

Socialization Processes: Current Topics

Class Time and Location: Mondays, 1:00-3:00pm, MW120

Course Website: BlackBoard

Instructor: Lisa Collimore, Ph.D

Office: SW416A *Office Hours:* By appointment

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Course Description:

This course is designed to develop your critical thinking and communication skills. It will also provide an overview of the current topics on various topics dealing with socialization processes. The format of this course is seminar-discussion. Each week, students will read a series of papers and/or experimental reports. All classes will be lead by a discussant, a student who leads and guides the class discussion.

Course Readings:

All articles will be made available on BlackBoard. It is vital that you read **all** of the weekly articles **before** coming to class.

Course Requirements:

Weekly Peer Feedback (8 in total)	30%
Presentation	10%
Discussion Leader	10%
Thought Paper	15%
Class Participation	10%
Final Exam	25%
Total:	100%

Weekly Peer Feedback (30%)

Each week when you are NOT the presenter, you will provide feedback on a draft thought paper. To provide feedback, you will use peerScholar (an online tool that can be found on BlackBoard). The feedback that you will provide will consist of two general comments: 1) something that was done well in the paper and/or something that you agree with that is mentioned in the paper, and 2) something that needs improving in the paper and/or that you don't agree with in the paper. Feedback should consist of 1-2 paragraphs for each type of general comment. You will also give a rating.

- Peer feedback OPENS every Wednesday of every week.
- Peer feedback is **DUE every Saturday by midnight**
- No extra time will be granted for those late submitting feedback. You will forfeit the marks for that week.

- I will mark the quality of your feedback using the following scale:

0= provided no feedback

1= provided non-informative or brief feedback (e.g., your idea was great – A+)

2=provided semi-informative – but obvious - feedback (e.g., you spelt a word wrong)

3= provided informative and detailed feedback

Presentation (10%)

- You will present a summary of **one** of the weekly readings **once** during the course (approx. 25mins).
- During the week before your presentation, articles for your presentation week will be posted on BlackBoard on Saturday. You are to choose one, and email me your choice. First come, first choice of article.
- You are to prepare a presentation (using powerpoint) for your presentation day.

Example: You are presenting on June 3rd. Articles for you to choose from will be available on BlackBoard on Saturday May 25th.

Discussion Leader (10%)

Following your presentation, you will lead the class discussion on this topic (approx. 15mins), using ideas from your thought paper as a guide. You can choose any format to lead the discussion (e.g., discussion question, games, etc).

Thought Paper (15%)

Prior to the week of your presentation you are to write a draft thought paper on the article that you have chosen for your presentation and submit it to peerScholar (found on Blackboard). Your peers will provide feedback on your draft (also through peerScholar), and then you should consider the feedback - weeding out the good comments from the irrelevant comments - and revise your paper accordingly. Your final thought paper must also be submitted into peerScholar.

Your paper should be about 3 pages long, and it should tell the reader what you think about some issue(s) mentioned in your article. You are to present a clear argument for why you are agreeing/disagreeing with the issue that you have selected. You should back-up your arguments (whether they be supporting arguments or refuting arguments) with research from outside sources. All papers should be written in APA format.

- **The draft** of your thought paper is DUE on **the Tuesday PRIOR to your presentation** (by midnight)
- **The final version** of your thought paper is DUE **on the Tuesday AFTER your presentation** (by midnight)

Example: You are presenting on June 3rd. Your draft thought paper is due on Tues. May 28th. Your final version is due on Tues. June 4th.

NOTE: Draft papers must be submitted on time as your classmates will need something to review before your presentation. Even if your paper is incomplete – please submit something. Final papers submitted late will be subject to a late penalty of -1% per day.

Class Participation (10%)

Participating in class discussions is very important to the success of this course, and to your grade. As such, everyone is encouraged to talk in each and every class – otherwise we'll all just be sitting there! I will also be taking attendance regularly, which will be part of this requirement.

Final Exam (25%)

The final will consist of a research proposal and/or essay question(s), and will be due on August 9th. It will be based on major topics discussed throughout the term. To be distributed in the last week of July.

Class Schedule

Date	Topic (tentative)
May 6	Organizational meeting
May 13	Overview
May 20	Victoria Day - No Class
May 27	The Role of Family/Culture
June 3	The Role of Family/Culture
June 10	The Role of Family/Culture
June 17	The Role of Peers
June 24	The Role of Peers
July 1	Canada Day – No Class
July 8	The Role of Peers
July 15	The Role of Media
July 22	The Role of Media
July 29	The Role of Media
Aug. 5	Civic Holiday – No Class
Aug. 6.	Work on Final – No class
Aug. 9	Take Home Exam Due

Other Important Things

- **Academic Writing:** Since writing is a large component of this course, here are two useful writing resources:
 - **UTSC Writing Centre:** AC 210, <http://ctl.utsc.utoronto.ca/twc/students>
 - **U of T Advice on Academic Writing:** <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice>
- **Deferred Exams:** Exam deferrals are arranged through the Registrar, not the course instructor. Information on how to defer a final exam can be found here: http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~registrar/current_students/deferred_exams

- **Academic Integrity:** Please review the UTSC Code on Academic Behaviour:
http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/courses/calendar/University_of_Toronto_Policies.html#Code_of_Behaviour_on_Academic_Matters
- **AccessAbility:** For students with diverse learning styles and/or a health-related issue, please approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office as soon as possible. AccessAbility Services is located in Room S302 (Science Building), or can be reached at (416)287-7560 or ability@utsc.utoronto.ca
- **Missed Assignments:** Given that you are only required to present one day during the term, I am expecting you to be in class that day (and hopefully every other class as well!). If you DO miss your presentation due to illness, be sure to get the appropriate medical documentation; alternative arrangements will be made if necessary. As for missed weekly peer feedback requirements, remember that you don't actually have to be in class to complete this requirement. In fact, since you need to complete this online, there really isn't any excuse for NOT having it done. In other words, "I was sick and at home" doesn't count as a valid excuse for missing weekly peer feedback due dates.

*****The above schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.***