Instructor: Eduardo Duran  
Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:00pm – 1:45pm  
Location: Haines A25  
Email: e.duran@ucla.edu  
Office hours: Tuesdays, 2:00pm-3:00pm  
Location: Haines 209  
If these office hours do not work for you, please email me and we can arrange a time to meet.

Course description: This course provides an introduction to a theme that has long interested sociologists – the relationship between the subject and society. We start with a seemingly straightforward question: what exactly does it mean to have a ‘personality’? Through both classical and contemporary sociological texts, we will explore this topic by locating ‘personality’ not in that realm where one may view it as an organic autonomous entity, but in the setting we share with others. Personality, as we will explore, is a phenomenon that is constantly being constituted and re-constituted in relation to interpersonal experiential flows. Our ‘personalities’ cannot be separated from our culturally elaborated and collective modes of recreating, as Kleinmann writes, “what is most at stake for us, what we most fear, what we most aspire to… what we jointly take to be the purpose, or the ultimate meaning, of our living and dying.”

Course requirements: Students are required to attend class and are expected to have read the assigned material before class. There will be two pop quizzes, which will be randomly administered in class. The quizzes will, combined, count for 5% of your grade. The quizzes will cover the material addressed in lecture and in the readings. There will be no opportunity to make up a missed quiz, unless you email me prior to class and provide a doctor’s note. I will not disclose when the quizzes will be administered. Quizzes will consist of 10 multiple-choice questions.

There will be a midterm and a final examination; each will count for 35% of your grade. The final will not be cumulative. In both exams, students will be required to answer three out of five assigned questions in a short essay format. The questions will address the material covered in the readings and in lecture. Both the midterm and the final will be taken during class. The examination dates are listed below.

Additionally, at the end of week 5, you will have a short paper due (around 3-4 pages), which will count for 25% of your grade. Prompt will be announced in the beginning of week 4.

Late/sick/emergency policy: You will not be allowed to make-up for missed assignments/exams unless you provide a doctor’s note. Make-up quizzes and exams will be slightly modified.

Any excuses for late or missed assignments must be accompanied by verified documentation (e.g. a doctor’s note), or 5% will be taken off for each weekday the assignment is late. Assignments that are more than 1 week late will not be accepted at all.
**Grade contestation:** If you wish to contest a grade on an exam, paper, of quiz, you must submit a written statement within two weeks after the assignment/exam date. In your statement, you are to explain the mistake you believe has been made. I will only discuss grades with students during office hours or appointments; please do not approach me in lecture to discuss your grade.

**Grade breakdown:** A+ = 97+, A = 93-96, A- = 90-92, B+ = 87-89, B = 83-86, B- = 80-82, C+ = 77-79, C = 73-76, C- = 70-72

**Readings:** All of the required readings will be posted on the class website.

**Class rules:** Many of our instructors are now switching to technology-free classrooms, given that evidence supports that students tend to better retain information. Following this trend, electronics (phones, laptops, iPads, etc.) will not be allowed in this classroom.

**Additional information:**

**Academic Integrity**
Students are expected to follow the principles of academic integrity. It is your responsibility to be familiar with UCLA’s regulations:
[http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/integrity.html](http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/integrity.html)

**Writing Resources**
The Student Writing Center offers UCLA undergraduates assistance with writing. Visit [www.wp.ucla.edu](http://www.wp.ucla.edu). UCLA’s Student Writing Center is located in A61 Humanities. Telephone: 310-206-1320. Email: wcenter@ucla.edu

**Accommodations** If you have any learning needs, please contact the Office of Center for Accessible Education at A255 Murphy Hall, 310-825-1501/TDD: 310-206-6083. Website: [www.osd.ucla.edu](http://www.osd.ucla.edu).

**Required reading**

**Week 1**

**Tuesday -- Introduction**

Kafka, F. 1915. *The Metamorphosis*, chapter 1. Pg. 3-17

**Thursday – On History**


**Week 2**

**Tuesday – General Theories**

Thursday – Self and Morality

Nietzsche, F. 1887. *Genealogy of Morals* (selections -- pages to be announced)

**Week 3**
**Tuesday - Self and Morality continued**


**Thursday**
**Midterm exam**

**Week 4**
**Tuesday – Self and Embodiment**


**Thursday – Self and Body**
Elias, N. 1939. *The Civilizing Process* (selections -- pages to be announced)


**Week 5 -- The Contemporary Self**
**Tuesday – Commodification of Self**

**Thursday – Self, Happiness, and Control**

**Week 6**
**Tuesday – The Masses and the Individual**
Ortega y Gasset, J. 1929. *The Revolt of the Masses* (selections -- pages to be announced)


**Thursday**
**Final exam**