



Department of Psychology
Psychology 345 (L01) – Social Psychology
Spring 2010 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Nancy J. Smith, Ph.D.	Lecture Location:	EDC 280
Phone:	403-239-0255	Lecture Days/Time:	Saturday 1-5:30 PM
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Office Hours:	TBA		

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 (2010). Social Psychology (4th. Canadian ed.), available in the University Bookstore.

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.

	Textbook Content	Weight	Date
Midterm Exam 1:	Chaps. 1- 4, part of 5 covered in class	20%	May 15

	before exam.		
Midterm Exam 2:	Chaps: Remainder of 5, plus 6, 7, 8, 9, and part of 10 covered in class before exam	32%	June 12
Final Exam:	Chaps: Remainder of 10, plus 11 -12 & SPA 3, plus any specified topics In SPA 1 and 2	32%	June 26

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 by 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 29	1-6
2	June 19	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%

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.

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.).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Text Chapters
S May 1	Spring Lectures begin. Ch. 1 Introduction to Social Psychology Ch. 2 Methodology: How Social Psychologists Do Research BEGiN: Ch. 3 Social cognition: How We Think About the Social World
F May 7	Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund. Last day for registration/change of registration.
S May 8	FINISH: Ch. 3 Social Cognition Ch. 4 Social Perception: How We Come to Understand Other People BEGIN Ch. 5 Self-Knowledge and the Need to Maintain Self-Esteem
S May 15	<i>Midterm Exam on Ch. 1-4, plus the portion of Chapter 5 covered in class May 8</i> FINISH: Ch. 5 Self-Knowledge and and the Need to Maintain Self-Esteem BEGIN: Ch. 6 Attitudes and Attitude Change: Influencing Thoughts, Feelings and Behaviour
S May 22	No classes. University closed. (Victoria Day holiday)
S May 29	<i>Thought Piece 1 Due (on Ch 1-6)</i> FINISH: Ch. 6 Attitudes and Attitude Change Ch. 7 Conformity BEGIN Ch. 8 Group Processes
S Jun 5	FINISH: Group Processes Ch. 9 Interpersonal Attraction BEGIN: Ch. 10 Prosocial Behaviour
S Jun 12	<i>Midterm Exam 2, on remainder of Ch.5, all of Chapters 6 – 9, plus the portion of Chapter 10 covered on June 5</i> FINISH: Ch. 10 Prosocial Behaviour Ch. 11 Aggression
S Jun 19	Spring Session Lectures end. Last day to withdraw. <i>Thought Piece 2 due (on Ch. 7- 12, plus SPA 3)</i>

	Ch. 12 Prejudice SPA 3 Social Psychology and the Law
R Jun 24	Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits.
S Jun 26	<i>Final Exam:</i> Ch. Remaining part of 10, 11 – 12, SPA 3, and any specified sections of SPA 1 and 2

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.

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 (2) 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 **Jun 24th, 2010.**

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 suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is **May 7th, 2010.** The last day to withdraw from this course is **May 7th, 2010.** The last day to withdraw from this course is **Jun 19th, 2010.**