

PSYC 441
Social Psychology Research & Theory
Winter 2018

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		Office Hours:	By Appointment

Course Description

A review of current theory and research in the area of social psychology. Research projects will introduce methodologies used in social psychology. The specific focus of the course is the social psychology of mental disorders and health. These concepts are examined from a social psychological perspective. Specifically, the course will explore how social psychology can be applied to the understanding of psychopathology and increase well-being.

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)
Discuss knowledge of the role social psychology can play in understanding psychopathology and well-being	Discussion questions, short answer exam questions	1, 2	C, I
Apply social psychological knowledge to enhance well-being	Assignments	7	I
Critically and logically evaluate primary research papers, compare and contrast research findings, and identify gaps in the literature	Discussion questions, article evaluation, research report	2, 3	I
Perform current statistical analyses (intermediate level) in social psychology	Research project	3	C
Design and implement a novel research project that extends the current literature on the social psychology of health and illness	Ethics application, poster presentation, final research report	3,4,6	C, I

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 312 – Experimental Design and Quantitative Methods for Psychology
PSYC 345 – Social Psychology

Required Text

None. Citations to required readings will be posted on D2L. It will be the student's responsibility to acquire and read the materials prior to lectures.

Assessment and Evaluation Methods

Component	Date	Material Covered	Format	Weight
Discussion questions/participation	Weekly on Thursdays	Assigned reading(s) for the week	Written/oral discussion questions	10%
Midterm*	February 16 th	All materials up to midterm	M/C + Short answer	30%
Final Exam*	April Exam Period	All materials after midterm	M/C + Short answer	30%
Lab***	see below for due dates		Discussions, assignments	30%**

* No texts, notes or electronic devices will allowed during tests.

** The lab component will be worth 30% of the final grade. See below for breakdown of grades for lab assignments.

*** Please note, students **MUST** pass the lab component to pass the course.

Assignments

Assignments	Grade	Description	Due Date/Submission	Penalty for Late Submissions
Discussion questions/participation	10% of final grade	1-3 discussion questions that demonstrate understanding and critical thinking based on readings. Participation will be graded based on actively engaging in class discussions (e.g., asking questions, providing answers).	Weekly on Thursdays/ beginning of class either electronic or on paper	Not accepted
Assignment 1	5% of lab grade	A 1-2 page document outlining your proposed research project	Jan 31/Feb 2 In person	5% for each day including weekends
Assignment 2	10% of lab grade	Creating and presenting a poster of your research idea	Feb 7/9 Presentation	Not accepted
Assignment 3	10% of lab grade	Completing an ethics application of your proposed research	Feb 7/9 In person/ online	5% for each day including

				weekends
Assignment 4	10% of lab grade	Complete a 1-2 page document detailing experience and changes in well-being when engaging in pro-social behavior	March 14/16 In person	5% for each day including weekends
Assignment 5	15% of lab grade	Present via powerpoint the results of the research project	March 21,23,28,30 Presentation	Not accepted
Assignment 6	40% of lab grade	Write up a manuscript in APA format of your research project	April 15 th In person and online	10% for each day including weekends

** 10% of lab grade will be graded on discussion and participation throughout term.

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	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date
M Jan 08	Winter term lectures begin.
W Jan 10	Introduction
F Jan 12	Psychopathology as Socially Constructed
W Jan 17	Culture and Psychopathology
F Jan 19	Stigma and Mental Health Last day to drop Winter Term half-courses.
M Jan 22	Last day to add or swap Winter Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.
W Jan 24	Bad Apple or Bad Barrel? Influence of Social Environment on Antisocial Behaviors
F Jan 26	Discrimination & Health Fee payment deadline for Winter Term fees.
W Jan 31	Pride & Prejudice: Old vs. Modern Prejudice
F Feb 2	Too Many Likes on Facebook: Social Media, Social Comparison and Depression
W Feb 7	Fitspo: Social Media and Eating Disorders/Body Image
F Feb 9	Play for Fun to Pay to Play: Social Media and Gambling
W Feb 14	When Love goes Awry: Psychopathology of Love
F Feb 16	Mid-Term
Feb 18-25	Reading Week. No lectures. University open (except Family Day).
M Feb 19	Alberta Family Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.
W Feb 28	Think Good, Do Good, Feel Good: Power of Positive Psychology
F Mar 2	Random Acts of Kindness or Treat Yo Self?: Pro Social vs. Pro Me Behaviors and Wellness
W Mar 7	Forgiving Others, Healing Thyself
F Mar 9	Forgiving Others, Healing Thyself
W Mar 14	Life is Meaningful: Meaning Making Following Adversity
F Mar 16	Life is Meaningful: Meaning Making Following Adversity
W Mar 21	The Gift of Being Present: Mindfulness and Well-Being

F Mar 23	Who Am I? True Self as a Motivator of Change
W Mar 28	Time to Change: Temporal Continuity
F Mar 30	Good Friday. University Closed
W Apr 4	Time to Change: Nostalgia
F Apr 6	Communicating Your Way To Better Health: Assertiveness
W Apr 11	Putting it All Together: Interpersonal Therapies
F Apr 13	Exam Review Winter Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw from full courses and Winter Term half courses.
Apr 16-26	Winter Term Final Examinations.

** See D2L for assigned readings for course topics.

Tentative Lab Schedule

Week of	LAB TOPIC	PREPARATION
Jan 10 & 12	No Labs	
Research Stage: Planning/ Designing your experiment		
Jan 17 & 19 Lab 1	1. Introduction 2. Assignment to groups 3. Review of experimental design & methodology Assignment 1: Research idea. Due: Lab 3	
Jan 24 & 26 Lab 2	1. Review of ethical guidelines for human participants research. 2. "How to Create a Poster" presentation" Assignment 2: Creating a poster. Due: Lab 4 Assignment 3: Ethics application. Due: Lab 4	Complete TCPS 2 Tutorial Course on Research Ethics (CORE) (see D2L for link).
Jan 31 & Feb 2 Lab 3	1. Stanford Prison Experiment *ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE*	
Feb 7 & 9 Lab 4	Poster Session and Discussion *ASSIGNMENTS 2 and 3 DUE*	
Research Stage: Conducting your experiment		
Feb 14 & 16 Lab 5	1. Introduction to regression, moderation and mediation	Bring a laptop
Feb 21 & 23	Reading Week No Lab	
Feb 28 & March 2 Lab 6	Social media 1. Class Activity and Discussion Assignment 4: Due Lab 8	
Mar 7 & 9 Lab 7	Power of positivity 1. Class Activity and Discussion	
Mar 14 & 16 Lab 8	Review APA style and writing empirical reports. *ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE*	
Research Stage: Analyzing and Presenting your data		
Mar 21 & 23 Lab 9	Mindfulness 1. Class Activity and Discussion Assignment 5: Presentation of Study. Due Labs 10 & 11 Assignment 6: Prepare Report. Due Lab 11	

Mar 28 & 30 Lab 10	Group Presentations (part 1) *ASSIGNMENT 5 DUE (1/2 OF THE GROUPS)* Assignment 6: Due April 14th	
April 4 & 6 Lab 11	Group Presentations (part 2) *ASSIGNMENT 5 DUE (REMAINING GROUPS)*	
April 11-13 th	Troubleshooting for final report	
April 15 th	*ASSIGNMENT 6 DUE FOR EVERYONE*	

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. Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology (psyugrd@ucalgary.ca).

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.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

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/>).

Extra Research Participation Course Credit is Not Offered for this Course.

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 19, 2018**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 22, 2018**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **April 13, 2018**.