

PSYC*2310, Course Outline: Fall 2016

General Information

Course Title: Social Psychology

Course Description:

In this course an introduction to a selected sample of major and fundamental theories of social psychology is presented. The applications of these theories in our social world are also examined to highlight the relevance of these theories. Additionally, a cross-cultural perspective in the evaluation of social psychological theories is adopted. The focus on cross-cultural research emphasizes the importance of culture in shaping social behaviours, values, and beliefs. The two main goals of this course are:

1. To help you to develop a solid understanding of core social psychological perspectives, theories, and research through an examination of various phenomena; and
2. To recognize the methods social psychological researchers use to acquire knowledge.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Academic Department: Psychology

Semester Offering: Fall 2016

Class Schedule and Location: Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00-5:20 pm War Memorial Hall

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Prof. Saba Safdar

Instructor Email: ssafdar@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: 4017 MacKinnon Building,
Tuesdays 2:30-3:30 and by appointment

GTA Information

TBA

Office hours: By Appointment only

Course Content

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Recognize the 10 core social psychological phenomena:
 1. Self Perception
 2. Social Perception
 3. Attitudes
 4. Persuasion
 5. Social Influence
 6. Group Behaviour
 7. Stereotypes and Prejudice
 8. Aggression
 9. Altruism
 10. Attraction and Intimacy
2. Identify and discuss the link between key social psychological theories and social behaviours
3. Evaluate social psychology experiments and the validity of their outcomes.

Lecture Content:

Date	Lecture Topic	Chapters
September 8th	Introducing Social Psychology	1
September 13 th	The Self in Social World	3
September 15 th	Self and Culture	-
September 20 th	Attribution	4
September 22 nd	Attitudes	6
September 27 th	Attitudes & Attribution across Culture	
September 29 th	Conformity & Obedience	8
October 4 th	Conformity across Culture	-
October 6 th	Review Session for Midterm	-
No class scheduled October 11 th (Fall Study Break)	October 13 th	Midterm -

October 18 th	Persuasion	7
October 20 th	Group Behaviour	9
October 25 th	Cultural Context of Persuasion	-
October 27 th	Crowd Behaviour	10 (pp. 320-332)
November 1 st	Intergroup Relations	10 (pp. 332-352)
November 3 rd	Altruism	13
November 8 th	Altruism Across Culture	
November 10 th	Aggression	12
November 15 th	Violence Across Culture	-
November 17 th	Stereotypes	5 & 11
November 22 nd	Prejudice	-
November 24 th	Attraction & Intimacy	14
November 29 th	Review Session for Final Exam	
December 1 st	Intimate Relationships Across Culture	-

Final Exam December 10, 2016, 2:30-4:30 pm

Course Assignments and Tests:

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Discussion Activity I	September 17, 2016	5%	LO # 2
Discussion Activity II	October 1, 2016	5%	LO # 2
Discussion Activity III	November 5, 2016	5%	LO # 2
Discussion Activity IV	December 3, 2016	5%	LO # 2
Online Quiz 1	September 16, 2016	2%	LO # 1 & 3
Online Quiz 2	September 23, 2016	2%	LO # 1 & 3
Online Quiz 3	September 30, 2016	2%	LO # 1 & 3
Online Quiz 4	October 7, 2016	2%	LO # 1 & 3
Online Quiz 5	October 21, 2016	2%	LO # 1 & 3

Online Quiz 6	October 28, 2016	2%	LO # 1 & 3
Online Quiz 7	November 4, 2016	2%	LO # 1 & 3
Online Quiz 8	November 11, 2016	2%	LO # 1 & 3
Online Quiz 9	November 18, 2016	2%	LO # 1 & 3
Online Quiz 10	November 25, 2016	2%	LO # 1 & 3
Online Quiz 11	December 2, 2016	2% (the best 10 out of 11 quizzes, 20% total)	LO # 1 & 3
In-class Quizzes	During class starting September 15, 2016	1% each (the best 15 out of 19 quizzes, 15% total)	LO # 1 & 3
Midterm	October 13, 2016 4:00-5:20 pm	15%	LO # 1
Final Exam	December 12, 2016, 2:30-4:30 pm	30%	LO # 1

Additional Notes:

The final grade is based on in class tests, on-line and in-class quizzes, and final exam. Midterms and the final exam are not cumulative. Lectures and reading assignments are examined in each test. All tests consist of multiple-choice items.

(1) Midterm (15%)

Chapters: 1, 3, 4, 6, & 8 and lecture materials.

(2) Final exam (30%)

Chapters: 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, & 14 and lecture materials since the midterm.

(3) Four discussion activities (20%)

You are asked to write a reflection piece on the following topics. Please share your thoughts and your learning experience with your group on the discussion board (each student will be randomly assigned to an online group). Each reflection piece is worth 5%. The quality of your posting matters the most. In order to get the full percentage, you have to refer to the relevant materials in the course and critically reflect on the course content. You also have to make at least one response to another group member's posting. You have one week to post your reflections and comments.

- I. Think about yourself. Describe your characteristics. Explain how you came to become the person you call yourself. Identify any positive self-illusions you might have and list some examples. Do the values of your culture have a role in defining yourself?
(September 11th to 17th)
- II. First, identify your attitude toward an issue (e.g., the environment, sexual orientation/activities, alcohol/food/animal rights, etc.). Second, compare and contrast your attitudes with attitudes of people either from a different or from the same culture. Third, discuss these differences in terms of the values in these cultures (e.g., individualism/collectivism, urban/rural characteristics, income, etc.).
(September 25th to October 1st)

III. As discussed in class, the same salary could be a source of dissatisfaction or satisfaction, depending on whether other people are earning more or less than you. Discuss this with reference to “relative deprivation.” Can you think of a real life example?

(October 30th to November 5th)

IV. Reflect on your learning process and what you found useful and not so useful in this course. (November 27th to December 3rd)

(4) Eleven quizzes on web-readings & Wiley Plus (20%)

The quizzes are due before mid-night of dates specified in the above table. Your mark is based on the best 10 quizzes out of 11.

In order to access these quizzes, you have to log in to the course web site. Each quiz is based on an article which is also available on Wiley Plus through the course website. The articles are available on the Monday of the week they are due for reading. The quizzes, however, are only available 48 hours before the due date. Each quiz consists of 5 questions in multiple-choice format. You have to complete and submit each quiz on the web before midnight of the above due date. The website is designed to not accept any quizzes submitted after 12:00 am on the due date. Once you start a quiz, you have 5 minutes to submit it, after 5 minutes the system automatically terminates the quiz and you lose your unsaved answers. There is no make-up or late submission for these quizzes. This is an individual assignment, not a group project.

Therefore, students have to complete each quiz individually. A false claim re inability to login to CourseLink is treated as academic misconduct. Note that reminder about these quizzes will not be given during lecture. You are responsible to make note of these dates and meet the deadlines.

(5) In-class quizzes (15%)

Nineteen quizzes are administered in class and your mark consists of the best 15. Each quiz is worth 1% and consists of 2 questions. You can only complete these quizzes in class using your “clicker” (information about i>clickers is presented in the first day of class). Each quiz is based on the lecture that is presented on that day. If you do not attend a lecture that contains a quiz or you do not have your clicker with you, you miss the quiz and there is no make-up for it. The pedagogical reason for incorporating these quizzes during class time is to increase students’ participation and involvement in class and receive feedback from students on their understanding of the material.

You must register your clicker on the course website, using CourseLink. You will not receive a mark for in-class quizzes if your clicker is not registered properly.

Final examination date and time: December 10, 2016, 2:30-4:30 pm

Final exam weighting:

Final exam is 30% of the final grade and is based on all the chapters and lecture materials since the midterm. Please familiarize yourself with [Examination Regulations](#)

Course Resources

Required Texts:

Sanderson, C.A. & Safdar, S. (2012). Social psychology (first Canadian edition). Mississauga: John Wiley & Sons Canada.

Additional readings posted on the course website.

You are also required to order one iclicker.

Copies of the textbook are available on Reserve in the Library for two hours.

Other Resources:

The lecture notes and additional readings will be accessible through CourseLink. The lecture notes for each week are available at the end of that week. The results of examinations will also be posted on CourseLink. All relevant course messages will be posted on CourseLink. You are responsible to check CourseLink on a regular basis to avoid missing messages that are posted and ensure the accuracy of your grades that are regularly updated on CourseLink.

Course Policies

Grading Policies

If you miss the midterm, you have to provide supporting documentations to get permission for the make-up.

There is no make-up or late submission for online and in-class quizzes. You have one week to complete the online quizzes and it is expected that you set aside five minutes to complete these quizzes when they are due. Similarly, there is no make-up for in-class quizzes. If you do not attend a lecture that contains a quiz or you do not have your clicker with you, you miss the quiz and there is no make-up for it. Note that you may miss up to four in-class quizzes and still get perfect for in-class quizzes as they are based on the best 15 out of 19 quizzes.

There is no make-up for discussion activities. It is expected that you post your reflection and respond to a posting of a member of your group within the week that each discussion activity is due.

[Undergraduate Grading Procedures](#)

Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:

Electronic recording of classes is not allowed without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the written consent of the instructor.

University Policies

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration:

[Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#)

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

[Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible.

For more information, contact CSD at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email csd@uoguelph.ca or see the website: [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](#).

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is **November 4, 2016**. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Academic Calendar:

[Current Undergraduate Calendar](#)

Additional Course Information

Schedule of In-Class Quizzes

September 8th

September 13th

Introducing Social Psychology

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The Self in Social World

September 15th

Self and Culture

In-class Quiz 1

September 20th

Attribution

In-class Quiz 2

September 22nd

Attitudes

In-class Quiz 3

September 27th

Attitudes & Attribution across Culture

In-class Quiz 4

September 29th

Conformity & Obedience

In-class Quiz 5

October 4th

Conformity across Culture

In-class Quiz 6

October 6th

Review Session for Midterm

-

No class scheduled October 11th (Fall Study Break)

October 13 th	Midterm	-
October 18 th	Persuasion	In-class Quiz 7
October 20 th	Group Behaviour	In-class Quiz 8
October 25 th	Cultural Context of Persuasion	In-class Quiz 9
October 27 th	Crowd Behaviour	In-class Quiz 10
November 1 st	Intergroup Relations	In-class Quiz 11
November 3 rd	Altruism	In-class Quiz 12
November 8 th	Altruism Across Culture	In-class Quiz 13
November 10 th	Aggression	In-class Quiz 14
November 15 th	Violence Across Culture	In-class Quiz 15
November 17 th	Stereotypes	In-class Quiz 16
November 22 nd	Prejudice	In-class Quiz 17
November 24 th	Attraction & Intimacy	In-class Quiz 18
November 29 th	Review Session for Final Exam	-
December 1 st	Intimate Relationships Across Culture	In-class Quiz 19