

Psychology 447.9

Close Relationships and Adult Attachment

Winter 2013

Instructor:	Dr. K. Edwin Sheppard	Lecture Location:	A 167
Phone:	TBA	Lecture Days/Time:	T/R 9:30-10:45
Email:	kesheppa@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	TBA		
Office Hours:	TBA		

Course Description and Goals

Over the past few decades, attachment theory has emerged as one of the leading frameworks employed in the study of close relationships, personality processes, and social development. The theory is of interest to many as it addresses a wide range of issues, including the evolution and development of close relationships; the defensive regulation of thought, feeling and action, the role of mental representations in interpersonal behavior; and the processes underlying mental health. Moreover, attachment theory is compelling because it draws upon insights from a range of psychological perspectives, including developmental, social, personality, and evolutionary.

The objective of this course is to review theory and research on adult attachment and to discuss contemporary issues and debates in the field.

Prerequisites

PSYC 200 – Principles of Psychology I and

PSYC 201 – Principles of Psychology II or

PSYC 205 – Principles of Psychology

PSYC 312 – Experimental Design and Quantitative Methods for Psychology

Required Text

There is no required text for this course. References for assigned readings will be made available on the course Blackboard site.

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, information about class assignments, your group project/presentation, as well as announcements and grades will be posted on this site.

Evaluation:

Exams (65% of final grade): Two mid-term exams, conducted during class time. The final exam will be scheduled during the final exam period. Exams are non-cumulative and will consist of multiple-choice, and short-long answer questions. Questions will be drawn from all materials (lectures, video clips) presented in class as well as the assigned readings. No electronic devices can be used during the exam period.

	Date	Worth
Exam 1	February 7, 2013 (All material covered from Jan 8 th – Feb 5 th)	20%
Exam 2	March 21, 2013 (All material covered from Feb 12 th – Mar 19 th)	20%
Exam 3	TBA (during final exam period; All material covered from Mar 26 th – Apr 16 th)	25%

Thought Papers (15% of final grade; 5% each): You will complete three thought papers 2-3 pages double-spaced in length worth 5% each (max total = 15% of your mark). In these papers, you will discuss your response to some aspect(s) of the content covered in the course. Your thought paper should focus on insights, criticisms, and questions regarding a specific reading, or multiple readings. Your thought papers will be graded with respect to the following factors: (a) whether it was submitted on time, (b) the quality of your writing (i.e., clarity, grammar, coherence), and (c) the quality of your ideas (i.e., do they reflect a careful reading and consideration of the issues? Do they have the potential to generate productive discussion?).

	Date	Worth
Thought Paper 1	January 31 st (material from Jan 8 – 29)	5%
Thought Paper 2	February 28 th (material from Jan 31 – Feb 26)	5%
Thought Paper 3	March 28 th (material from Feb 28 – Mar 26)	5%

Essay (20%): One research paper 8-10 pages double spaced (not including references) worth 20% of your final mark. You will be provided with a list of potential topics at the beginning of the term. Students may also write about a topic of their choice as long as they receive permission from me first. Further details will be provided in class. **Due in class Thursday April 11th, 2013.**

Submission of Assignments/Papers: You are expected to hand in your printed assignments at the beginning of class on the assigned due dates. Electronic submissions will **not** be accepted. A 10% penalty will be assessed for each work day that the paper is late (including weekends). It is your responsibility to ensure that I receive the assignment on time. Late assignments may be handed in at the Psychology Office, A 275 (after hours, the green box outside this office).

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		Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date	
Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Key Dates
1	T Jan 8	<i>Winter Term Lecture Begins.</i> Introduction to Attachment Theory	
	R Jan 10	Background and History	
2	T Jan 15	Background and History	
	R Jan 17	Background and History	
	F Jan 18	<i>Last day to drop Winter Term courses.</i>	
3	M Jan 21	Background and History <i>Last day to add or swap Winter Term courses.</i>	
	T Jan 22	Theory of Adult Attachment	
	R Jan 24	Theory of Adult Attachment	
4	T Jan 29	Theory of Adult Attachment	
	R Jan 31	Theory of Adult Attachment	Thought Paper #1
5	T Feb 5	Theory of Adult Attachment	
	R Feb 7	Midterm 1	Test 1: All material covered from Jan 8 – Feb 5
6	T Feb 12	Internal Working Models: Structure and Process	
	R Feb 14	Internal Working Models: Structure and Process	
7	T Feb 19	Reading Week. No Lecture	
	R Feb 21	Reading Week. No Lecture	
8	T Feb 26	General and Specific Representations of Attachment	
	R Feb 28	General and Specific Representations of Attachment	Thought Paper #2
9	T Mar 5	Attachment Dynamics and Romantic Attraction	
	R Mar 7	Attachment Dynamics and Romantic Attraction	
10	T Mar	Attachment Dynamics and Romantic Attraction	

	12 R Mar 14	Attachment Processes in Established Relationships	
11	T Mar 19 R Mar 21	Attachment Processes in Established Relationships Midterm 2	Test 2: All Material covered from Feb 12 – Mar 19
12	T Mar 26 R Mar 28	Stability and Change in Attachment Patterns Genetic and Interpersonal Contributions to Adult Attachment and Relationship Functioning	Thought Paper #3
13	T Apr 2 R Apr 4	Genetic and Interpersonal Contributions to Adult Attachment and Relationship Functioning Evolution and Attachment	
14	T Apr 9 R Apr 11	Evolution and Attachment Attachment and Psychotherapy, Psychopathology, and Adjustment	Essay
15	T Apr 16	Attachment and Psychotherapy, Psychopathology, and Adjustment	
	F Apr 19-30	Winter Term Final Exams	All material covered from Mar 26 – Apr 16

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 16th, 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	suvpaca@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 **January 18, 2013**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 21, 2013**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 16th, 2013**.