



PSYC 443

Interpersonal Relationships

Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. K. Edwin Sheppard
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Lecture Location: SH 157
Lecture Days/Time: M/W/F: 10:00-10:50

Office: A 157A
Office Hours: TBA

Course Description and Goals

Application of social psychological theory and methodology to a variety of topics in the area of interpersonal relationships, such as; attraction, close relationships, interpersonal conflict, communication, and power. Course projects will be an integral part of the course.

Prerequisites

PSYC 200 and 201 or PSYC 205 – Principles of Psychology I & II
PSYC 312 – Experimental Design and Qualitative Methods
PSYC 345 – Social Psychology

Required Text

Miller, R. S. (2012). *Intimate Relationships*, 6th Ed., McGraw-Hill. Available at the University of Calgary Book Store

Evaluation

Course Component	Weighting	Date
Midterm	25%	Friday October 25, 2013
Final Paper	25%	Friday November 15, 2013
Group Presentation	20%	Scheduled throughout the term – to be determined during the first lecture
Article Review and Critique	15%	Due one week following your group presentation
Participation	5%	Based on participation in activities and class discussion
Final Exam	10%	Friday December 6, 2013

EXAMS

The mid-term exam (25%) will be conducted during class time and will cover material from September 9th to October 23rd.

The final exam (10%) will be conducted on the final day of class (Friday December 6th) and will be **cumulative** in nature. Exams will consist of multiple-choice, short- and long-answer questions. Questions will be drawn from all materials (lectures, video clips, and presentations) presented in class as well as in the textbook. No electronic devices can be used during the exam period.

A **valid reason** (e.g., medical or family emergency), with documentation, is necessary to allow an exam to be written before or after the scheduled exam date. Provide the instructor as much advance notice as possible if an exam will be missed. If an exam is missed without prior notification, inform the instructor of the reason as soon as possible.

Group Presentation (20%)

The first Monday of each week (where there is a presentation scheduled, unless otherwise noted) will be devoted to group presentations. To ensure that the first group has adequate time to prepare their presentation, group presentations will not begin until Monday September 30th. Groups who present early will be graded more leniently than those presenting later to compensate for having less time to prepare (and fewer “models” of what can be done and what “works” for this assignment). Should one or more group members be ill on the date of the presentation, thus compromising the group’s ability to present, arrangements (e.g., rescheduling or other possibilities) will be determined on a case basis via consultation between group members and the instructor. See Blackboard for more details about the group presentation assignment.

Interpersonal Relationships Article Review (15%)

One week following your group presentation, you will be required to submit an article review/critique. The article must be a peer-reviewed empirical article and must be related to the topic of your group presentation (all group members will submit their own article review). It is up to you to ensure that you and your group members select different articles to review for this assignment. An outline will be provided for instruction on the criteria that you will use to evaluate and critique the article. The article review is to be **five (5) pages maximum** in length (12-point font, double-spaced, APA style) and is **due one week following your group presentation**. The assignment is worth **10%** of the final grade.

Paper (25%)

An 8-10 page (maximum) paper is due Friday November 15th, at the beginning of class. Late papers will be subject to a 10% penalty per day (including a 10% penalty over weekends). Electronic versions will not be accepted and no papers will be accepted more than one week after the due date for any reason.

Details regarding this paper will be provided in class as well as on Blackboard. E-mailed papers are not accepted. Style references for your paper should conform to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA). **Please use APA 6th Edition.**

Participation: 5%:

Attendance will not be taken but is strongly encouraged. Participation is an important component of this course as there will be a lot of group discussions and in class-activities.

Submission of Assignments/Papers: You are expected to hand in your printed assignments at the beginning of class on the assigned due dates. Electronic submissions will **NOT** be accepted. A 10% penalty will be assessed for each work day that the paper is late (including weekends). It is your responsibility to ensure that I receive the assignment on time. Late assignments may be handed in at the Psychology Office dropbox (after hours, the grey box outside this office).

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 (revise and add columns & rows as necessary)	Readings	Important Dates
M Sep 9	Lecture begins. Lecture: Introduction and Research Methods	Ch. 1-2	
W Sep 11	Lecture: Introduction and Research Methods continued		
F Sep 13	Lecture: Introduction and Research Methods continued		
M Sep 16	Lecture: Attraction	Ch. 3	
W Sep 18	Lecture: Attraction continued		
F Sep 20	Lecture: Attraction continued 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 23	Lecture: Love continued 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.	Ch. 8	
W Sep 25	Lecture: Love continued		
F Sep 27	Lecture: Love continued Fee payment deadline for Fall Term full and half courses.		
M	Lecture: Social Cognition continued	Ch. 4	Group 1 Presents: Implicit

Sep 30			theories of relationships
W Oct 2	Lecture: Social Cognition continued		
F Oct 4	Lecture: Social Cognition continued		
M Oct 7	Lecture: Communication	Ch. 5	Group 2 Presents: Communication in Romantic Relationships
W Oct 9	Lecture: Communication continued		
F Oct 11	Lecture: Communication continued		
M Oct 14	Thanksgiving Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.		
W Oct 16	Lecture: Friendship	Ch. 7	Group 3 Presents: Cross-Sex Friendships
F Oct 18	Lecture: Friendship continued		
M Oct 21	Lecture: Stresses and Strains	Ch. 10	Group 4 Presents: Deception
W Oct 23	Lecture: Stresses and Strains continued		
F Oct 25	Midterm Exam 1		
M Oct 28	Lecture: Interdependency	Ch. 6	Group 5 Presents: Allocation of household resources
W Oct 30	Lecture: Interdependency continued		
F Nov 1	Lecture: Interdependency continued		
M Nov 4	Lecture: Sexuality	Ch. 9	Group 6 Presents: Sexuality
W Nov 6	Lecture: Sexuality continued		
M Nov 11	Remembrance Day (Observed). University Closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.		
W Nov 13	Lecture: Power and Violence	Ch. 12	

F Nov 15	Lecture: Power and Violence continued		Papers due at the beginning of class
M Nov 18	Lecture: Conflict	Ch. 11	Group 7: Conflict
W Nov 20	Lecture: Conflict continued		
F Nov 22	Lecture: Conflict continued		
M Nov 25	Lecture: Dissolution and Loss	Ch. 13	Group 8: Divorce
W Nov 27	Lecture: Dissolution and Loss continued		
F Nov 29	Lecture: Dissolution and Loss continued		
M Dec 2	Lecture: Maintaining and Repairing Relationships	Ch. 14	
W Dec 4	Lecture: Maintaining and Repairing Relationships continued		
F Dec 6	Final Exam Fall Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.		

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

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.

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 except under exceptional circumstances. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements.

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 275), 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 6, 2013**

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

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombuds 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.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

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 20, 2013**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **September 23, 2013**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 6, 2013**.