

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice.  
The information below is provided as a guide for course selection  
and is not binding in any form.**

## MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

### Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

GSU2203 Self and Social Identity in Christianity, 4 credit hours

### Course Description

This course surveys contemporary theories of identity paying special attention to the relationship between identity and one's social context. Students will participate in a variety of activities to foster reflection on the manner in which personal activities and social trends impact identity. Emphasis placed on the evaluation of identity shaping structures, as well as on the development of strategies for cultivating a biblical identity.

There are no prerequisites required for this course.

### Course Objectives

By the completion of this course the learners should be able to:

1. Relate on one's own identity in relation to Christianity.
2. Compare and contrast the manner in which one's identity is displayed in various roles (e.g. student versus employee) and/or communicated through various modes (e.g. in person versus social media).
3. Produce an identity formation action plan for the development of Christian character.
4. Evaluate self and social identities from a Christian perspective.

### Content Expectations

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

### Assignments

All assignments are due according to the schedule listed on the Course Schedule.

1. **CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Active participation is expected in this online course. Participation includes two main areas: discussion boards and reading.
  - a. **Discussion Boards:** You must maintain a significant presence in the discussion board. Please refer to the discussion board rubric included in the Documents section of this course for more information on how your participation in the discussion board will be assessed.
  - b. **Course Expectations:** The completion of the course reading, audio/video reviews, online articles, etc. is an important part of the course. You are expected to complete the weekly expectations prior to your discussion boards each week so you are able to discuss the concepts with others in the course.
2. **ASSIGNMENTS:** There will be several projects in this course requiring skills learned that include work with Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Specific assignment instructions are provided under the Assignments menu. Assignments are submitted through a link provided so they can be recorded as submitted through the Blackboard Grade Center. The assignments in the course are:
  - a. **Assignment 1: Social Identity Theory Summary Paper**  
Your work in this first week will serve to form an initial basis for your study in the rest of the course. The summary and bibliography you'll be creating should demonstrate that you are familiar with a variety of perspectives on social identity in both more popular and academic circles.

Create a two (2) page double-spaced summary of social identity theory based on your research, as well as providing a 5 source bibliography. The bibliography can include a variety of sources including books, articles, and informal works such as videos, lectures, or reputable websites.

b. **Assignment 2: Christian Identity Summary Paper**

Using Moody's library systems and/or web-based search engines (e.g. Google, Yahoo, Bing), find and read several resources dealing with Christian identity.

- Create a four (4) page double-spaced summary of **five (5) aspects** of Christian identity based on your research.
- Provide a five (5) source bibliography.

c. **Assignment 3: Branding Goal, Cake & Icing, and Positioning Statement**

Create yourself an ePortfolio in Google Sites ePortfolio Resource Center. Follow the steps on the left menu on how to create an ePortfolio. Once you have created your ePortfolio and completed Step 1 of the system, post your information in your ePortfolio. Put your ePortfolio link to your instructor in the Assignment posting.

d. **Assignment 4: Self-Assessment Summary Paper**

It is important that you understand your capabilities and your proclivities as an individual and as a leader. For this portion of the course, you may choose to **take one (1)** of three (3) assessments provided in the Course Resources.

You should summarize your thoughts in a brief, two (2) page double-spaced reflection on the results of your assessment.

e. **Assignment 5: Messaging Statement**

**Complete Step 2** in the Branding Pays system. This step is designed to help you articulate your strengths so that you can more adequately confirm your calling and direction to those with whom you interact.

Use Figures 3.1, 3.2, and 3.8 to complete the assignment. A template has been provided in the Lesson 4 Resources folder.

f. **Assignment 6: e-Portfolio Introduction Summary**

Create an introduction or summary for your e-portfolio.

Put your e-Portfolio link to your instructor in the Assignment posting.

g. **Assignment 7: Branding Strategy Canvas**

**Complete Step 3** in the 'Branding Pays' system.

You should send in a brief, one (1) paragraph double-spaced statement giving your thoughts concerning how well you align to your strategy canvas.

h. **Assignment 8: Ecosystem Pyramid**

Create and submit an "ecosystem pyramid" identifying the path of reference and the path of communication that displays your identity.

i. **Assignment 9: Digital Footprint Paper**

After reading the essays assigned, evaluate your digital footprint listing the places where you can be found online.

In a two (2) page, double-spaced paper, discuss your digital footprint and how well it aligns with the work you have done in the rest of the course. If you have no digital

footprint, discuss whether or not you would want to develop one and why in a two (2) page, double-spaced paper.

- j. **Assignment 10: Evaluating Your Identity**  
Reflecting on the work you have completed in previous lessons, customize the “Key Areas” you believe should be placed in the “Brand Improvement Template” then complete the rest of the template.
- k. **Assignment 11: Christian Self and Social Identity**  
In no more than four (4) double-spaced pages, describe Christian self and social identity.
- l. **Assignment 12: Communication Plans**  
Create two (2) communication plans based this week’s reading. You should feel free to make modifications to the “Four Phases” as needed. The communication plans should be no more than two (2) double-spaced pages.

**Writing Style:** Undergraduate students at Moody Bible Institute are to follow the Modern Language Association (MLA) style for all written assignments. Your instructor may waive this requirement for specific assignments such as discussion boards, blogs, emails, and the like, but if not stated otherwise, follow MLA guidelines. Assignments not in proper MLA format may be returned with a request to redo the assignment and could be subject to a late penalty.

At a minimum, all assignments submitted as a document are to be in a standard 12-point font (limited to Time New Roman, Arial, Calibri, Cambria, Century Schoolbook), 8½ x 11 page size, and double-spaced and are to be submitted as a Microsoft Word document (.doc or .docx). Papers that cite other works should include a Works Cited page.

Students should follow the latest version of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (currently the 7<sup>th</sup> edition) or use the OWL website at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01>.

### Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

Assessments	% of Total
Class Participation	40
<b>Assignment 1:</b> Social Identity Theory Summary Paper	12.5
<b>Assignment 2:</b> Christian Identity Summary Paper	12.5
<b>Assignment 3:</b> Branding Goal, Cake & Icing, and Positioning Statement	5
<b>Assignment 4:</b> Self-Assessment Summary Paper	3
<b>Assignment 5:</b> Messaging Statement	3
<b>Assignment 6:</b> e-Portfolio Introduction Summary	5
<b>Assignment 7:</b> Branding Strategy Canvas	3
<b>Assignment 8:</b> Ecosystem Pyramid	3
<b>Assignment 9:</b> Digital Footprint Paper	3
<b>Assignment 10:</b> Evaluating Your Identity	3
<b>Assignment 11:</b> Christian Self and Social Identity	4
<b>Assignment 12:</b> Communication Plans	3
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent	Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent
A	96% or higher	C	73 - 76.9%
A-	90 - 95.9%	C-	70 - 72.9%
B+	87 - 89.9%	D+	67 - 69.9%
B	83 - 86.9%	D	63- 66.9%
B-	80 - 82.9%	D-	60 - 62.9%
C+	77 - 79.9%	F	Below 60%

### Course Copyright Statement

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### ADA Compliance Statement

Moody Bible Institute complies with the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) as well as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, by providing appropriate accommodations to qualified students with disabilities. We value diversity and inclusion and recognize disability as an aspect of diversity. Our shared goal is to create learning environments that are accessible, equitable, and inclusive. If you anticipate barriers related to the format, requirements, or assessment of this course, you are invited to address the professor with your concerns; additionally, you are encouraged to contact Gayla Gates, our disability services provider, at the Student Resource Center to discuss possible environmental modifications or adaptations. Please note, accommodations are not retroactive, therefore we encourage you to contact our service provider within the first two weeks of the semester. Contact Gayla Gates at ggates@moody.edu or 312-329-2177.