



**Social Psychology**  
**830:321:04**  
**Fall 2016**

**Tuesday & Thursday 1:40-3:00pm**  
**Tillett 254 (Livingston Campus)**

**Professor:** Dr. Sara Manuel

**Teaching Assistant:** Kristina Howansky

**Contact Information:**

[sara.manuel@rutgers.edu](mailto:sara.manuel@rutgers.edu) (write social psych in the subject line)

**Contact Information:**

[kh463@scarletmail.rutgers.edu](mailto:kh463@scarletmail.rutgers.edu) (write social in the subject line)

**Office:** Tillett 331

**Office:** Tillett 607

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 12-1pm, or by appointment

**Office Hours:** Thursdays 11am-12pm, or by appointment

**Course Overview**

Social psychologists study how the thoughts, feelings, and actions of individuals influence and are influenced by the behavior of others. Designed for students who have previously taken General Psychology, this course examines the biological, psychological, and social perspectives and theories of how humans think about, influence, and relate to one another. Through assigned readings, in-class discussions, and student reflection, we will cover topics including social thinking (e.g. social identity, judgements, and attitudes), social influence (e.g. culture, conformity, obedience, and persuasion), and social relations (e.g. prejudice, aggression, attraction, helping, and conflict resolution). The goal of the course is to introduce you to theories and research that explain aspects of social interaction.

**Course Objectives: By the end of the course, students will be able to...**

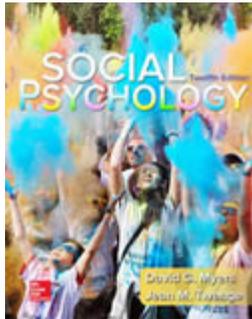
- Effectively identify, discuss, and analyze major concepts and theories within the field of social psychology
- Understand and describe the basic scientific method, as well as specific methodologies commonly used in social psychological research.
- Successfully analyze and communicate social psychological research findings, theories, media depictions, and encounters in everyday life.

**Class Format:** We will meet twice a week for 80-minute lectures. I will assume that you have completed the reading assigned for each class meeting. The lectures will focus on central themes in the assigned reading but I will often introduce new topics not covered in the readings. Films, class demonstrations, and guest speakers will supplement the lectures. Because you will

be responsible for knowing theory and research not covered in the reading material, I strongly recommend attending every lecture. Be sure to get complete notes from a classmate if you miss a class. Abbreviated lecture notes are available before every class on Sakai.

### **Required Textbook:**

Myers, D. (2015). *Social Psychology* (12th Ed.). New York, NY: McGraw Hill.



The text is available at the University bookstore. You may also use any number of online sites to buy or rent this edition of the textbook (e.g., amazon.com, half.com, chegg.com).

Additional readings posted on the schedule will be available on the course site.

**Course Pre-requisite:** PSYC 101 (General Psychology)

**Course website:** If you are properly registered for the course, you have access to the course website through Sakai. There you will find copies of readings, lectures, and other related materials.

You are responsible for all the information contained in this syllabus and for all changes to the syllabus that I announce in class or post on Sakai. It is important to note that the syllabus is subject to change, so please consistently check the syllabus on Sakai so that you are aware of these changes. The schedule of class topics and/or assignments is subject to change as necessary. Changes will be made known via emails, Sakai announcements, and/or lectures slides. You are responsible to check these resources.

### **Course Evaluation**

**Exams:** Your exam grade will be based on the total points earned from 3 of 4 in-class exams.

There will be three regular exams consisting of multiple choice questions. These exams will not be cumulative and only cover material from that section of the course. There will be a fourth, cumulative multiple choice exam, covering material from the entire course. I will drop your lowest exam grade and calculate your average exam score based on your 3 highest exam grades. Each exam will be worth 100 points.

Test material may be taken from the required readings, class lectures, and in-class discussions. Make-up exams will not be permitted without advance permission. Permission will only be granted for unavoidable circumstances (serious illness, family emergency).

*Note:* If you are content with your course grade after the first 3 exams (plus any completed extra credit), you do not have to take the final exam because I drop the lowest grade.

**Make-up Policy:** If you must miss an exam for a legitimate reason (e.g., religious holiday), please contact me at least one week before the scheduled exam to discuss a make-up option. If you miss an exam without contacting me ahead of time, you will only be allowed to take the make-up exam with proper documentation (e.g., note from doctor with the date of your visit). REGIS reporting is not sufficient to warrant a make-up exam. In all cases, you **MUST** receive prior approval from me in order to receive an opportunity to take the make-up exams.

**In-class exercises:** Throughout the course of the semester, I will introduce four in-class extra credit opportunities. These won't be announced in advance. Because missing an in-class exercise cannot lower your grade, and because they are part of the in-class activity for that day, extra credit assignments cannot be made up or turned in late, regardless of the reason for your absence. Each assignment will be worth one half of a percentage point toward your course grade (e.g., if your course average is an 88% and you competently complete all four in-class exercises, your overall course grade will be raised to 90%).

**Additional Extra Credit Opportunity:** Following the second exam, you'll have one additional opportunity for extra credit. I'll post info about this opportunity on Sakai following the second exam and will briefly go over the assignment in class. This assignment will be worth one full percentage point toward your grade. So in total, if you do all the in-class and out of class extra credit opportunities, you will have the potential to raise your grade three percentage points.

**Grading:** Your grade in this class will be based on your performance on the regular exams, the cumulative final exam, and any extra credit you earn. Grades will not be "curved"—in other words, everyone in the class could get an A, or everyone could get a C. Your success in the class does not affect anyone else's and vice versa. You will get the grade that you, and you alone, earn in this course.

Final grades are based on the total number of points earned (as well as up to 3 percentage points of extra credit) in accordance with the grading scale below, no exceptions. There is absolutely no end-of-semester negotiation period where students can plea and barter for a better grade in the class. If you are dissatisfied with your performance in the class, discuss the situation with the professor or the TA early— don't wait until it's too late to bring up your grade

The points needed for each grade is:

Grade	Points	Percentage
A	270- 300	90-100%
B+	261- 269	87-89.9%
B	240- 260	80-86.9%
C+	231- 239	77-79.9%
C	210- 230	70-76.9%
D	180- 209	60-69.9%
F	0- 179	0-59.9%

### Course Policies

**Required readings:** All readings should be completed prior to the assigned class day. You should come to class prepared to discuss the readings. I encourage you to take notes as you read and bring any questions that you might have on the material to share with the class.

**Attendance:** Attendance in this course is not mandatory, but it is *highly* recommended. As each class meeting will cover a great deal of material, missing class may set you behind. Additionally, some of the material discussed in class will not be covered in the readings. If you cannot come to class, make sure you check the abbreviated lectures posted on Sakai and get additional notes from a classmate. Do not contact the professor or TA to ask what you have missed.

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.

**Class discussion:** Social psychological topics can be easily applied to people's own experiences and thus, discussion is common (and highly encouraged). You will have many opportunities to ask questions and/or share your thoughts. However, you are never required to share any personal experiences. Most importantly, please be respectful of other students' opinions and the information they share in class.

**Office hours:** I welcome and encourage any student to visit me if he or she has any questions or concerns about something covered in class. Office hours are a time that I set aside to be available for you, so you do not need to worry about bothering me. If you cannot meet during my office hours, email me to arrange another time to meet. Make sure to write "social psych" in the subject line of the email.

Students wishing to review their exams should visit the TA during her office hours, or email her to arrange an appointment. Make sure to write "social" in the subject line of the email.

**Academic integrity:** All students are required to uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. Any instance of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the guidelines and procedures outlined in Rutgers University's Academic Integrity Policy. A copy of this document is available on the Rutgers Student Affairs website, or you may access the link here: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>

**Plagiarism:** All work that students turn in must be their own work. Students *should not* work collaboratively on assignments without prior approval from the instructor. Any outside sources (including help from other people) must be appropriately referenced in all written work. Turning in someone else's work as your own is completely unacceptable. This includes downloading information from the web and pasting or copying it into your paper. We routinely check Google, Wikipedia and other popular websites to check for plagiarism. Additionally, we require that your paper be turned in as electronic copies so that we can check for plagiarism by matching content to information on the web. Any student who plagiarizes will, *at the very least*, receive a failing grade for the course. More severe consequences (e.g., expulsion) are also possible. More about academic integrity can be found at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>

## Student-Wellness Services

**Just In Case Web App:** <http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

**Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS): (848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ [www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu](http://www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu)**

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

**Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA): (848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / [www.vpva.rutgers.edu](http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu)**

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

**Disability Services: (848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>**

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

**Scarlet Listeners: (732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>**

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.

### Course Schedule and Readings\*

Week	Date	Topic	Assigned Reading
<b>Part 1: Social Thinking</b>			
1	Tues 9/6	Intro to the course & Social Psychology	
	Thurs 9/8	Intro to Social Psychology	Chapter 1
2	Tues 9/13	The Self in a Social World, part 1	Chapter 2
	Thurs 9/15	The Self in a Social World, part 2	
3	Tues 9/20	Social Beliefs and Judgments, part 1	Chapter 3
	Thurs 9/22	Social Beliefs and Judgments, part 2	
4	Tues 9/27	Behavior and Attitudes, part 1	Chapter 4
	Thurs 9/29	Behavior and Attitudes, part 2	
5	Tues 10/4	Catch up & exam review	
	Thurs 10/6	<b>Midterm Exam 1</b>	
<b>Part 2: Social Influence</b>			
6	Tues 10/11	Genes, Culture, and Gender, part 1	Chapter 5
	Thurs 10/13	Genes, Culture, and Gender, part 2	
7	Tues 10/18	Conformity and Obedience, part 1	Chapter 6
	Thurs 10/20	Conformity and Obedience, part 2	
8	Tues 10/25	Persuasion	Chapter 7
	Thurs 10/27	Group Influence, part 1	Chapter 8
9	Tues 11/1	Group Influence, part 2	

	Thurs 11/3	Catch up & exam review	
	Tues 11/8	<b>Midterm Exam 2</b>	
10	<b>Part 3: Social Relations</b>		
	Thurs 11/10	Prejudice: Disliking Others, part 1	Chapter 9
11	Tues 11/15	Prejudice: Disliking Others, part 2	Rudman & Glick, 2008 (Posted on Sakai)
	Thurs 11/17	Prejudice: Disliking Others, part 3	
12	Tues 11/22	Aggression: Hurting Others	Chapter 10
	Thurs 11/24	NO CLASS- THANKSGIVING BREAK	
13	Tues 11/29	Attraction and Intimacy, part 1	Chapter 11
	Thurs 12/1	Attraction and Intimacy, part 2	
	Tues 12/6	Helping	Chapter 12
14	Thurs 12/8	Conflict and Peacemaking	Chapter 13
		Catch up & exam review	
15	Tues 12/13	<b>Midterm Exam 3</b>	
	Thurs 12/15	NO CLASS- READING DAY	
16	Monday 12/19	<b>FINAL EXAM 12:00-3:00PM</b>	

\*Subject to change if necessary. All changes will be announced in advance.