

Introduction to Philosophy of the Social Sciences

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Clearihue B314
Wednesdays 2:00 - 3:00
and by appointment



In carrying out their work social scientists, knowingly or not, take up positions on philosophical

Introduction to Philosophy of the Social Sciences

Grades for the course will be assigned using the standard university scheme:

For N and DEF status, please see Department of Philosophy Policies posted in glass cabinets adjacent to CLE B315.

Information regarding accommodation of religious observance can be located in the UVIC Calendar at <http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2017-01/general/policies.html#pageTop>

Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will not be tolerated. Please review the University Policy on Academic Integrity at

Introduction to Philosophy of the Social Sciences

February 21	Problems of Rational Choice Theory,
February 22, 24, 28	Chapter 7: Social Psychology and the Construction of Society Hacking "What is Social Construction? The Teenage Pregnancy Example"
March 3, 7	Chapter 8: European Philosophy of Social Science Searle "The Word Turned Upside Down"
March 8, 10, 14	Chapter 9: Holism and Antireductionism in Sociology and Psychology Fodor "Special Sciences"
March 15, 17	Chapter 10: Functionalism as a Research Program Kincaid "Assessing Functional Explanations in the Social Sciences"
March 21, 22, 24	Chapter 11: Sociobiology or the Standard Social Science Model? Alexander and Skyrms "Bargaining with Neighbors"
March 28, 29, 31	Chapter 12: Theories of Cultural Evolution Richerson and Boyd "Culture Evolves"

due at 5 p.m.