## Self and Other: Sex, Gender, and Culture

1. Culture and the self
   1. Culture and Personality
      1. Margaret Mead
         1. Student of Franz Boas
         2. Wanted to understand how personality is shaped by culture from infancy
         3. The turbulent adolescence (mostly of girls) was not found in Samoa as it was in the US at the time
         4. Psychological experience is not innate, but culturally shaped
         5. She found that gender roles varied by culture
      2. Ruth Benedict
         1. Student of Franz Boas
         2. Culture as personality
         3. Culture: Society :: Personality : Individual
   2. Habitus: “Being in the world”
      1. HABITUS: The relationship of culture and the individual (Pierre Bourdieu)
      2. Any form of bodily disposition or comportment that encodes a certain cultural understanding
      3. The forms of behavior (beginning with bodily posture) appropriate to a given social context that are enculturated into a child as it learns (to defer to others)
      4. The unconscious internalization of objective social strucutres which appear spontaneous and natural, but which are in fact socially conditioned
      5. Extremely naturalized way of “being in the world” or existence
      6. Decisions and actions are “orchestrated” without the conscious knowledge of the players or often the conductors
      7. Often actors do not realize the use of power between themselves and others
   3. Cultural conceptions of the “Self”
      1. Culture teaches us how to think about ourselves and the social / natural world around us
      2. Culture teaches a version of being human, or how to be human ( a recognized member) in society
      3. In some societies, the individual “self” is important
      4. Self-help
      5. Self-esteem
      6. Self development
      7. In others, the “self” is defined by the group, or in relation to the group
2. Anthropology of Sex and Gender
   1. How many “sexes” are there?
      1. Biological
      2. Male/Female/hermaphoride/transexual
   2. How many “genders” are there?
      1. Social construct