



PSYC 345

Social Psychology

Fall 2017

Instructor: Dr. K. Edwin Sheppard

Phone: 403-220-8970

Lecture Location: ICT 122

Lecture Days/Time: M/W/F: 10:00-
10:50am

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Office Hours: TBA

Course Description

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. knowledgeable of 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.

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)
Demonstrate knowledge of key theoretical concepts in social psychology and apply them to real world settings.	Exam; written assignments	1, 4, 5, 7	C
Identify and differentiate between the dominant research questions, theoretical frameworks, and debates in social psychological research	Exam	1, 2, 7	C
Make reasonable empirical and everyday predictions based on relevant social psychological theory	Exam; written assignment	1, 2, 7	C

Apply major concepts discussed in class to generate solutions to real world social problems	Written assignment	1, 4, 6, 7	C
Write a well-motivated and plausible research proposal that is grounded in a brief literature review and proposes a novel social psychological study to test a clearly-defined hypothesis	Written assignment	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	C

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. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

Prerequisites

PSYC 200 and PSYC 201 (or equivalent) – Principles of Psychology I & II

Required Text

Kassin, S., Fein, S., Markus, H. R., & Burke, T. (2013). *Social Psychology (Second Canadian Ed.)*, Toronto, ON: Nelson Education Ltd. (available in the university bookstore)

Assessment Methods

Assignment	Weighting	Date
Exam 1	20%	October 6
Exam 2	20%	November 20
Final Exam	30%	To be scheduled by the registrar
In-class assignment 1	5%	October 20
In-class assignment 2	5%	November 9
Thought Paper	10%	October 23
Research Proposal	10%	November 24

Exams: Three exams are scheduled for this course covering text and lecture material (including films). The first two exams are non-cumulative and will consist of multiple-choice questions, each will be 50 minutes long. The final exam will be 2 hours in length. This final **is cumulative** and will consist of multiple-choice questions.

The use of computers, cell phones or any other technology is NOT permitted for exams in this course. No study aids will be permitted during exams for this course.

In-Class Group Assignments: Two in-class group assignments worth 5% each (max total = 10% of your mark). These assignments are open-book and do not require advanced preparation. They are intended to help you apply the concepts that you have learned in class. For each assignment, you will be asked to design and propose a solution to a real world issue using social psychological principles discussed in class. You will work on these assignments in groups of 3-4 and hand them in at the end of class.

A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a in-class assignment for health reasons. Students who miss a in-class assignment must contact Dr. Sheppard to notify him of any absences during these assignments. A makeup assignment will be offered at the

discretion of Dr. Sheppard. You have 48 hours to notify Dr. Sheppard of your absence following an in-class assignment. If you fail to do so during that time you will receive a grade of 0 on the assignment.

In-class assignments will be graded based on completion, accurate application of the concepts being addressed, thoughtfulness of the analysis and overall effort contributed to the assignment.

Thought Paper: One thought paper 3-4 pages double-spaced in length (with 12 pt Times New Roman font and 1" margins) worth 10% 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). This paper is intended to help you develop insight into everyday experiences using concepts discussed in the course. Further details will be provided in class and posted on D2L. **Due October 23.**

Research Proposal: One research proposal 3-4 pages double-spaced in length (with 12 pt Times New Roman font and 1" margins) worth 10% where you will propose a novel study to test a social psychological question of your choice. Your research proposal should include 1) a rationale for the research with background literature to support your hypothesis or hypotheses, and 2) a description of the method that you propose to test your research question. This research proposal is intended to help you to think about social psychological questions from a scientific perspective. Further details will be provided in class and posted on D2L. **Due November 24.**

You are expected to hand in a hard copy of your thought paper and research proposal at the beginning of class on the due dates. If you cannot attend class on either of those days, you must drop your paper off in the grey box outside of A255. Electronic copies of assignments will not be accepted. Additionally, late papers and assignments will be receive a 10% deduction per day late (including weekends) until 7 days at which point your assignment will receive a grade of zero.

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 there will be no rounding up of final grades, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research participation.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Ideally in table format with date of class, topics to be covered, and chapters/readings to be read. Due dates for tests/exams and assignments should be included in this schedule as well.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Week	Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date (revise and add columns & rows as necessary)	Readings/Due Dates
1	M Sep 11	Overview of the course University Lectures begin.	
	W Sep 13	Introduction to Social Psychology	Ch. 1
	F Sep 15	Introduction to Social Psychology	Ch. 1
2	M Sep 18	Research Methods in Social Psychology	Ch. 2
	W Sep 20	The Social Self	Ch. 3
	F Sep 22	The Social Self Last day to drop full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. No refunds for full courses (Multi-term) or Fall Term half courses after this date.	Ch. 3

3	M Sep 25	Perceiving Persons Last day to add or swap full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.	Ch. 4
	W Sep 27	Perceiving Persons	Ch. 4
	F Sep 29	Stereotypes and Prejudice Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.	Ch. 5
4	M Oct 2	Stereotypes and Prejudice	Ch. 5
	W Oct 4	Stereotypes and Prejudice	Ch. 5
	F Oct 6	Exam 1	All material to date including Chapters 1 - 5
5	M Oct 9	Thanksgiving Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.	
	W Oct 11	Attitudes	Ch. 6
	F Oct 13	Attitudes	Ch. 6
6	M Oct 16	Attitudes	Ch. 6
	W Oct 18	Attitudes	Ch. 6
	F Oct 20	In- Class Assignment 1	
7	M Oct 23	Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience	Ch. 7 Thought paper due at the beginning of class
	W Oct 25	Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience	Ch. 7
	F Oct 27	Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience	Ch. 7
8	M Oct 30	Group Processes	Ch. 8
	W Nov 1	Group Processes	Ch. 8
	F Nov 3	Group Processes	Ch. 8
9	M Nov	Attraction and Close Relationships	Ch. 9

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	W Nov 8	Attraction and Close Relationships	Ch. 9
	Nov 9-12	Reading Days. No lectures.	
10	M Nov 13	Remembrance Day (Observed). University Closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.	
	W Nov 15	Attraction and Close Relationships	Ch. 9
	F Nov 17	Attraction and Close Relationships	Ch. 9
12	M Nov 20	Exam 2	All material since Exam 1 including Chapters 6 - 9
	W Nov 22	Aggression	Ch. 11
	F Nov 24	Aggression	Ch. 11 Research proposal due at the beginning of class
13	M Nov 27	Aggression	Ch. 11
	W Nov 29	In-Class Assignment 2	
	F Dec 1	Helping Others	Ch. 10
14	M Dec 4	Helping Others	Ch. 10
	W Dec 6	Helping Others	Ch. 10
	F Dec 8	Helping Others Fall Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.	Ch. 10
	Dec 11-21	Fall Term Exam Period.	All material to date with an emphasis on 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; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 15 days. 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 Accommodations

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy. Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy. Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the instructor.

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 up to 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 during exam make-up hours provided by the department <http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/exam-and-course-information#mues>. 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 http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final. Under no circumstances will this be accommodated by the department.

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 http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final. Under no circumstances will this be accommodated by the department.

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 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.

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. 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.

Campus Mental Health Strategy

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Course Credits for Research Participation :

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 **Dec 8, 2017**.

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 130 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Rep.: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombudsmen provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or ombuds@ucalgary.ca

(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>)

Safewalk

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year.

Call 403-220-5333.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **September 22, 2017**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **September 25, 2017**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 8, 2017**.