

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2017

Identity, culture and society 859 (SOC 859)

Qualification	Postgraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Module credits	30.00
Programmes	MSocSci Gender Studies (Coursework)
	MSocSci Industrial Sociology and Labour Studies (Coursework)
	MSocSci Sociology (Coursework)
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in 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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