

Psychology 345	Social Psychology	Fall 2020
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Instructor:	John Ellard	Lecture:	Synchronous via Zoom
Phone:	403-220-4960	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF 1:00 – 1:50 p.m.
Email:	ellard@ucalgary.ca	Office:	Administration 231B
Office Hours:	by appointment		

Course Description

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. Social psychology, perhaps more than any other domain of psychology, provides a basis for understanding the merits of equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in human relationships. It also provides perspective on barriers to achieving EDI along with science-based ways to overcome them. Accordingly, throughout the course, attention will be given to EDI through lecture content and opportunities for self-reflection in course work.

Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Psychology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate (see psyc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/program-learning-outcomes), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Identify what scientific social psychology is and its domains of inquiry.	Multiple Choice Exams	1, 7	I, C
Comprehend the social psychological perspective and its significance for understanding human experience.	Multiple Choice Exams, Thought Pieces	1, 7	I, C
Knowledge of important social psychological theories and facts and their application to understanding human experience.	Multiple Choice Exams, Thought Pieces	1, 7	I, C
Identify the methods and research strategies employed in scientific social psychology including their strengths and limitations.	Multiple Choice Exams	1, 7	I, C
Appreciate the ethical issues involved in social psychological research.	Multiple Choice Exams	1, 7	I, C
An enhanced ability to understand our day-to-day experiences with others.	Multiple Choice Exams, Thought Pieces	1, 7	I, C
Describe the relevance of scientific social psychology for understanding and addressing important social problems.	Multiple Choice Exams, Thought Pieces	1, 7	I, C
Describe some of the applications of social psychology	Multiple Choice Exams, Thought Pieces	1, 7	I, C
Develop understanding of the relevance of social psychology for understanding the benefits of equity, diversity, and inclusion for	Multiple Choice Exams, Thought Pieces	1, 8	I, C

human relationships as well as awareness of barriers to EDI and how to overcome them.			
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Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills, 8 = Demonstrate multicultural competence and awareness of issues related to equity, diversity,* and inclusion. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students or student groups. In addition, if any of our class meetings conflict with your religious events, please let me know so that we can make arrangements for you. It is also understood that the format of this course, that relies heavily on lectures delivered online, is not ideal for fully engaging the benefits of diversity in learning. Hence, it is particularly important for students to share with me any concerns they have about equity, diversity, and inclusion in connection with this course. Of particular concern are potential inequities associated with online delivery. If your circumstances make online learning difficult, please contact me so we can consider ways of helping.

The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

Course Format

Lectures will be taught live via Zoom during each scheduled class as per the course schedule below and will be recorded and posted to D2L after class.

Prerequisites

Psychology 200 and 201 – Principles of Psychology I & II

Required Text

Aronson, Elliot and Aronson, Joshua (2018). *The Social Animal*. (12th ed.) New York, NY: Worth Publishers

Aronson, Joshua & Aronson, Elliot (Eds.) (2018). *Readings About The Social Animal*. (12th ed.) New York, NY: Worth Publishers

Both titles are available from the University of Calgary Bookstore but used copies will not be available.

Please Note: The 12th edition of these books are significant revisions of the previous edition. Earlier editions will not adequately substitute.

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 **February 1, March 8, and April 7**. 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 D2L site.

Thought Piece Due:	Relevant Chapters from the <i>Social Animal</i>
Monday, February 1	1, 2, & 3
Monday, March 8	4, 5, & 6
Wednesday, April 7	7, and 8

Thought pieces must be submitted electronically at the course D2L site. Assignments are due no later than midnight of the due date.

Thought pieces are marked out of five and without instructor approval, one point will be deducted for each day the assignment is late, **including weekend days**.

Tests and Final Exam: 85% 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 multiple-choice tests. No exam aids, including electronic devices, will be permitted during test or the final examination. 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 **Friday, February 5**. The test will be based on the material covered in Chapters 1, 2, and 3, in *The Social Animal*, related readings in *Readings About the Social Animal* and relevant lecture material. (Worth **27%** of the final grade.)
- Test 2.* To be held in class on **Friday, March 12**. The test will be based on the material covered in Chapters 4, 5, and 6 in *The Social Animal*, related readings in *Readings About the Social Animal*, and relevant lecture material. (Worth **29%** of the final grade.)
- Final Exam.* Date to be scheduled by the Registrar. Based on material covered in chapters 7, 8, and 9 in *The Social Animal* and related readings in *Readings About the Social Animal*, and relevant lecture material. (Worth **29%** of the final grade.)

Midterm tests will commence at the regularly scheduled class time of 1:00 p.m. Students will have 75 minutes to complete the tests and final examination. Once the tests and final examination are available, students will have 24 hours to start each midterm test and final examination. Dr. Ellard will be available by email during the 24-hour test period except between 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

Exams in this course are closed book. The use of resources, including class notes, the textbook, online resources, and calculators is prohibited during the exams in this course. Students may not communicate with others about course material or the exam either in person or electronically during exams.

Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance*. An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance*. Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.

B Range: *Good Performance*. Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

C Range: *Satisfactory Performance*. Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

D range: *Marginally meets standards*. Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

F grade: *Course standards not met*. Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

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. In this course 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

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date
M Jan 11	Course Overview
W Jan 13	Chapter 1: Introduction to social psychology
F Jan 15	Chapter 1: Introduction to social psychology
M Jan 18	Chapter 2: Social Cognition
W Jan 20	Chapter 2: Social Cognition
R Jan 21	<i>Last day to drop Winter Term half-courses.</i>
F Jan 22	Chapter 2: Social Cognition <i>Last day to add or swap a course</i>
M Jan 25	Chapter 2: Social Cognition
W Jan 27	Chapter 3: Self-Justification
F Jan 29	Chapter 3: Self-Justification <i>Fee payment deadline for Winter Term fees.</i>
M Feb 1	Chapter 3: Self-Justification Thought Piece 1 due
W Feb 3	Chapter 3: Self-Justification

F Feb 5	Test 1: Social Animal, Chapters 1 – 3 and relevant chapters from Readings About The Social Animal
M Feb 8	Chapter 4: Conformity
W Feb 10	Chapter 4: Conformity
F Feb 12	Chapter 4: Conformity
M Feb 15	<i>Alberta Family Day</i>
Feb 14-20	<i>Term Break, No Classes (University if Open, Except on Alberta Family Day)</i>
M Feb 22	Chapter 4: Conformity
W Feb 24	Chapter 5: Mass Communication, Propaganda, and Persuasion
F Feb 26	Chapter 5: Mass Communication, Propaganda, and Persuasion
M Mar 1	Chapter 5: Mass Communication, Propaganda, and Persuasion
W Mar 3	Chapter 5: Mass Communication, Propaganda, and Persuasion
F Mar 5	Chapter 6: Human Aggression
M Mar 8	Chapter 6: Human Aggression Thought Piece 2 due
W Mar 10	Chapter 6: Human Aggression
F Mar 12	Test 2: Social Animal, Chapters 4 – 6 and relevant chapters from Readings About The Social Animal
M Mar 15	Chapter 7: Prejudice
W Mar 17	Chapter 7: Prejudice
F Mar 19	Chapter 7: Prejudice
M Mar 22	Chapter 7: Prejudice
W Mar 24	Chapter 8: Liking, Loving, and Connecting
F Mar 26	Chapter 8: Liking, Loving, and Connecting
M Mar 30	Chapter 8: Liking, Loving, and Connecting
W Mar 31	Chapter 8: Liking, Loving, and Connecting
F Apr 2	<i>Good Friday, University Closed</i>
M Apr 6	<i>Easter Monday, University Closed</i>
W Apr 7	Chapter 9: Social Psychology as a Science Thought Piece 3 due
F Apr 9	Chapter 9: Social Psychology as a Science
M Apr 12	Chapter 9: Social Psychology as a Science
W Apr 14	Chapter 9: Social Psychology as a Science
R Apr 15	<i>Last day of classes, last day to withdraw from winter courses</i>
Apr. 19-29	<i>Final Exam Period</i>

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 research and allocate credits is Thursday, April 15, 2021.**

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor. Students who miss a test/exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup test/exam. It's the instructor's discretion if they will allow a make-up 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. *Once approved by the instructor a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor.* If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Travel During Exams

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>. Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology (psyugrd@ucalgary.ca).

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Academic Accommodations

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Academic Misconduct

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor.

The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Freedom OF Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

Student Support and Resources

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund is Thursday, January 21, 2021.** Last day add/swap a course is **Friday, January 22, 2021.** The last day to withdraw from this course is **Thursday, April 15, 2021** <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>