

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

Identity, culture and society 859 (SOC 859)

Qualification Postgraduate

Faculty [Faculty of Humanities](#)

Module credits 30.00

Programmes [Master of Social Science Gender Studies \(Coursework\)](#)
[MSocSci Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies \(Coursework\)](#)
[MSocSci Sociology \(Coursework\)](#)

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

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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