

# **PSYC 321:01 Social Psychology**

**MTH 1200 – 120pm**

**Tillett Hall Room 254**

**Fall 2014**

Sean T. Stevens, Ph.D.

**Email:** stevenss@rci.rutgers.edu

**Office:** Tillett Hall Room 423

**Office Hours:** Monday 2-330pm OR by appointment.

**Teacher's Assistant:** Jeremy Engelberg

**Email:** jeremy.engelberg@rutgers.edu

**Office:** Tillett Hall Room 325

**Office Hours:** Thursday 4-5pm.

## **Course Description**

Social Psychology (PSYC 321) focuses on the psychology underlying social behavior. Topics such as social perception, social cognition, attitudes and beliefs, persuasion, social conflict, group behavior, and self-presentation will be covered.

## **Learning Objectives**

### **1. Content in Psychology**

Students should know the terms, concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in social psychology discussed throughout the course.

### **2. Research Methods in Psychology**

Students should be able to apply basic research methods in social psychology, including research design, data analysis and interpretation, to standard social psychological questions

### **3. Higher-Order Cognitive Skills**

Students should be able to use critical thinking, skeptical inquiry, and, when possible, the scientific approach to ask, answer and understand social behavior and mental processes.

### **4. Civic Engagement**

Students should have opportunities to apply social psychological concepts and content to become engaged citizens.

## **Grade Breakdown**

Reading Summaries – 15%

Exam 1 – 15%

Exam 2 – 15%

Exam 3 – 15%

Final Exam – 40%

## Required Readings:

### Textbook:

Kenrick, D.T., Neuberg, S.L., & Cialdini, R.B. (2010). *Social psychology: Goals in interaction*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Allyn & Bacon: Boston, MA.

### Journal Articles:

Lazarus, R.S. (1982). Thoughts on the relations between emotion and cognition. *American Psychologist*, 37, 1019-1024.

**Read for: September 18**

**Summary Due: September 25**

Lazarus, R.S. (1984). On the primacy of cognition. *American Psychologist*, 39, 124-129.

**Read for: September 18**

**Summary Due: September 25**

Zajonc, R.B., (1980). Feeling and thinking: Preferences need no inferences. *American Psychologist*, 35, 151-175.

**Read for: September 18**

**Summary Due: September 25**

Zajonc, R.B., (1984). On the primacy of affect. *American Psychologist*, 39, 117-123.

**Read for: September 18**

**Summary Due: September 25**

Haidt, J. (2001). The emotional dog and its rational tail: A social intuitionist approach to moral judgment. *Psychological Review*, 108, 814-834.

**Read for: September 22**

**Summary Due: September 29**

Skitka, L. J. (2010). The psychology of moral conviction. *Personality and Social Psychology Compass*, 4, 267-281.

**Read for: October 9**

**Summary Due: October 16**

Brewer, M. B. (1999). The psychology of prejudice: Ingroup love or outgroup hate? *Journal of Social Issues*, 55, 429-444.

**Read for: November 13**

**Summary Due: November 20**

Haidt, J., Rosenberg, E., & Hom, H. (2003). Differentiating diversities: Moral diversity is not like other kinds. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 33, 1-36.

**Read for: November 20**

**Summary Due: November 25**

### Reading Summaries:

Written summaries of up to a page for the assigned journal articles are required. They must be submitted through the course Sakai site where there are individual assignments posted for each article. Late submissions will be downgraded and only accepted up to a specific date.

Article:	Read For:	Summary Due Date:	Last Day for Summary Submission (counts as late):
Zajonc (1980)	September 18	September 25	October 1
Lazarus (1982)	September 18	September 25	October 1
Zajonc (1984)	September 18	September 25	October 1
Lazarus (1984)	September 18	September 25	October 1
Haidt (2001)	September 22	September 29	October 1
Skitka (2010)	October 9	October 16	October 29
Brewer (1999)	November 13	November 20	December 2
Haidt et al. (2003)	November 20	November 25	December 2

## Course Outline:

<i>Date:</i>	<i>Topics:</i>	<i>Readings:</i>
September 4	Course Introduction	Chapter 1, Chapter 14
September 8	The Person & The Situation	Chapter 2
September 11	The Person & The Situation	Chapter 2
September 15	Research Methodology	
September 18	Social Cognition	Chapter 3, Zajonc & Lazarus
September 22	Social Cognition	Chapter 3, Haidt
September 25	The Self	Chapter 4
September 29	The Self	Chapter 4
October 2	<b>EXAM 1 (Chapters 1-4 &amp; additional readings; In Class; Multiple Choice)</b>	
October 6	Attitudes, Beliefs, and Persuasion	Chapter 5
October 9	Attitudes, Beliefs, and Persuasion	Chapter 5, Skitka
October 13	Social Influence	Chapter 6
October 16	Social Influence	Chapter 6
October 20	Social Influence	Chapter 6
October 23	Affiliation, Friendship, and Love	Chapter 7, Chapter 8
October 27	Affiliation, Friendship, and Love	Chapter 7, Chapter 8
October 30	<b>EXAM 2 (Chapters 5-8; In Class; Multiple Choice)</b>	
November 3	Prosocial Behavior & Aggression	Chapter 9, Chapter 10
November 6	Prosocial Behavior & Aggression	Chapter 9, Chapter 10
November 10	Groups, Social Organization Dilemmas, & Prejudice	Chapter 11, Chapter 12, Chapter 13
November 13	Groups, Social Organization Dilemmas, & Prejudice	Chapter 11, Chapter 12, Chapter 13, Brewer
November 17	Groups, Social Organization Dilemmas, & Prejudice	Chapter 11, Chapter 12, Chapter 13
November 20	Groups, Social Organization Dilemmas, & Prejudice	Chapter 11, Chapter 12, Chapter 1, Haidt et al.
November 24	Groups, Social Organization Dilemmas, & Prejudice	Chapter 11, Chapter 12, Chapter 13
December 1	Groups, Social Organization Dilemmas, & Prejudice	Chapter 11, Chapter 12, Chapter 13
December 3	<b>EXAM 3 (Chapters 9-13; In Class; Multiple Choice)</b>	
December 8	<b>FINAL EXAM REVIEW</b>	
December 16	<b>FINAL EXAM 12 to 3pm (Cumulative; Multiple Choice)</b>	