

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

Identity, culture and society 762 (SOC 762)

Qualification	Postgraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Module credits	30.00
Programmes	BSocSciHons Gender Studies BSocSciHons Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies BSocSciHons Sociology
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 seminar per week, 1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Sociology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

This module focuses on the relationship between the personal and social and how these two domains are intricately related, simultaneously implying sameness and difference in the process of identification. It considers how societal structures and institutions shape and construct identities historically, whilst being shaped by individual agency, in turn. Human experience reveals a range of cross-cutting affiliations, based on ethnicity, race, religion, gender, sexuality and generation, amongst others, implying a multiplicity in belonging, suggesting a relational process, rather than an essence. The social, contingent and constructed nature of identities is highlighted against experiences of dislocation within a context of globalisation.

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