Psychology 345 (L01) – Social Psychology

Fall Session 2006

Instructor: Kelly Schwartz, Ph.D.
Phone: 571-2550 Ext 5908
Email: kdschwar@ucalgary.ca
Office: Admin 247B
Office Hours: By Appt

Lecture Location: KNBO 132
Lecture Days/Time: Tues 15:30-18:15

Course Description and Goals
The major goal of this course is to enhance your critical thinking abilities as you gain an understanding into the fundamental processes involved in human social behaviour. In order to achieve this goal, research theory and findings on social perception, social influence, and social interaction will be discussed.

Required Text
This text is available in the U of C bookstore.

Evaluation
Unit Exams:
Three non-cumulative unit exams (worth 33% each) will be administered throughout the term. Each exam consists of multiple choice questions based on material covered both in the textbook chapters and on lecture material and class discussion. Two of the unit exams will be written at the beginning of class on October 10 and November 7, while the third unit exam will be written during the Fall Session Final Exam Period.

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A+</th>
<th>96-100%</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>80-84%</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>67-71%</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>54-58%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-95%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>76-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>63-66%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-53%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>85-89%</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>72-75%</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>59-62%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-49%</td>
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As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor’s discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (i.e., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%; 89.4% will be rounded down to 89%, etc.).
Lecture Schedule

September 12  
Ch. 1 – Introducing Social Psychology

September 19  
Ch. 2 – The Self in the Social World

September 26  
Ch. 3 – Social Beliefs and Judgments

October 3  
Ch. 4 – Behaviour and Attitudes

October 10  
Unit Exam 1 and Ch. 5 – Culture, Language, and Gender

October 17  
Ch. 6 – Conformity

October 24  
Ch. 7 – Persuasion

October 31  
Ch. 8 – Group Influence

November 7  
Unit Exam 2 and Ch. 9 – Altruism: Helping Others

November 14  
Mid-Term Break (No Class)

November 21  
Ch. 10 – Aggression: Hurting Others

November 28  
Ch. 11 – Attraction and Intimacy: Liking and Loving Others

December 5  
Ch. 12 – Prejudice: Disliking Others
Ch. 13 – Conflict and Peacemaking: Intergroup Relations (text only)

Fall Session Final Exams  
Unit Exam 3

University of Calgary Curriculum Objectives

1) This course addresses the following core competencies:

   • Critical and creative thinking;
   • Gathering and organizing information;
   • Abstract reasoning and its application; and
   • Insight and intuition in generating knowledge.

With the following course characteristics:

   • Presenting and integrating interdisciplinary perspectives on human social behaviour (e.g., anthropological, cultural, evolutionary, legal, and sociological perspectives);
   • Identifying underlying themes (e.g., how cognitive, motivational, and affective factors interact to influence human social behaviour); and
   • Applying course concepts to everyday experiences with human social behaviour.

2) This course addresses the following curriculum redesign features:

   • A defined interdisciplinary component;
   • An international component; and
   • Integration of research.

With the following course characteristics:

   • An understanding the social organization of human behaviour, particularly the cultural, ethnic, racial, and gender factors that influence the development and expression of human attitude and behavior; and
   • Thinking and writing critically about research conducted on human social behaviour.

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next fifteen days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same.
If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within fifteen days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

**Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

**Academic Accommodation**

*It is the student’s responsibility to request academic accommodations.* If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

**Absence From A Test**

Make-up exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). You must contact the instructor before the scheduled examination or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. At the instructor's discretion, a make-up exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup exam is written within two (2) weeks of the missed exam.

A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test for health reasons. The student will be required to pay any cost associated with the Physician Counselor Statement.

**Course Credits for Research Participation**

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to an individual's final grade. Students can create an account and access the Research Participation System website at http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com. The last day to participate in research is December 7, 2006.

**Student Organizations**

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students’ Association (PSYCHS). They are located in the Administration building, room 170 or may be contacted at 220-5567.
Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and still receive a fee refund is September 22, 2006. The last day to withdraw from this course is December 8, 2006.