



Social Psychology

830:321:H6

Summer 2016

Instructor: Sara Manuel

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Office: Tillett Hall 331

Office Hours: Wednesday 2:00-3:00pm, or by appointment

Meeting Times: Monday & Wednesdays 6:00-9:40pm

Location: LSH-B112

Course Overview

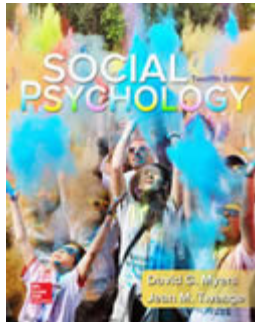
Social psychologists study how the thoughts, feelings, and actions of individuals influence and are influenced by the behavior of others. Designed for students who have previously taken General Psychology, this course examines the biological, psychological, and social perspectives and theories of how 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.

Required Textbook:

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



The text is available at the Rutgers 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).

Several optional readings will be posted on Sakai. These additional readings are meant to reinforce and provide supplementary context for material discussed in class.

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 all slides, resources, and assignments. Lectures, assignment instructions, etc. will be posted before each class.

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

Attendance & in-class assignments: Attendance in this course is essential. 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. In lieu of consistently monitoring attendance, there will be several in-class assignments included in your grade (10 total). There will be no make-up opportunities for missed in-class assignments, however, I will drop your lowest score, and so if you must miss class during an in-class assignment, you will not be penalized.

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.

Additionally, if you cannot come to class, make sure you get the lecture notes from a classmate.

Participation: During class, I will elaborate on concepts from the readings, introduce new material, conduct demonstrations, and show videos. Beyond simply showing up, I also expect

you to participate. This includes taking notes, staying off your phone and only using your computer for class-related reasons, as well as actively engaging in class discussions. The participation component of your grade will be based on the quality of your contribution to class discussion

Response papers: Throughout the course, you will be required to write 4 short response papers. The papers should be *1.5 to 2 pages long*. Papers are to be submitted to the Sakai site before class starts on the day they are due. Each response paper is worth a total of 25 points. Papers submitted after the start of class, but on the due date will be deducted 3 points (thus, the highest score possible is 22/25). No papers will be accepted after the day they are due. Papers should discuss material from the assigned chapter.

- *Application of theory:* Does this theory help you make sense of a specific interaction or situation? You may choose an experience from your own life, or you may analyze a magazine/newspaper article, movie/TV show, cartoon, song, etc. Please briefly describe the scenario you are analyzing and then discuss how the theory applies to this scenario.
- *Critical evaluation of the theory:* Does this theory contradict other research you have read about? Does it fail to take important factors into consideration? Are there limitations to the way this theory can be tested? This response will be based partly on your own opinions but make sure to evaluate the theory in the context of psychological research methods.
- *Testing of the theory:* Conduct your own social psychological experiment by acting out a phenomenon in public and discussing your experience. Cover the main components of your experiment. What was the phenomenon you chose and what was your hypothesis? Where did you conduct your experiment and who were your participants? How did you conduct your experiment and what was the procedure? What were the results and how did people react? What can you conclude from your experiment and did you find support for your hypothesis?

See the rubric posted on Sakai for more detailed instructions.

Exams: There will be two in-class exams consisting of multiple choice and short answer questions. The final will not be cumulative and only cover material from the second half of the course. 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).

Grading: Grades will be based on in-class assignments, response papers, and the two exams. The point breakdown for each component is as follows:

Assignment	Points
In-class assignments (10 pts. each)	100
Participation	50
Response papers (25 pts. each)	100
Midterm exam	150
Final exam	150
Total points possible	550

The points needed for each grade is:

Grade	Points	Percentage
A	495-550	90-100%
B+	478-494	87-89.9%
B	440-477	80-86.9%
C+	423-439	77-79.9%
C	385-422	70-76.9%
D	330-384	60-69.9%
F	0-329	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.

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 an assignment or 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 or after class, email me to arrange another time to meet.

Laptops: Bringing a laptop to class is highly encouraged. Several in-class assignments may require internet access and online submission. If you cannot bring a laptop to class, please let me know. However, laptops in class should be used for classwork only.

Academic integrity: All students are required to uphold the highest standards of academic honest. 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/

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/

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.

Schedule of Readings and Assignments*

Date	Topics	Readings and Assignments
Mon 7/11	Intro to the course & Social Psychology	Chapter 1
Wed 7/13	The Self in a Social World & Social Beliefs and Judgments	Chapter 2 & Chapter 3
Mon 7/18	Behavior and Attitudes & Genes, Culture, and Gender	Chapter 4 & Chapter 5 Response paper 1: Ch 4
Wed 7/20	Genes, Culture, and Gender (cont'd) & Conformity and Obedience	Chapter 5 & Chapter 6
Mon 7/25	Review for midterm exam	Response paper 2 due: Ch 6
Wed 7/27	MIDTERM EXAM	
Mon 8/1	Persuasion & Group Influence	Chapter 7 & Chapter 8
Wed 8/3	Prejudice: Disliking Others & Aggression: Hurting Others	Chapter 9 & Chapter 10
Mon 8/8	Aggression: Hurting Others (cont'd) & Attraction and Intimacy	Chapter 10 & Chapter 11 Response paper 3 due: Ch 10
Wed 8/10	Helping & Conflict and Peacemaking	Chapter 12 & Chapter 13
Mon 8/15	Review for Final Exam	Response paper 4 due: Ch 13
Wed 8/17	FINAL EXAM	

*Subject to change if necessary. All changes will be announced in advance on Sakai and in class.