



PSYC 345.01		Social Psychology		Winter 2017	
Instructor:	Dr. Melissa Boyce	Lecture Location:	MFH 164		
Phone:	403-210-6257	Lecture Days/Time:	TR 3:30 – 4:45pm		
Email:	mboyce@ucalgary.ca				
Office:	A258				
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	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Describe major social psychological concepts and theories and apply them to real world settings	C	1, 4, 5, 7
Identify and differentiate between the dominant research questions, theoretical frameworks, and debates in social psychological research	C	1, 2, 7
Make reasonable empirical and everyday predictions based on relevant social psychological theory	C	1, 2, 7
Apply major concepts discussed in class to generate solutions to real world social problems	C	1, 4, 6, 7

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	C	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---	------------------

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)

Evaluation

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. The final exam will be 2 hours in length. This final is cumulative and will consist of multiple-choice questions.

	Date	Chapters Covered	Worth
Exam 1	Feb 14, 2017	1-5	20%
Exam 2	Mar 28, 2017	6-9	20%
Exam 3	TBA (during final exam period)	All course material	30%

Max total = 70% of your mark

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.

	Date	Worth
Assignment 1	Feb 28, 2017	5%
Assignment 2	Apr 11, 2017	5%

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 February 28.

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 March 23.

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 1) drop your paper off in the box outside of A255 or 2) email me the paper as a Word file attachment before 4pm on the due date. Late papers and assignments will not be accepted without medical documentation.

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. 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

Week	Date	Topic	Readings/Due Dates
1	T Jan 10	Overview of the Course	
	R Jan 12	Intro to Social Psychology	Ch. 1
2	T Jan 17	Research Methods in Social Psychology	Ch. 2
	R Jan 19	The Social Self	Ch. 3
	F Jan 20	<i>Last day to drop Winter Term half-courses.</i>	
3	M Jan 23	<i>Last day to add or swap Winter Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.</i>	
	T Jan 24	The Social Self	Ch. 3
	R Jan 26	Perceiving Persons	Ch. 4
4	T Jan 31	Perceiving Persons	Ch. 4
	R Feb 2	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination	Ch. 5
5	T Feb 7	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination	Ch. 5
	R Feb 9	Attitudes	Ch. 6
6	T Feb 14	Exam 1	All material to date
	R Feb 16	Attitudes	Ch. 6
7	T Feb 21	Reading Week – No Lecture	
	R Feb 23	Reading Week – No Lecture	
8	T Feb 28	In-Class Assignment 1	Thought Paper due at the beginning of class

	R Mar 2	Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience	Ch. 7
9	T Mar 7	Conformity, Compliance, & Obedience	Ch. 7
	R Mar 9	Group Processes	Ch. 8
10	T Mar 14	Group Processes	Ch. 8
	R Mar 16	Attraction and Close Relationships	Ch. 9
11	T Mar 21	Attraction and Close Relationships	Ch. 9
	R Mar 23	Aggression	Research Proposal due at the beginning of class
12	T Mar 28	Exam 2	All material since Exam 1
	R Mar 30	Aggression	Ch. 11
13	T Apr 4	Helping Others	Ch. 10
	R Apr 6	Helping Others	Ch. 10
14	T Apr 11	In-Class Assignment 2	
	W Apr 12	<i>Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits. Last day to withdraw from Winter Term courses and Fall/Winter Term (Multi-Term) courses.</i>	
	Apr 15 - 26	Final Exam	All course material

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 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 during exam make-up hours provided by the department <http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/exam-review-and-makeup-exams>. 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.

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 12, 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 suypaca@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 **January 20, 2017**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 23, 2017**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **April 12, 2017**.