



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

**Department of Psychology**  
**Psychology 345 L29**  
**Spring 2009**

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<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Nancy J. Smith	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	PF 128
<b>Phone:</b>	403 220-2242 or 403 239-0255	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	Saturdays 1-5:30 PM  May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6, 13
<b>Email:</b>	njsmith@ucalgary.ca		
<b>Office:</b>	Admin 257D		
<b>Office Hours:</b>	By appointment		

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### **Course Description and Goals**

This course will familiarize you with social psychological approaches to understanding a variety of human experiences. To that end, we will review theoretical and empirical strategies social psychologists have developed to help us understand such things as attitude change, conformity, prejudice, aggression, altruism, and attraction.

**Prerequisites:** Psyc 205 – Principles of Psychology

**Required Text:** Aronson, Wilson, Akert, & Fehr (2007). *Social Psychology* (3<sup>rd</sup>. Canadian ed.), available in the University Bookstore. **Recommended: Student Study Guide, for Soc. Psych. 3<sup>rd</sup> Can. Ed.**

**Evaluation:** Performance in the course (grades) will be evaluated on the basis of two mid-term examinations, a final examination, and 2 written thought pieces.

**Important Note: Students must complete all assignments and examinations to receive a passing grade in the course.**

**Examinations:** All three examinations are non-cumulative and multiple choice. They will cover assigned material in the textbook as well as the content of lectures (including all films and videos shown in class). The exam schedule that follows provides specific information regarding the textbook material to be covered by each exam. As well, lecture outlines and video guiding questions will be posted on the course blackboard page. Nonetheless, you are encouraged to obtain class notes from another student should you miss class.

If you must miss a mid-term exam due to illness or other circumstances beyond your control, a make-up test will be arranged. Documentation will be required and you should contact the instructor before the test (preferably), or as soon as possible after the test.

	<b>Textbook Content</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Date</b>
Midterm Exam 1:	Chaps. 1- 4, part of 5	20%	May 16
Midterm Exam 2:	Chaps. Remainder of 5, 6 – 9, part 10	32%	June 6

Final Exam: Chaps. Remainder of 10, 11 -12 & SPA 3, plus any specified topics In SPA 1 and 2 32% June 20

**Thought Piece Assignments:** Two reports--minimum 3 pages—maximum 4 pages, with an **additional** cover page including your ID (but not your name) typed, font size 12, double spaced, with page numbers beginning on cover page -- **each report worth 8% of the final grade, for a total weight of 16%**. Each assignment will consist of your application of social psychological theories or concepts from specified text chapters to gain increased understanding of a relevant experience or event in your own life. These reports are to be prepared using readings from the textbook and must not include references. The goal is for you to develop your ability at achieving insight into everyday experiences using ideas learned in the course. Format details will be explained in class and posted on the course Blackboard site.

**Late papers will lose 10% of the assignment grade per day late, including weekend days.**

**All assignments:** You are expected to hand in printed assignments in class on the due date. Printed assignments will be returned, graded, in class to you generally the following lecture date. If you cannot attend class that day, you must 1) drop off the assignment into the Green Box outside A275 before 4:30 pm on the Friday (building closed on Saturday) before the due date or 2) e-mail in your assignment by **1 pm on the due date** as a Word file attachment. If you wish your assignment returned with graded comments, you must also drop off a printed version of that e-mailed assignment to the Psychology Office Admin A275 before the next class date.

If illness or other circumstances beyond your control make it difficult to complete an assignment on time as described above, you are expected to advise the instructor of this before the due date has passed. Faxed assignments will not be accepted.

Thought Piece #.	Due Dates:	Applicable Chapter Content
1	May 23	1-6
2	June 13	7-12 plus SPA 3

### 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%

Note: To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (i.e., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%; 89.4% will be rounded down to 89%, etc.).

**Lecture Schedule—subject to change as necessary**

WEEKEND UNIVERSITY - Spring Term

DATE	Topic	Chapter
May 2	Weekend University Spring Session lectures begin . <b>Introduction to Social Psychology</b> <b>Methodology: How Social Psychologists Do Research</b> Begin: <b>Social cognition</b>	1 2 3
	Last day for changes to registration and fee refund	
May 9	Finish: <b>Social Cognition</b> <b>Social Perception</b> Begin: <b>Self –Knowledge and Self-Evaluation</b>	3 4 5
May 16	<b><i>Midterm Exam</i></b> on Ch. 1-4, plus the portion of <b><i>Chapter 5 covered in class May 10</i></b>  Finish: <b>Self-Knowledge and Self-Evaluation</b> Begin: <b>Attitudes and Attitude Change</b>	5 6
May 23	<b><i>Thought Piece 1 Due (on Ch 1-6)</i></b>  Finish: <b>Attitudes and Attitude Change</b> <b>Conformity</b> Begin <b>Group Processes</b>	6 7 8
May 30	Finish: <b>Group Processes</b> <b>Interpersonal Attraction</b> Begin <b>Prosocial Behaviour</b>	8 9 10
June 6	<b><i>Midterm Exam 2</i></b> , on remainder of Ch.5, <b><i>all of Chapters 6 – 9, plus the portion of Chapter 10 covered in May 30</i></b>  Finish <b>Prosocial Behaviour</b> <b>Aggression</b>	10 11
June 13	<b><i>Thought Piece 2 due (on Ch. 7- 12, plus SPA 3)</i></b>  <b>Prejudice</b> <b>Social Psychology and the Law</b>  Weekend University Spring Session lectures end. Last day to withdraw from WU full courses or Spring Session half courses.	12 SPA 3
June 19	Last day to participate in research and allocate credits.	
June 20	<b><u>Final Exam: Ch. Remaining part of 10, 11 – 12, SPA 3, and any specified section of SPA 1 and 2</u></b>	

### **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 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.

### **Course Credits for Research Participation**

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>.

Spring Weekend University: The last day to participate in research and allocate credit is **June 19th, 2009**.

### **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 220-5567.

**Student Union VP Academic:** Phone: 220-3911 [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)  
**Student Union Faculty Rep.:** Phone: 220-3913 [socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **Important Dates**

Spring Weekend University: The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is **May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009**.