emotions.

This is an advanced seminar for graduate students. Therefore, I assume that students have some basic knowledge in sociological and social psychological theory, concepts, and methods. Non-sociology students should see me immediately to discuss if they have sufficient knowledge to get the most out of this course.

Course Structure

Since this is a graduate seminar, the course will consist of intense discussion of the material. We will discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each of the readings and the theories in general, and also discuss what we may do to overcome these weaknesses. Feel free to challenge any theory that you have problems with, but make sure to come with your "A game" and present informed and logical opinions of why you have problems with a particular readings or theoretical framework. Also feel free to ask questions of the material when you don't understand something. Some of these frameworks are difficult to understand, and it is my hope that during the course of discussion you will have more of a grasp of the theoretical frameworks.

My role in this course is one of a facilitator of discussion. I expect that students will do most of the discussion between themselves, and I will chime in every now and then with some clarifying statements. I will also play “devil’s advocate” if it seems like too much of a consensus has been reached by the students.

Course Requirements

There are several requirements for the course:

1. Complete the Readings Each Week: The readings for this course will consist of original journal articles, review articles, and chapters from academic texts. I expect you to have done all the reading for each session. This will facilitate discussion. There is nothing worse than having a bunch of people sit around a table who have not done the reading; awkward silences abound.
2. Participate in Discussion: I expect each student to contribute to discussion. Graduate school is the time to get over any shyness, since you are being trained to become creators and disseminators of knowledge. [20% of your grade]
3. Weekly Responses: Students are required to do a 250 word response to *at least* one of the readings for the week. The readings should be posted on Blackboard *24 hours* before each session. These responses should ask critical questions of the specific articles [20% of your grade]
4. Lead a Discussion: Starting in the fourth week of the course, students will sign up to lead a discussion. Depending on how many students are signed up for the course, you may have to do so in groups. The goal of leading discussion is to summarize the readings/theories, and provide some questions and topics related to the readings/theories that will stimulate and facilitate discussion. Discussion leaders should send out at least a one-page topic/question list for the discussion 24 hours before each session. [20% of your grade]
5. Final Paper: Students are required to do a 10-15 page paper on a topic relevant to the social psychology of emotions. This paper is due on the final day of class. You should discuss the topic of your research paper in person with me by at least the eighth week of the course. The final paper can take on any one of the following forms. [40% of your grade]
 - A critical literature review that focuses on a substantive topic of your choice.

- A research proposal. This will include a statement of the question that you want to answer, a short literature review of research related to the question, and a proposed study design that will help you answer the question. This will be most helpful for those in the process of formulating a thesis project.
- An empirical research paper that uses original data to answer a particular question relevant to the course. This should be written in article format. If you choose this option, I am willing to help you write up the results, but *you* must do any and all data analysis. If you choose this option, come see me as soon as possible.

Required Texts

The vast majority of the readings are journal articles and chapters from books. These readings will be available on Blackboard.

There are five texts that you are required to buy. I have ordered these from the bookstore, and they are available from online retailers.

- Turner, Jonathan H. 2000. *On the Origins of Human Emotions: A Sociological Inquiry into the Evolution of Human Affect*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.
- Ekman, Paul. 2003. *Emotions Revealed: Recognizing Faces and Feelings to Improve Communication and Emotional Life* (2nd ed.). New York: Holt.
- Hochschild, Arlie. 1983. *The Managed Heart*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.
- Collins, Randall. *Interaction Ritual Chains*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Katz, Jack. 1999. *How Emotions Work*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Religious Observances

If you anticipate missing any important class sessions this semester because of a religious observance, please inform me within the first two weeks of class. Please be aware that I have the right to set reasonable limits on the total number of days claimed by any one student.

Academic Misconduct

Hopefully this issue will never come up, but I want to let you know my philosophy concerning academic misconduct. Personally, I will show no mercy to a person who is caught cheating and/or plagiarizing. If I believe that I have evidence of either, I will give you failing grade for the course. I will also report the incidence to the Chair of the Sociology Department as well as the Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct. For more information about academic misconduct, please see me or visit <http://www.niu.edu/communitystandards>.

Special Accommodations

If you feel that you require special accommodations (e.g., note-taker, time and a half for taking exams, etc.) but have not set up these special accommodations with the university, please visit the Center for Access-Ability Resources (CAAR). More information about CAAR can be found at <http://www.niu.edu/caar/index.shtml>. If you have set up special accommodations with the CAAR, let me know as soon as possible

Also, feel free to discuss with me any issues that may affect how well you do in the course. While I cannot guarantee any special accommodations for issues that are not technically disabilities, I will try my best to come up with a way in which you can get the most out of this course.

COURSE OUTLINE*

Session One (January 17th): Introductions et al.

No Readings

Session Two (January 24th): Basic Terms, Assumptions, and Conceptualizations in the Social Psychology Study of Emotions

Thoits, Peggy A. 1989. "The Sociology of Emotions." *Annual Review of Sociology* 15:317-42.

Kemper, Theodore D. 1987. "How Many Emotions Are There? Wedding the Social and the Autonomic Components." *American Journal of Sociology* 93:263-89.

Turner, Jonathan H. 2000. *On the Origins of Human Emotions: A Sociological Inquiry into the Evolution of Human Affect*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press. (Chapter 3)

Ortony, Andrew and Terence J. Turner. 1990. "What's Basic about Basic Emotions?" *Psychological Review* 97:315-31.

Session Three (January 31st): The Universality of Emotional Expression

Ekman, Paul. 2003. *Emotions Revealed: Recognizing Faces and Feelings to Improve Communication and Emotional Life* (2nd ed.). New York: Holt. (Introduction, Chapters 1, 5-9)

Session Four (February 7th): Emotional Socialization

Ekman, Paul. 2003. *Emotions Revealed: Recognizing Faces and Feelings to Improve Communication and Emotional Life* (2nd ed.). New York: Holt. (Chapter 2).

Pollak, L. H. and Thoits, Peggy A. 1989. "Processes in Emotional Socialization." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 52:22-34.

Leavitt, Robin L. and Martha B. Power. 1989. "Emotional Socialization in the Postmodern Era: Children in Day Care." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 52:35-43.

Shields, Stephanie and Beth Koster. 1989. "Emotional Stereotyping of Parents in Child-Rearing Manuals: 1915-1980." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 52: 44-55.

Cahill, Spencer E. 1999. "Emotional Capital and Professional Socialization: The Case of Mortuary Students (and Me)." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 62:101-16.

* *Subject to Change at the Discretion of the Instructor*

Session Five (February 14th): Social Structural Theories of Emotions

Kemper, Theodore D. 2007. "Power and Status and the Power-Status Theory of Emotions." Pp. 87-113 in *Handbook of the Sociology of Emotions*, Jan E. Stets and Jonathan H. Turner, eds. New York: Springer.

Ridgeway, Cecilia and Cathryn Johnson. 1990. "What Is the Relationship between Socioemotional Behavior and Status in Task Groups?" *American Journal of Sociology* 1189-1212.

Shelly, Robert K. 2001. "How Performance Expectations Arise from Sentiments." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 64:72-87.

Bianchi, Alison J. and Donna A. Lancianese, 2007. "Accentuate the Positive: Positive Sentiments and Status in Task Groups." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 70:7-26.

Session Six (February 21st): Emotion Management and Labor I—The Basics

Arlie Hochschild. 1983. *The Managed Heart*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press (Chapters 1-4, 6-7)

Schrock, Douglas P., Emily M. Boyd, and Margaret Leaf. 2009. "Emotion Work in the Public Performances of Male-to-Female Transsexuals." *Archives of Sexual Behavior* 38:702-12.

Session Seven (February 28th): Emotion Management and Labor II—The Varieties and Consequences of Emotional Labor

Smith, R. Tyson. 2008. "Passion Work: The Joint Production of Emotional Labor in Professional Wrestling." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 71:157-76.

Lois, Jennifer. 2001. "Peaks and Valleys: The Gendered Emotional Culture of Edgework." *Gender & Society* 15: 381-406.

Pierce, Jennifer L. 1995. "Mothering Paralegals." Pp. 50-82 in *Gender Trials: Emotional Lives in Contemporary Law Firms*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Harlow, Roxanna. 2003. "'Race Doesn't Matter, But...': The Effect of Race on Professors' Experiences of Emotion Management in the Undergraduate Classroom." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 66:348-63.

Wingfield, Adia Harvey. 2010. "Are Some Emotions Marked 'Whites Only'? Racialized Feeling Rules in Professional Workplaces." *Social Problems* 57:251-268.

Session Eight (March 6th): Emotion Management and Labor III—Emotion Management, Emotional Labor, and Health

Thoits, Peggy A. 1985. "Self-Labeling Processes in Mental Illness: The Role of Emotional Deviance." *American Journal of Sociology* 91:221-49.

Thoits, Peggy A. 1984. "Coping, Social Support, and Psychological Outcomes." in *Review of Personality and Social Psychology*, Vol. 5, edited by P. Shaver, pp. 219-38. Beverly Hills:Sage.

Arlie Hochschild. 1983. *The Managed Heart*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press (Chapters 8-9)

Wharton, Amy. 1993. "The Affective Consequences of Service Work." *Work and Occupations* 20:205-32.

Erikson, Rebecca J. and Christian Ritter. 2001. "Emotional Labor, Burnout, and Inauthenticity: Does Gender Matter?" *Social Psychology Quarterly* 64:146-63.

Session Nine (March 20th): Interactions and Emotions I—Dramaturgical Theory, Symbolic Interaction, Ethnomethodology, Conversation Analysis, and Affect Control Theory

Goffman, Erving. 1956. "Embarrassment and Social Organization." *American Journal of Sociology* 62:264-71.

Shott, Susan. 1979. "Emotion and Social Life: A Symbolic Interactionist Perspective." *American Journal of Sociology* 84:1317-34.

Whalen, Jack and Don H. Zimmerman. 1998. "Observations on the Display and Management of Emotion in Naturally Occurring Activities: The Case of 'Hysteria' in Calls to 9-1-1." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 61:141-59.

Wilkinson, Sue and Celia Kitzinger. 2006. "Surprise as an Interactional Achievement: Reaction Tokens in Conversation." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 69:150-82.

Robinson, Dawn T. and Smith-Lovin, Lynn. 2006. "Affect Control Theory." Pp. 137-64 in Peter J. Burke (Ed.), *Contemporary Social Psychology Theories*. Stanford: Stanford Social Sciences.

Session Ten (March 27th): Interactions and Emotions II—Interaction Ritual Chains

Collins, Randall. 2004. *Interaction Ritual Chains*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. (Chapters 1-3, 6, 8)

Session Eleven (April 3rd): A Phenomenological Approach to Emotions

Katz, Jack. 1999. *How Emotions Work*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (Introduction, Chapters 1, 3, and 7)

Session Twelve (April 10th): Identity Theory and Emotions

Stryker, Sheldon. 2004. "Integrating Emotions into Identity Theory." *Advances in Group Processes* 21:1-23.

Burke, Peter. 1991. "Identity Processes and Social Stress." *American Sociological Review* 56:836-49.

Stets, Jan E. 2005. "Examining Emotions in Identity Theory." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 68:39-74.

Stets, Jan E. and Peter Burke. 2005. "New Directions in Identity Control Theory." *Advances in Group Processes* 22:43-64.

Session Thirteen (April 17th): Social Exchange and Emotions

Hegvedt, Karen. 1990. "The Effects of Relationship Structure on Emotional Responses to Inequity." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 53:214-28.

Lively, Kathryn J., Lala Carr Steelman, and Brian Powell. 2010. "Equity, Emotion, and Household Division of Labor." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 73:358-79.

Lawler, Edward J. and Jeongkoo Yoon. 1996. "Commitment in Exchange Relations: A Test of a Theory of Relational Cohesion." *American Sociological Review* 61:89-108.

Lawler, Edward J. 2001. "An Affect Theory of Social Exchange." *American Journal of Sociology* 107:321-52.

Session Fourteen (April 24th): Evolutionary Social Psychological Theories of Emotions

Tooby, John and Leda Cosmides. 2008. "The Evolutionary Psychology of the Emotions and Their Relationship to Internal Regulatory Variables." Pp. 114-37 in *Handbook of Emotions* (3rd ed.), edited by Michael Lewis, Jeannette M. Haviland-Jones, and Lisa Feldman Barrett. New York: The Guilford Press.

Turner, Jonathan H. 2000. *On the Origins of Human Emotions: A Sociological Inquiry into the Evolution of Human Affect*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press. (all)

Session Fifteen (May 1st): Recent Theoretical Trends in the Social Psychology of Emotions—Performance and Affective Geographies

Ng, Kwai Hang and Jeffrey L. Kidder. 2010. "Toward a Theory of Emotive Performance: With Lessons from How Politicians Do Anger." *Sociological Theory* 28:193-214.

Wilkins, Amy C. 2008. "Happier than Non-Christians: Collective Emotions and Symbolic Boundaries among Evangelical Christians." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 71:281-301.

Borer, Michael Ian. 2006. "Important Places and Their Public Faces: Understanding Fenway Park as a Public Symbol." *The Journal of Popular Culture* 39:205-224.

Saville, Stephan John. 2008. "Playing with Fear: Parkour and the Mobility of Emotion." *Social & Cultural Geography* 9: 891-914.

***** HAVE A GREAT SUMMER! *****