



Psychology 345

Social Psychology

Instructor:	John Ellard	Lecture Location:	Administration 167
Phone:	403-220-4960	Lecture Days/Time:	Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.
Email:	Psyc345e@ucalgary.ca	Teaching Assistant	Jocelyn Wiltshire
Office:	Administration 231A		
Office Hours:	After class or by appointment		

Course Description and Goals

This course will familiarize you with social psychological approaches to understanding a variety of human experiences. To that end, we will review theoretical and empirical strategies social psychologists have developed to help us understand such things as attitude change, conformity, prejudice, aggression, altruism, and attraction.

Course Objectives

- Awareness and understanding of what scientific social psychology is and its domains of inquiry.
- Comprehension of the social psychological perspective and its significance for understanding human experience.
- Knowledge of important social psychological theories and facts and their application to understanding human experience.
- Awareness and understanding of the methods and research strategies employed in scientific social psychology including their strengths and limitations.
- Appreciation of the ethical issues involved in social psychological research.
- An enhanced ability to understand our day-to-day experiences with others.
- Awareness of the relevance of scientific social psychology for understanding and addressing important social problems.
- Awareness of some of the applications of social psychology

Prerequisite

Psychology 205 – Principles of Psychology

Required Text

Aronson, Elliot (2012). *The Social Animal*. (11th ed.) New York, NY: Worth Publishers

Aronson, Elliot (2012). *Readings About The Social Animal*. (11th ed.) New York, NY: Worth Publishers

Both titles are available from the University of Calgary Bookstore.

Assignments, Tests, and Final Examination:

Thought Pieces: 15% of final grade

Three, two page reports summarizing your application of a social psychological theory to understanding a relevant experience in your own life will be due **Thursday, May 17, Thursday, May 24, and Tuesday, June 19**. These reports, worth 5% of the final grade each, are to be prepared using readings from the *Social Animal* and must not include references. The goal is for you to develop your ability at achieving insight into everyday experiences using ideas learned in the course. Format details are available at the course Blackboard site.

Thought Piece Due:	Relevant Chapters from the <i>Social Animal</i>
Thursday, May 17	1, 2, & 3
Thursday, May 31	4 & 5
Thursday, May 31	6, 7, & 8

Thought pieces must be submitted electronically at the course Bb site. Assignments are due no later than midnight of the due date.

One point will be deducted for each day the assignment is late, **including weekend days**.

Tests and Final Exam: 80% of final grade

There will be two in-class tests during the term as well as a final exam. The tests and final exam in this course are non-cumulative tests with both multiple choice and short answer questions. Each will only cover material not covered on previous tests. Final grades will be based on performance on each of these as follows:

- Test 1.** To be held in class on **Thursday, May 24**. The test will be based on the material covered in Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 9 in *The Social Animal* and related readings in *Readings About the Social Animal* (see below) and relevant lecture material. (Worth **26%** of the final grade.)
- Test 2.** To be held in class on **Tuesday, June 12**. The test will be based on the material covered in Chapters 4 and 5 in *The Social Animal* and related readings in *Readings About the Social Animal* (see below) and relevant lecture material. (Worth **27%** of the final grade.)
- Final Exam.** Date to be scheduled by the Registrar. Based on material covered in chapters 6, 7, and 8 in *The Social Animal* and related readings in *Readings About the Social Animal* (see below) and relevant lecture material. (Worth **27%** of the final grade.)

Class Participation: 5% of final grade

This class will be using the MonocleCAT (monocle Computer Assisted Teaching) tool throughout the semester. MonocleCAT is a web-based system that allows immediate interactive feedback and graphical simulations, to both aid and assess your understanding of the course material.

MonocleCAT feedback, questions and simulations are launched on demand by the professor during class. You can participate using your laptop, ipod, smartphone, or cell-phone. MonocleCAT is licensed by student subscription, with unlimited courses per student. (you can access all of their courses using the system throughout the subscription term, with a single subscription.)

Subscription keys are available at the university bookstore or directly on the Top Hat Monocle website at <http://www.tophatmonocle.com/register/>

A student subscription can be obtained for the following durations: \$20.00 for 4 months \$38.00 for 60 months (5 years) \$120.00 for lifetime VIP

Technical Requirements: You will be able to access MonocleCAT in class through any one of:

- Laptop (PC or Mac) with web browser (Firefox 3.0+ recommended) and Adobe Flash Player
- Smartphone via app or mobile browser
- Cellphone via text messaging

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

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 (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Readings:

TOPIC	THE SOCIAL ANIMAL	READINGS ABOUT THE SOCIAL ANIMAL
What is Social Psychology?	Ch. 1	Ch. 1 & 2
Conformity and Obedience	Ch. 2	Ch. 5 & 6
Mass Communication, Propaganda, & Persuasion	Ch. 3	Ch. 8 & 9
Social Cognition	Ch. 4	Ch. 13, 14, & 15
Self Justification	Ch. 5	Ch. 16, 18, & 20
Human Aggression	Ch. 6	Ch. 23 & 25
Prejudice	Ch. 7	Ch. 27, 32, & 33
Liking, Loving, & Interpersonal Sensitivity	Ch. 8	Ch. 35, 38, & 39
Social Psychology as Science	Ch. 9	-

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Note: Midterm tests on May 24 and June 12 will be conducted during the first 75 minutes of class. There will be a lecture on these days after the test that will commence at 11:30 a.m.

Date	Lecture Topics and Course Component Schedule
R May 10	Course Overview Introduction to social psychology
M May 14	<i>Last day for registration/change of registration and last day to drop a course with tuition refund.</i>
T May 15	Conformity
R May 17	Conformity, mass communication and persuasion <i>Thought piece #1 due</i>
T May 22	Mass communication and persuasion
R May 24	<i>Midterm Test 1</i> Social cognition
T May 29	Social cognition

Date		Lecture Topics and Course Component Schedule
R May 31	Social cognition, self-justification <i>Thought piece #2 due</i>	
T June 5	Self-justification	
R June 7	Self-justification	
T June 12	<i>Midterm Test 2</i> Human aggression	
R June 14	Human aggression, prejudice	
T June 19	Prejudice, liking, loving, & interpersonal sensitivity <i>Thought piece #3 due</i>	
R June 21	Liking, loving, & interpersonal sensitivity	
F June 22	Last day to withdraw.	
June 25-27	Final Exam – Scheduled by the Registrar	

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 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 15 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 15 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 403-220-8237. 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 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this

Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two (2) credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>

The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **June 25th, 2012.**

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911

suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913

socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a tuition fee refund** and the last day for registration/change of registration is **May 14, 2012.** The last day to withdraw from this course is **June 22, 2012.**