

Psychology 345	Social Psychology	Winter 2016
Instructor: Cara MacInnis	Lecture Location: ENE 241	
Phone: 403-220-4968	Lecture Days/Time: MWF 1400-14:50	
Email: cara.macinnis@ucalgary.ca	TA: Clark Amistad	
Office: AD 237A	TA email: clark.amistad@ucalgary.ca	
Office Hours: Fridays 11am-1pm		

Course Description and Goals

This course surveys a broad range of topics in social psychology. It will familiarize you with theoretical and empirical strategies social psychologists have developed to understand social psychological phenomena such as attitudes, conformity, aggression, prejudice, altruism, and attraction.

Course objectives include:

- 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

Prerequisites

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

Required Text

Aronson, E., Wilson, T., Fehr, B., & Akert, R. (2013). *Social Psychology, 5th Canadian Edition*. Toronto: Pearson. (Available at University Bookstore)

Evaluation

Component	Date	Weight
Test 1	Friday Feb.5th	30%
Test 2	Friday Mar.11th	30%
Test 3	Monday Apr.11th	10%
Written assignment draft 1	Monday March 14th	5%
Written assignment draft 2	Wednesday April 13th	20%
Participation	(throughout the term)	5%

Tests

There will be three in-class tests during the term. The tests 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 (see schedule for material to be covered). No personal electronic devices (e.g., iPads, cell phones), notes, or books are allowed during tests. **There is no registrar scheduled final exam in this course.**

Written assignment

See below for details

Participation

There will be opportunities to participate throughout the term in small group discussions, demonstrations, and exercises. It is to your benefit to participate. This will give you an opportunity to apply what you are learning, share your opinions, and learn about your classmates' opinions. Group member names will be collected each time this occurs and quantity/quality of participation will be assessed. At the end of the term you will receive a participation mark out of 5.

Assignment: Applying Social Psychology to the Media

Instructions: This is a 2 part assignment. You will submit a proposal on March 14 and the final paper on April 13. For this assignment, please collect 3 pieces of popular media information that have a bearing on topics **from course material covered on or after March 14th (prosocial behaviour, aggression, prejudice, and/or social psychology and the law)**. Each piece of media you decide to include with your paper must be directly relevant to a social psychology concept or concepts covered in these chapters. The media examples you choose may include blog posts, newspaper/ magazine articles, advertisements, webpages, comic strips, photographs, advice columns, songs, TV shows, movies, or anything else that strikes you as relevant. Note: these should not be media examples described in the textbook, you should find them yourself.

Using course material, carefully explain how the item relates to one or more specific social psychological concepts (depth is typically better than breadth). For each item that you have collected, describe and define the concept represented by the item *in your own words*; do not use any direct quotes, but always reference/cite where the material is coming from - using material without proper citation is plagiarism. You will also discuss your media item in terms of recent social psychological research on the concept. For each media item you must also cite at least one journal article published within the past 15 years (ideally, these will be empirical studies rather than review or theoretical articles). You may NOT reference lecture directly, but you can reference material presented in lecture, just reference the direct source of the lecture material (either the textbook or journal article, [when in doubt, ask]).

You should cover a variety of concepts. That is, each media item should relate to a unique concept (it is ok if multiple media items relate to the same concept, so long as each involves at least one unique concept). The lectures/chapters that are the focus of this assignment will not be covered until after your proposal is due. You are encouraged to read ahead in your textbook and can use any concepts covered in the text chapters 9, 10, 11, or SPA 3. It is recommend that you skim these Chapters as soon as possible, so you can be on the look-out for media examples of these concepts throughout the term. The relevant lectures will occur before your final paper is due and these can be used to further develop your ideas. Your grade will be based on coherence, accuracy, completeness, and conciseness of your description of how each item is related to social psychological concepts.

In this assignment you will demonstrate your understanding of social psychology topics and your ability to apply this material in thinking about a new problem. The information discussed in class and the text represents the building blocks you should use to write your paper, but you should read more deeply about each topic. It is crucial that you cite as much information as possible from your research to support your arguments in the paper. Use the paper to demonstrate that you have understood the lectures, read about the concepts on your own, and gained skills in applying the material.

Part 1: Proposal of final paper (5%)

- Briefly describe the media you have chosen
- Briefly describe in your own words the ideas/theories/concepts you are going to use in your paper to explain the media you have chosen.
- 1-2 pages double-spaced (no more than 2 pages)
- Not in essay format, can be point form, but, must be clear, coherent, proper grammar/spelling
- No need for references or APA format here.
- Due: Mar 14, 2016. Hard copy due in class or in green box outside of AD255 by 4pm. **LATE PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Part 2: Final paper (20%)

- The completed assignment will be in essay format with clear introductory and concluding paragraphs.
- Essays must be double-spaced
- Length will be approximately 1200-1500 words
- APA style should be used for citations and reference list
- Proofread your paper for spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Your paper will be graded on style as well as content. It must be grammatical and clearly organized.
- Include a title page with the title of the essay, your name, course name, my name, and due date (title page and reference page are not included in wordcount).
- Submit copies of, links to, or clear summaries of the media material so we can see the item you are discussing as an appendix– do not use media that you cannot submit or easily describe in one or two sentences.
- Due: Apr.13, 2016. Hard copy due in class or in green box outside of AD255 by 4pm. **LATE PAPERS WILL BE RECEIVE A 10% PENALTY PER DAY.**

Ways to find journal articles:

- Use psychology databases through the library: <http://library.ucalgary.ca/databases-subject-or-name/research-databases?s=85>
- Use GoogleScholar
- Need more help? Consult with a librarian: <http://library.ucalgary.ca/services/consult>

Department of Psychology Grade Distribution Policy

The distribution of grades in Psychology courses (the percentage of A grades, B grades, etc.) will be similar to the distribution of grades in other courses in the Faculty of Arts. The Department monitors the grade distributions of 200-, 300-, and 400-level courses in the Faculty to ensure that the grade distributions in Psychology courses are comparable. Based on these reviews, students can expect that 1) up to 30% of grades in 200- and 300-level psychology courses will be “A” grades (A+, A, and A-), and 2) up to 40% of grades 400-level psychology courses will be “A” grades.

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. 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

DATE	LECTURE TOPIC	READING
M Jan.11	Introduction to Social Psychology / Methodology	Chapters 1 & 2
W Jan.13	Introduction to Social Psychology / Methodology	Chapters 1 & 2
F Jan. 15	Introduction to Social Psychology / Methodology	Chapters 1 & 2
M Jan.18	Social Cognition	Chapter 3
W Jan.20	Social Cognition	Chapter 3
F Jan. 22	Social Cognition	Chapter 3
F Jan. 22	Last day to drop Winter Term half courses.	
M Jan.25	Social Perception	Chapter 4
M Jan.25	Last day to add or swap Winter Term half courses.	
W Jan.27	Social Perception	Chapter 4
F Jan.29	Social Perception	Chapter 4

F Jan.29	Fee payment deadline for Winter Term	
M Feb. 1	The self	Chapter 5
W Feb.3	The self	Chapter 5
F Feb.5	TEST covering Chapters 1 through 5, material covered Jan.11th-Feb.3rd.	
M Feb. 8	Attitudes & Attitude Change	Chapter 6
W Feb. 10	Attitudes & Attitude Change	Chapter 6
F. Feb 12	Attitudes & Attitude Change	Chapter 6
M Feb.15	No class- reading week (Feb.14-21)	
W Feb .17	No class- reading week (Feb.14-21)	
F Feb.19	No class- reading week (Feb.14-21)	
M Feb.22	Conformity, compliance, and obedience	Chapter 7
W Feb.24	Conformity, compliance, and obedience	Chapter 7
F Feb.26	Conformity, compliance, and obedience	Chapter 7
M Feb. 29	Group Processes	Chapter 8
W Mar.2	Group Processes	Chapter 8
F Mar.4	Group Processes	Chapter 8
M Mar.7	Interpersonal Attraction & Relationships	Chapter 9
W Mar. 9	Interpersonal Attraction & Relationships	Chapter 9
F Mar.11	TEST covering Chapters 6 through 9, material covered Feb. 8th – Mar.9th	
M Mar.14	Prosocial behaviour	Chapter 10
W Mar. 16	Prosocial behaviour	Chapter 10
F Mar.18	Prosocial behaviour	Chapter 10
M Mar.21	Aggression	Chapter 11
W Mar. 23	Aggression	Chapter 11
F Mar.25	No class- Good Friday	
M Mar.28	Prejudice	Chapter 12
W Mar.30	Prejudice	Chapter 12
F. Apr 1	Prejudice	Chapter 12
M Apr.4	Applied Social Psychology/Social Psyc and the Law	SPA 3
W Apr. 6	Applied Social Psychology/Social Psyc and the Law	SPA 3
F Apr.8	Applied Social Psychology/Social Psyc and the Law	SPA 3
M Apr.11	TEST covering Chapters 10, 11, 12, and SPA 3, material covered Mar.14th-Apr.8th	
W Apr.13	Discussion	
Apr. 16-27	FINAL EXAM PERIOD	

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 unfavorable 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

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_0.pdf.

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 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 date, 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 via the Department Office (Admin 255), 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 **April 13, 2016**.

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

suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

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

socialscirep@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 **January 22, 2016**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 25, 2016**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **April 13, 2016**.