

Changes to SOS2550: The Sociology of Small Groups and Subcultures

Organizer: John N. Parker

I have opted to make several changes to this course based on my experience teaching it last fall. These include changes to: (1) required readings; (2) a new documentary; (3) the mandatory assignments. The learning objectives, test format, course name, and other items listed in the webpage for this course will remain the same.

1. Required Readings

I have changed the required readings for this course, though the class topics are the same. Below is a list of all readings. Those marked in red were included last time but will now be dropped; those in green are new additions.

Models and Methods for Small Groups

Donelson Forsyth. "Studying Groups." 2014. Pp. 30-47 in *Group Dynamics*. Wadsworth, Cengage.

Cecilia Ridgeway. "An Introduction to the Study of Small Groups." 1983. Pp. 3-20 in *The Dynamics of Small Groups*. St. Martin's Press.

Michael Hogg et al. "Why do People Join Groups? Three Motivational Accounts from Social Psychology." (2008). *Social and Personality Psychology Compass* 2 (3): 1269–1280.

Conformity and Influence

Conformity

Stanley Milgram. "Behavioral Study of Obedience." 1963. *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology* 67 (4): 371-378

Solomon Asch. "Opinions and Social Pressure." 1955. *Scientific American* 193 (5): 31-35.

Morton Deutsch & Harold Gerard. "A Study of Normative and Informational Social Influences upon Social Judgment." 1955. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology* 51(3): 629-636.

Influence

Matthew Salganik et al. "Experimental Study of Inequality and Unpredictability." 2006. *Science* 311 (5762): 854-856.

Anita Woolley et al. "Evidence of a Collective Intelligence Factor in the Performance of Human Groups." 2010. *Science* 330 (6004): 686-8.

Lingfei Wu *et al.* "Large Teams Develop and Small Teams Disrupt Science and Technology." 2019. *Nature* 566 (7744): 378-382.

Socialization and Identity

Socialization

Gary Alan Fine. "Small Groups and Culture Creation: The Ideoculture of Little League Baseball" 1979. *American Sociological Review* 44:733-745.

Becker, Howard S. "Becoming a Marihuana User." *American Journal of Sociology* 59 (3): 235-242.

John Levine and Richard Moreland, "Group Socialization: Theory and Research." 1994. *European Review of Social Psychology* 1: 305-336.

Identity

Charles Cooley. "The Looking Glass Self." 1902. Pp in 147-153. *Human Nature and the Social Order*. Scribners.

Tamotsu Shibutani. "Reference Groups as Perspectives." 1955. *American Journal of Sociology* 60 (6): 562-569.

Mark Leary *et al.* "Teasing, Rejection, and Violence: Case Studies of the School Shootings." 2003. *Aggressive Behavior* 29(3): 202-214.

Jan E. Stets and Peter J. Burke. "Peter J. Identity Theory and Social Identity Theory." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 63 (3): 224-237.

Group Rhythms and Emotions

Rhythms

Will Kalkhoff *et al.* "The Biosociology of Solidarity." 2011. *Sociology Compass* 5 (10): 936-948.

Anthony King and Mark de Rond. 2011. Boat Race: Rhythm and the Possibility of Collective Performance. *British Journal of Sociology*. 62 (4):565-85.

Randall Collins. "The Mutual Focus/Emotional Entrainment Model" 2005. Pp. 47-64 in *Interaction Ritual Chains*. Princeton.

Emotions

R. Keith Sawyer. "Group Flow and Group Genius." 2015. *NAMTA Journal* 40 (3): 29-52. Summer.

Gary Allan Fine. 2004. "Forgotten Classics: The Robbers Cave Experiment." *Sociological Forum* 19 (4): 663-666.

Von Scheve and S. Ismer. 2013. "Towards a Theory of Collective Emotions" *Emotion Review* 5(4): 406-413.

Social Roles and Decision Making

Social Roles in Groups

Gary Gimmel. "The Dynamics of Scapegoating in Small Groups" 1989. *Small Group Behavior* 20 (4): 406-418.

O. E. Klapp. "The Fool as a Social Type." 1949. *American Journal of Sociology* 55 (2): 157-62.

Georg Simmel. "The Stranger." 1950. Pp. 402-408 in *The Sociology of Georg Simmel*. New York: Free Press.

Erving Goffman. "The Stigmatized Self." 1997. Pp. 73-81 in *The Goffman Reader*, Charles Lemert and Ann Brabaman (Eds.). Blackwell.

Decision Making in Groups

Irving Janis. "Groupthink." 1991. Pp 235-246 in *A First Look at Communication Theory*, E. Griffin (Ed.). New York: McGrawHill

Carsten De Dreu et al. "Minority Dissent and Team Innovation: The Importance of Participation in Decision-making." 2001. *Journal of Applied Psychology* 86: 1191-1201.

Deviance

Robert Scott. "Deviance, Sanctions, and Social Integration in Small-Scale Societies." 1976. *Social Forces* 54 (3): 604-620.

R. Dentler and K. Erikson. "The Functions of Deviance in Groups." 1959. *Social Problems* 7 (2): 98-107.

Jolanda Jennten and Matthew Hornsey. "Deviance and Dissent in Groups." 2014. *Annual Review of Psychology* 65: 461-485.

Ralph Wahrman. "Status, Deviance, and Sanctions: A Critical Review." *Small Group Research* 41 (1): 91-105.

Creativity

Josh Shenk. "You remind me of Charlie Munger" and "Identical Twins from the Ends of the Earth." 2014. Pp. 3-18 in *Powers of Two: Finding the Essence of Innovation in Collaborative Pairs*. Harcourt.

Ugo Corte. "A Refinement of Collaborative Circles Theory: Resource Mobilization and Innovation in an Emerging Sport." 2013. *Social Psychology Quarterly* 76 (1): 25-51.

David Copley et al. "Malevolent Creativity: A Functional Model of Creativity in Terrorism and Crime." *Creativity Research Journal* 20 (2): 105–115.

Keith Sawyer. "Group Creativity." 2012. Pp. 231-248 in *Explaining Creativity: The Science of Human Motivation*. Oxford University Press.

Cults

Marc Galanter and James J.F. Forest, 'Cults, Charismatic Groups, and Social Systems: Understanding the Transformation of Terrorist Recruits', in James J.F. Forest (ed.), *The Making of a Terrorist: Recruitment, Training, and Root Causes* (Westport, CT: Praeger Security, 2006), pp. 51–70.

John Lofland and Rodney Stark. "Becoming a World-Saver: A Theory of Conversion to a Deviant Perspective" 1965. *American Sociological Review* 30 (6): 862-874.

Appel, Willa. "Getting Out." 1983. Pp. 138-160 in *Cults in America: Programmed for Paradise*. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.

Subcultures

Ross Haenfler. "What is a Subculture?" 2013. Pp. 1-26 in *Subcultures: The Basics*. Routledge.

Jeffery Kidder. "Style and Action: A Decoding of Bike Messenger Symbols." 2005. *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography* 34 (3): 344-367.

Laud Humphreys. "The Sociologist as Voyeur." 2005. Pp. 347-357 in *The Subcultural Reader*, Ken Elder (Ed.). Routledge.

Frank, Katherine. *G-Strings and Sympathy: Strip Club Regulars and Male Desire*. Pp 203-228. Duke University Press.

D. Cohen et al. "Insult, Aggression, and the Southern Culture of Honor: An "Experimental Ethnography." 1996. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 70 (5): 945-959.

Elijah Anderson. "Drugs, Violence, and Street Crimes. 2000. Pp. 107-141 in *Code of the Street: Decency, Violence, and the Moral Life of the Inner City*. W.W. Norton.

Musical Subcultures: Hip Hop and Punk Rock

Hip Hop

K. McLeod. "Authenticity within Hip-Hop and Other Cultures Threatened with Assimilation." 1999. *Journal of Communication* 49 (4): 134-150.

Jooyoung Lee. "Battlin' on the Corner: Techniques for Sustaining Play." 2009. *Social Problems* 56 (3): 578-598.

Punk Rock

Ugo Corte and Bob Edwards. "White Power Music and the Mobilization of Racist Social Movements." 2008. *Music and Arts in Action* 1(1).

Julia Downes. "The Expansion of Punk Rock: Riot Grrrl Challenges to Gender and Power Relations in British Indie Music Subcultures." 2012. *Women's Studies* 41 (2): 204-237.

2. Documentary

Last year, I showed a documentary on the life course of a music group entitled, **Beats, Rhymes, and Life**. It fell flat. This time, I will show the award-winning documentary, *How to Change the World: The Revolution Will Not Be Organized*. This is about the evolution and small group dynamics involved in the group that created Greenpeace.

3. Mandatory Assignments

Last year, students had two mandatory assignments. The first was conducting an independent study of a small group of their choice. The second was collaborating with several other classmates in investigating a subculture. The second assignment proved difficult for students to organize, and so this time each student will do an individually based study of a subculture of their choice for their second mandatory assignment.