
Psychology 447.3**Stigma, Prejudice, & Discrimination****Fall 2015**

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Office:	Admin 131C		
Office Hours:	Fridays 10:30 to 11:30am or by appointment only		

Course Description and Goals

This course explores the current research on stigmatized groups, the impact and consequences of stigma (such as prejudice, discrimination, and self-stigma), and ways to reduce stigma. Although the course will survey various stigmatized groups and the various contexts where stigma may occur, there will be a specific focus on the stigma related to mental illnesses. Some of the other groups impacted by stigma that will be surveyed in this course include people of disadvantaged or minority groups, immigrants, and people with certain medical conditions. There will also be exploration of the processes involved in stigmatization, prejudice, and discrimination, in addition to understanding and application of ways that we may reduce these. Students will also get to reflect on the attitudes they may hold towards other groups and how specific attitudes could lead to stigmatizing behaviours. Finally, students will take the concepts and knowledge learned in the course and apply it to a real world setting.

Prerequisites

Psyc 200 – Principles of Psychology I

Psyc 201 – Principles of Psychology II

Psyc 312 – Experimental Design and Quantitative Research Methods in Psychology

Required Text

The required readings for this course can be found on the course Blackboard page. Please check D2L for the updated schedule of assigned readings.

Evaluation

There are multiple evaluation components in this course. Please read each component carefully.

1) Exams (each is worth 20% of final grade)

- Exam 1—20% (Oct 2, 2015): Lectures and assigned readings from Sept 9 to Sept 30
- Exam 2—20% (Nov 6, 2015): Lectures and assigned readings from Oct 5 to Nov 4

Both exams will contain multiple choice, short answer, and long answer questions.

No iPods, iPads, computers, books or notes during tests

2) Take Home Exam (15% of final grade)

- Take Home Exam (Assigned: Dec 7, 2015; Due: Paper copies of the exam must be submitted to my office by 5pm Dec 14, 2015): Long answer and short essay response based on all materials covered in the course

Late exams will be accepted but will incur a 10% penalty per day (including weekends).

3) Research Paper (20% of final grade)

The research paper will be assigned on Sept 16, 2015. Students will choose from 1 of 5 topics to write an APA style paper. The paper has a maximum length of 3000 word (about 10 double-spaced pages, not including references). More information will be given on D2L and when the paper is assigned. This paper is due at the beginning of class on Oct 23, 2015. Only paper copies will be accepted. Late papers will be accepted but will incur a 10% penalty per day (including weekends).

4) Group Presentation (15% of final grade) and Presentation Feedback (5% of final grade)

Students will form groups of 3 to 5 (depending on the size of class) and give a 30 min presentation (plus 5-10 min of questions) to the class during the last third of the course. The group presentation is worth 15% of the final grade where all members will receive the same grade. This presentation will be assigned and groups formed on Oct 5, 2015. The topic of the presentation must be approved by the professor before Oct 21, 2015. More information will be given on D2L and when the presentation is assigned. All group members must be present for the presentation and will take part in the presentation. Missing group members will automatically receive 0% for their grade unless the professor (in consultation with the other members) deems the missing member should receive some portion of the grade based on the contribution to the development of the presentation.

The second component is presentation feedback worth 5% of the final grade. Each student will be required to complete 3 presentation feedback forms, one from the first 3 presentations (i.e., presentations 1 to 3), one from presentations 4-6, and one from presentations 7-9 (this may be slightly different depending on the number of groups and class size). More information will be given on D2L and during class. The presentation feedback forms will be due 48 hours after the presentation (e.g., if the presentation was on Friday's class, the feedback form is due the following Sunday by 5pm). Late feedback forms will be accepted but will incur a 10% penalty per day (including weekends).

5) Thought Questions (5%)

Students will post a thought question/idea/comment based on the week's assigned readings on D2L five times throughout the course. The goal is to think critically about the assigned reading and generate an interesting idea, issue, or criticism that will stimulate discussion. Students only need to post once for each of the five thought questions and the length should be about one paragraph long. Be sure to read everyone's thought questions before coming to class. More details will be given on D2L and in class.

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	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date
W Sep 9	Course Overview and Introduction
F Sep 11	Definitions and Introducing the Concepts
M Sep 14	Definitions and Introducing the Concepts
W Sep 16	Methods of Measuring Stigma/Prejudice/Discrimination <i>Research Paper Assigned</i>
F Sep 18	Social Categorization as a Precursor to Stigma/Prejudice/Discrimination Last day to drop full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. No refunds for full courses (Multi-term) or Fall Term half courses after this date.
M Sep 21	Social Categorization as a Precursor to Stigma/Prejudice/Discrimination Last day to add or swap full courses (Multi-term) and Fall Term half courses. Last day for change of registration from audit to credit or credit to audit.
W Sep 23	Development of Stigma/Prejudice/Discrimination
F Sep 25	Other Processes Involved in Stigma/Prejudice/Discrimination Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.
M Sep 28	Other Processes Involved in Stigma/Prejudice/Discrimination
W Sep 30	Individual Differences and Personality in Stigma/Prejudice/Discrimination
F Oct 2	Exam 1 (20%)
M Oct 5	Reducing Stigma/Prejudice/Discrimination <i>Group Presentation Assigned; Groups formed</i>
W Oct 7	The Contact Hypothesis
F Oct 9	The Contact Hypothesis
M Oct 12	Thanksgiving Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.
W Oct 14	Other Ways to Reduce Reducing Stigma/Prejudice/Discrimination
F Oct 16	The Media and Stigma/Prejudice/Discrimination
M Oct 19	The Stigma of Mental Disorders
W Oct 21	The Stigma of Mental Disorders <i>Group Presentation Topics Approved by</i>
F Oct 23	The Stigma of Mental Disorders <i>Research Paper Due at the beginning of class (20%)</i>
M Oct 26	Interventions and Evaluations
W Oct 28	Guest Speaker
F Oct 30	Interventions and Evaluations
M Nov 2	Interventions and Evaluations
W Nov 4	Specific Stigmatized Groups
F Nov 6	Exam 2 (20%)
M Nov 9	Group Presentation Preparation
Nov 11-15	Reading Days. No lectures.

W Nov 11	Remembrance Day (Observed). University Closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.
F Nov 14	Reading Days. No lectures.
M Nov 16	Group Presentation 1
W Nov 18	Group Presentation 2
F Nov 20	Group Presentation 3
M Nov 23	Group Presentation 4
W Nov 25	Group Presentation 5
F Nov 27	Group Presentation 6
M Nov 30	Group Presentation 7
W Dec 2	Group Presentation 8
F Dec 4	Group Presentation 9
M Dec 7	Course Wrap-Up <i>Take Home Exam assigned; Take Home Exam due by the end of the day Dec 14th, 2015 (15%)</i>
T Dec 8	Fall Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.
Dec 11-22	Fall Term 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 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-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

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 8, 2015**

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](mailto:suypaca@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 September 18, 2015**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **September 21, 2015**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 8, 2015**.