



Psychology 345-01

Social Psychology

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| Instructor: | Dr. Melissa Boyce | Lecture Location: | ENE 243 |
| Phone: | 403-210-6257 | Lecture Days/Time: | MWF 10:00 – 10:50am |
| Email: | mboyce@ucalgary.ca | Teaching Assistant: | Nicole Percival |
| Office: | A258 | | |
| Office Hours: | TBA | | |

Course Description and Goals

Social psychological approaches to understanding social influence, social perception and cognition, attitudes, and group dynamics.

This course surveys a wide range of areas of study within the field of social psychology. By the end of the course you should be:

1. able to identify and understand the social psychological perspective on psychological phenomenon and how it differs from perspectives in other areas of psychology and the social sciences
2. able to identify and understand the major theoretical frameworks within social psychology (e.g., social learning theory, cognitive dissonance theory, etc.) and their real life applications (e.g., aggression, attitude formation, etc.)
3. familiar with the types of research questions and research designs common in studies in this area, and able to critique research findings on relevant topics that you encounter in the media and elsewhere.

Prerequisites

Psyc 205 – Principles of Psychology)

Required Text

Brehm, S. S., Kassin, S., Fein, S., & Burke, T. (2008). *Social Psychology (First Canadian Ed.)*, Toronto, ON: Nelson Education Ltd. (available in the university bookstore)

Course Website

The course website is located on blackboard:
<https://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login/>

Notes for each week's classes will be posted at the beginning of the week. In addition, announcements and grades will be posted on this site.

Evaluation

Exams: Three exams are scheduled for this course covering text and lecture material (including films). Exams are non-cumulative and will consist of multiple-choice questions.

| | Date | Chapters Covered | Worth |
|---------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-------|
| Exam 1 | Feb 8, 2011 | 1-5 | 25% |
| Exam 2 | Mar 21, 2011 | 6-9 | 25% |
| Exam 3 | TBA (during final exam period) | 10-12 | 20% |

Max total = 70% of your mark

In-Class Group Assignments: Two in-class group assignments (Feb 17 and Apr 4) worth 5% each (max total = 10% of your mark). These assignments are intended to help you apply the concepts that you have learned in class. You will work on these assignments in groups of 3-6 and hand them in at the end of class.

Thought Paper: Two thought papers 3-4 pages double-spaced in length worth 10% each (max total = 20% of your mark) where you will apply social psychological theories or concepts that you have learned about in class to a real life event (either from your own life or from a newspaper article). These papers are intended to help you develop insight into everyday experiences using ideas learned in the course. Further details will be provided in class and posted on Blackboard. Due Feb 17 and Mar 28.

You are expected to hand in your printed assignments at the beginning of class on the due dates. If you cannot attend class on either of those days, you must 1) drop your assignment off in the box outside of A275 or 2) email me the assignment as a Word file attachment, before noon on the due date. Late papers will not be accepted without medical documentation.

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-).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

| WEEK | DATE | TOPIC | READINGS |
|------|-------------|--|---|
| 1 | Mon, Jan 9 | Overview of the course | Course Outline |
| | Wed, Jan 11 | Intro to Social Psychology | Ch 1 |
| | Fri, Jan 13 | Intro to Social Psychology | Ch 1 |
| 2 | Mon, Jan 16 | Research Methods in Social Psychology | Ch 2 |
| | Wed, Jan 18 | Research Methods in Social Psychology | Ch 2 |
| | Fri, Jan 20 | The Social Self <i>Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.</i> | Ch 3 |
| 3 | Mon, Jan 23 | The Social Self <i>Last day for registration/change of registration.</i> | Ch 3 |
| | Wed, Jan 25 | Perceiving Persons | Ch 4 |
| | Fri, Jan 27 | Perceiving Persons | Ch 4 |
| 4 | Mon, Jan 30 | Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination | Ch 5 |
| | Wed, Feb 1 | Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination | Ch 5 |
| | Fri, Feb 3 | Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination | Ch 5 |
| 5 | Mon, Feb 6 | Video/Guest Speaker | |
| | Wed, Feb 8 | Exam 1 | All material to date |
| | Fri, Feb 10 | Attitudes | Ch 6 |
| 6 | Mon, Feb 13 | Attitudes | Ch 6 |
| | Wed, Feb 15 | Attitudes | Ch 6 |
| | Fri, Feb 17 | In-Class Assignment 1 | <i>Thought Paper 1 due at the beginning of class</i> |
| 7 | Mon, Feb 20 | Alberta Family Day. No lecture. | |
| | Wed, Feb 22 | Reading Days. No lecture | |
| | Fri, Feb 24 | Reading Days. No lecture. | |
| 8 | Mon, Feb 27 | Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience | Ch 7 |
| | Wed, Feb 29 | Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience | Ch 7 |
| | Fri, Mar 2 | Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience | Ch 7 |
| 9 | Mon, Mar 5 | Video – Milgram’s Obedience | |
| | Wed, Mar 7 | Group Processes | Ch 8 |
| | Fri, Mar 9 | Group Processes | Ch 8 |
| 10 | Mon, Mar 12 | Group Processes | Ch 8 |
| | Wed, Mar 14 | Video – Quiet Rage: The Stanford Prison Experiment | |

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|-----------|----------------------------|---|--|
| | Fri, Mar 16 | Attraction and Close Relationships | Ch 9 |
| 11 | Mon, Mar 19 | Attraction and Close Relationships | Ch 9 |
| | Wed, Mar 21 | Exam 2 | All material since exam 1 |
| | Fri, Mar 23 | Aggression | Ch 11 |
| 12 | Mon, Mar 26 | Aggression | Ch 11 |
| | Wed, Mar 28 | Aggression | Thought Paper 2 due at the beginning of class |
| | Fri, Mar 30 | Helping Others | Ch 10 |
| 13 | Mon, Apr 2 | Helping Others | Ch 10 |
| | Wed, Apr 4 | In-Class Assignment 2 | |
| | Fri, Apr 6 | Good Friday. No lecture. | |
| 14 | Mon, Apr 9 | Law | Ch 12 |
| 15 | Wed, Apr 11 | Law | Ch 12 |
| | Thurs, Apr 12 | <i>Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits.</i> | |
| | Fri, Apr 13 | Video – What Jennifer Saw. Last day to withdraw. | |
| | Mon, Apr 16 – Thurs Apr 27 | Final Exam (scheduled by Registrar) | All material since exam 2 |

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 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 **Apr 13th, 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 <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **January 20, 2012**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 23, 2012**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 13, 2012**.