

PSYC201

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Description

Course Description: This course introduces students to historical and contemporary theories of social psychology, key theorists' contributions to the field of and practical applications of theoretical concepts in the real world of the individual functioning in group settings. The focus of study includes social judgments and decisions, attitudes and perception, social influence, attraction, aggression, altruism and group pressure and their influences on human behavior, cognition and emotion, along with exposure to the methods of social scientists who study group influence on human behavior in the field.

Course Scope:

This 8 week course includes an in depth examination of human attitudes, influence, prejudice and group behavior in social settings and reviews both seminal and modern theories of social psychology.

Objectives

1. Define the science of social psychology and its key concepts
2. Examine theories undergirding the science of social psychology
3. Explain the constructs of bias, prejudice and stereotypes
4. Describe influences on human aggression and helping behaviors
5. Identify cultural factors impacting the direction of human behavior, cognition, emotions occurring in social settings
6. Recognize seminal and contemporary research focused on social psychological phenomenon
7. Analyze in course level appropriate writing knowledge of selected and synthesized findings within a body of published works focused on the discipline of social psychology

Outline

Week 1: Introduction to social psychology; study of research

Course Learning Objectives et

CO1. Define the science of social psychology and its key concepts

CO2. Examine theories undergirding the science of social psychology

CO6. Recognize seminal and contemporary research focused on social psychological phenomenon

Weekly Learning Objectives

1. Define social psychology
2. Examine research of social psychology

Assigned Readings in Social Psychology

Week One Lesson

Chapter 1

Assignments

Week 1 Forum

Week 2: Perception and the self.

Course Learning Objectives et

- CO2. Examine theories undergirding the science of social psychology
CO6. Recognize seminal and contemporary research focused on social psychological phenomenon
CO7. Analyze in course level appropriate writing knowledge of selected and synthesized findings within a body of published works focused on the discipline of social psychology

Weekly Learning Objectives

1. Define perception
2. Describe the concept of the self.

Assigned Readings in Social Psychology

Week Two Lesson

Chapters 3, 4, and 6

Assignments

Week 2 Forum

Observational Analysis Assignment

Week 3: Attitudes: Formation and Purpose

Course Learning Objectives et

- CO2. Examine theories undergirding the science of social psychology
CO6. Recognize seminal and contemporary research focused on social psychological phenomenon

Weekly Learning Objectives

1. Examine attitudes and their changes in modern society.
2. Discuss how attitudes are formed and maintained.

Assigned Readings in Social Psychology

Week Three Lesson

Chapter 5

Assignments

Week 3 Forum

Week 4: Social Cognition & Heuristics

Course Learning Objectives et

CO6. Recognize seminal and contemporary research focused on social psychological phenomenon
CO7. Analyze in course level appropriate writing knowledge of selected and synthesized findings within a body of published works focused on the discipline of social psychology

Weekly Learning Objectives

1. Discuss cognitive shortcuts and errors.
2. Demonstrate course-based knowledge via completion of the Midterm exam.

Assigned Readings in Social Psychology

Week 4 Lesson

Chapter 2

Assignments

Week 4 Forum

Midterm Exam

Week 5: Group norms, and conformity, obedience, and compliance

Course Learning Objectives et

CO2. Examine theories undergirding the science of social psychology
CO6. Recognize seminal and contemporary research focused on social psychological phenomena

Weekly Learning Objectives

1. Describe groups, norms
2. Describe conformity and how it occurs.
3. Describe successful means to obtain obedience and compliance

Assigned Readings in Social Psychology

Week Five Lesson

Chapter 7, 11, and 13

Assignments

Week 5 Forum

Popular Media Application Assignment

Week 6: Impact of norms on behavior, liking and loving

Course Learning Objectives et

CO2. Examine theories undergirding the science of social psychology

CO5. Identify cultural factors impacting the direction of human behavior, cognition, emotions occurring in social settings

CO6. Recognize seminal and contemporary research focused on social psychological phenomenon

CO7. Analyze in course level appropriate writing knowledge of selected and synthesized findings within a body of published works focused on the discipline of social psychol

Weekly Learning Objectives

1. Define norms and their relationship to behavior.
2. Examine the concepts of liking and loving.

Assigned Readings in Social Psychology

Week Six Lesson

Chapter 8

Assignments

Week 6 Forum

Ethics Worksheet

Week 7: Aggression and conflict; helping and cooperation.

Course Learning Objectives et

CO4. Describe influences on human aggression and helping behaviors

CO6. Recognize seminal and contemporary research focused on social psychological phenomenon

Weekly Learning Objectives

1. Describe the role of aggression in conflict.
2. Examine helping and cooperation.

Assigned Readings in Social Psychology

Week Seven Lesson

Chapters 9 and 10

Assignments

Week 7 Forum

Week 8: Stereotypes,

Course Learning Objectives

CO3. Explain the constructs of bias, prejudice, and stereotypes

CO7. Analyze in course level appropriate writing knowledge of selected and synthesized findings within a body of published works focused on the discipline of social psychology

Weekly Learning Objectives

1. Describe similarities and differences between bias, stereotypes, and prejudice.
2. Demonstrate course-based knowledge via completion of the final exam.

Readings

Chapter 12

Week 8 Lesson

Assignments

Week 8 Forum

Final Exam

Evaluation

- The Observational Analysis Assignment requires students to conduct an informal naturalistic observation for one day keeping a detailed log of their observations. Students will then create a written paper analyzing their observations highlighting the social psychological concepts we have learned thus far. Instructions and details for this assignment are located on the classroom Assignments page.
- The Popular Media Application Assignment requires students to either view a film or read a book (popular media only; not academic) and then analyze how the plot, characters, or themes included in the popular work relate to a specific concept(s) discussed in the course readings. Instructions and details for this assignment are located on the classroom Assignments page.
- The Ethics Worksheet requires students to read a description of and/or research three of ten classic experiments in social psychology. The student is then required to answer a series of questions related to the methodology used, the results, and the ethics of the experiments. Instructions and details for this assignment are located on the classroom Assignments page.
- The Discussion Forums require participation in weekly interactive dialogs with classmates in the graded discussion of course relevant topics. Forums are graded scholarly dialogs with both general posting and topic focus requirements.
- There is also a Midterm (week 4) and a Final Exam (week 8) in this course. You can find details about these assessments in the Test and Quizzes area of the classroom.

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Forums	32.00 %
Week 1 Forum	4.00 %
Week 2 Forum	4.00 %
Week 3 Forum	4.00 %
Week 4 Forum	4.00 %
Week 5 Forum	4.00 %
Week 6 Forum	4.00 %
Week 7 Forum	4.00 %
Week 8 Forum	4.00 %
Exams	38.00 %
Midterm Exam - Week 4	19.00 %
Final Exam - Week 8	19.00 %
Popular Media Application Assignment	10.00 %
Popular Media Application Assignment	10.00 %
Observational Analysis Assignment	10.00 %

Observational Analysis Assignment	10.00 %
Ethics Worksheet	10.00 %
Ethics Worksheet	10.00 %

Materials

Book Title: Principles of Social Psychology - e-book available online, link provided inside the classroom in the Lessons section

Author:

Publication Info:

ISBN: N/A

Lesson material and articles are provided in the lesson section.

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted as part of coursework in the Psychology Department.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on forum assignments in the School of Arts & Humanities—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

Tutoring

[Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments: School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, we understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact your instructor before the due date so you can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes/tests, and assignments. Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes/tests, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.

Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an

assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc.) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc.). See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor.

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class.

Communicating on the Forum

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting day/time after which the instructor will grade and provide feedback, you are strongly discouraged from waiting until the due date to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
- "Substantive" means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree", even if wordy and thus, meets the length requirement, is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each other as colleagues. Hateful, aggressive, or hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
- Students must post a response to the weekly forums prompt and post the required number of replies to other students – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations on number of replies and word count requirements.

Quizzes and Exams

- Quizzes and exams may consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Each quiz/exam is accessible only once. Once a quiz/exam is accessed, you will not be able to access it again if you disconnect. Therefore, allocate time to complete your assessments.

University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)

- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

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