



Department of Psychology
Psychology 345 (L02) Social Psychology
Winter 2010 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Dr. Nancy Johnson Smith	Lecture Location:	SB 148
Phone:	Home office: 403- 239-0255 University: 403 220-2242	Lecture Days/Time:	Saturdays 1-5 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 (2007). Social Psychology (4th. Canadian ed.), available in the University Bookstore. Recommended: Student Study Guide, for Soc. Psych. 4th Can. Ed.

Evaluation

Performance in the course (grades) will be evaluated on the basis of two mid-term examinations, a final examination, and three written thought pieces. **Note: Students must complete all assignments and examinations to receive a passing grade in the course.**

Examinations (85%): All three examinations are non-cumulative and generally multiple choice. However, one or more exams may also include short answer questions. All exams will cover 1) assigned material in the textbook as well as the content of 2) lectures and films and videos shown in class and 3) supplementary readings for each chapter (to be posted on Blackboard). The exam schedule that follows provides specific information regarding the textbook portions to be covered by each exam. As well, lecture outlines (including a list of relevant video material), supplementary readings and video guiding questions will be posted on the course Blackboard site. Should you miss class, you are encouraged to obtain class notes from another student. If you must miss a mid-term exam due to illness or other circumstances beyond your control, a make-up test may be arranged. Documentation will be required and you should contact the instructor before the test (preferably), or as soon as possible after the test.

Exam	Material	% Final Grade	Date
Midterm Exam 1	Chaps. 1- 4	20%	January 30
Midterm Exam 2	Chaps. 5 - 9	32%	March 6
Final Exam	Chaps. 10-12, SPA 1, 2, 3	33%	April 17

Thought Piece Assignments (15%): Three reports--minimum 3 full 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 5% of the final grade, for a total weight of 15%. 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 to achieve 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 Sundays.

All assignments: You are expected to hand in printed assignments in class on the due date. If you cannot attend class that day, you must notify the instructor and then 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. You must turn in a printed copy before the next class date if you wish to obtain instructor comments relating to your assignment grade. Printed assignments will be returned, graded, in class to you generally the following lecture date.

If illness or other circumstances beyond your control make it difficult to complete an assignment on time, 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	February 6	1-4
2	March 13	5-10
3	April 10	11-12, SPA 1, 2, 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. 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	Textbook Chapters, Topics and Due Dates
S Jan 16	Lectures Begin Ch. 1: Introduction to Social Psychology Ch. 2: Methodology: How Social Psychologists do Research
<i>F Jan 22</i>	<i>Last day for registration/change of registration. Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.</i>
S Jan 23	Ch. 3: Social Cognition Ch. 4 Social Perception
S Jan 30	Midterm Exam 1: Ch. 1-4 Ch. 5 Self Knowledge and the Need to Maintain Self Esteem
S Feb 6	Thought Piece 1 Due (on Ch. 1-4) Ch. 6: Attitudes and Attitude Change Ch. 7: Conformity
S Feb 13	No lectures
S Feb 20	Reading Days. No lectures.
S Feb 27	Ch. 8: Group Processes Ch. 9: Interpersonal Attraction
S Mar 6	Midterm 2: Ch 5-9 Ch. 10: Prosocial Behaviour
S Mar 13	Thought Piece 2 Due (on Ch. 5- 10) Ch. 11: Aggression Ch. 12: Begin Prejudice
S Mar 20	Ch. 12: Finish Prejudice SPA 3: Social Psychology and the Law
S Mar 27	Finish SPA 3 SPA 1 and 2: Begin
S Apr 3	No Class
S Apr 10	Thought Piece 3 Due (Ch: 11, 12 SPA 1-3) Finish SPA 1 and 2 Last day to withdraw from course
R Apr 15	Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits
S Apr 17	Final Exam (scheduled by the Registrar)

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 **April 15, 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 **Jan 22nd, 2010**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 10th, 2010**.