



Department of Psychology
Psychology 345 (L01) – Social Psychology
Fall 2010 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Dr. Melissa Boyce	Lecture Location:	Admin 142
Phone:	403-410-6257	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF 11:00-11:50am
Email:	mboyce@ucalgary.ca	Grading TA:	Eddie Sheppard
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Office Hours:	MW 12-1pm	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	Oct 13, 2010	1-5	25%
Exam 2	Nov 15, 2010	6-8	25%
Exam 3	TBA (during final exam period)	9-12	20%

Total = 70% of your mark

In-Class Group Assignments: Two in-class group assignments (Oct 22 and Dec 3) worth 5% each (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 (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 Oct 22 and Nov 29.

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, Sept 13	Intro to Social Psychology	Course Outline
	Wed, Sept 15	Intro to Social Psychology	Ch 1
	Fri, Sept 17	Research Methods in Social Psychology	Ch 2
2	Mon, Sept 20	Research Methods in Social Psychology	Ch 2
	Wed, Sept 22	The Social Self	Ch 3

	Fri, Sept 24	The Social Self <i>Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.</i>	Ch 3
3	Mon, Sept 27	Perceiving Persons <i>Last day for registration/change of registration.</i>	Ch 4
	Wed, Sept 29	Perceiving Persons	Ch 4
	Fri, Oct 1	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination	Ch 5
4	Mon, Oct 4	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination	Ch 5
	Wed, Oct 6	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination	Ch 5
	Fri, Oct 8	Video – A Class Divided	
5	Mon, Oct 11	Thanksgiving Day. No lecture. University closed.	
	Wed, Oct 13	Exam 1	All material to date
	Fri, Oct 15	Attitudes	Ch 6
6	Mon, Oct 18	Attitudes	Ch 6
	Wed, Oct 20	Attitudes	Ch 6
	Fri, Oct 22	In-Class Assignment 1	Thought Paper 1 due at the beginning of class
7	Mon, Oct 25	Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience	Ch 7
	Wed, Oct 27	Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience	Ch 7
	Fri, Oct 29	Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience	Ch 7
8	Mon, Nov 1	Video – Milgram’s Obedience	
	Wed, Nov 3	Group Processes	Ch 8
	Fri, Nov 5	Group Processes	Ch 8
9	Mon, Nov 8	Group Processes	Ch 8
	Wed, Nov 10	Video – Quiet Rage: The Stanford Prison Experiment	
	Fri, Nov 12	Reading Days. No lecture.	
10	Mon, Nov 15	Exam 2	All material since Exam 1
	Wed, Nov 17	Attraction and Close Relationships	Ch 9
	Fri, Nov 19	Attraction and Close Relationships	Ch 9
11	Mon, Nov 22	Aggression	Ch 11
	Wed, Nov 24	Aggression	Ch 11
	Fri, Nov 26	Video – Little Criminals	
12	Mon, Nov 29	Helping Others	Ch 10 Thought Paper 2 due at the beginning of class
	Wed, Dec 1	Helping Others	Ch 10
	Fri, Dec 3	In-Class Assignment 2	
13	Mon, Dec 6	Law	Ch 12

	Wed, Dec 8	Law <i>Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits.</i>	Ch 12
	Fri, Dec 10	Video – What Jennifer Saw <i>Last day to withdraw.</i>	
	Mon, Dec 13 – Thurs Dec 23	Final Exam (scheduled by 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.

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 8th, 2010**.

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 with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Sep 24th, 2010**. Last day for registration/change of registration is Sep 27th, 2010. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Dec 10th, 2010**.