

Social Psychology
01:830:321:B6
Summer 2018

Instructor: Rachel Rubinstein, Ph.D.

Email address: rachel.rubinstein@rutgers.edu

Office: Tillett Hall, room 303

Office Hours: TBA

Meeting Times: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 6-8:45 PM

Location: Tillett Hall, room 252

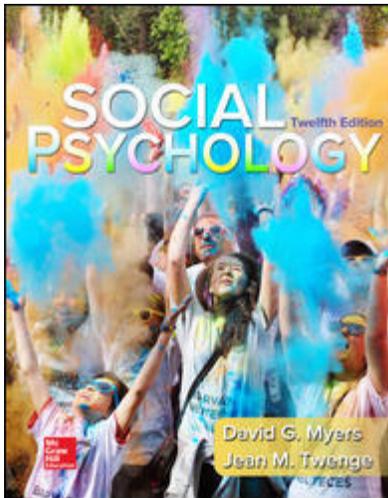
Course Prerequisite: General Psychology (01:830:101)

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, readings, etc. will be posted before each class.

Required Textbook:

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

ISBN: 978-0-07-786197-1



Course Overview

The goal of this course is to introduce you to theories and research that explain our social world. We will learn about how the thoughts, feelings, and actions of individuals influence and are influenced by those of others. The three core themes of this course include social thinking (e.g., social identity, judgments, and attitudes), social influence (e.g., culture, conformity, obedience, and persuasion), and social relations (e.g., prejudice, aggression, attraction, helping, and conflict resolution). We will learn about these topics through in-class activities and discussion, lectures, and readings.

Course Objectives

- Identify and understand major concepts and theories within the field of social psychology
- Apply social psychological principles to everyday life
- Understand the basic scientific method, as well as methodologies specific to social psychological research
- Analyze and critique empirical social psychological research

Evaluation

Exams: There will be two in-class exams consisting of multiple choice questions. The final will not be cumulative; it will only cover material from the second half of the course. Test material may be taken from the required readings, class lectures, in-class assignments, and in-class discussions.

- **Make-up Exams:** Make-up exams will not be permitted without advance permission and documentation (e.g., a doctor's note, an obituary or funeral notice, police report, etc.). Permission will only be granted for unavoidable circumstances.

Class participation: Social psychology can be easily applied to our own experiences and our social world. Therefore, discussion will be an important part of this course; you will have many opportunities to ask questions and to share your thoughts and opinions. Please be respectful of other students' opinions and questions and the information they share in class.

- **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. Brief quizzes on the reading material at the start of class are possible and, if they occur, will count towards your in-class assignment grade.

In-class activities and assignments: There will be at least one in-class activity, quiz, or reflection assignment in each class. These activities are meant to supplement course material, break up lecture, and allow you to apply what you are learning to your real life. Regardless of the assignment, if you are not in class that day, you will not receive credit, and you will not be able to make up missed assignments or activities (though you can miss one class and that day's assignments without penalty).

Attendance: Attendance in this course is essential. Because summer courses are fast-paced, each meeting will cover a great deal of material and missing class may set you behind. Some of the material discussed in class will not be covered in the readings. You are granted one

excused absence that will not affect your in-class activity or participation grade (though if there are extreme circumstances that warrant additional verified excused absences from the Dean's office, please contact me). Missing class repeatedly will affect your participation and in-class assignment grades. If you cannot come to class, please make sure you get the lecture notes from a classmate.

Short paper (2-3 pages): Choose a social psychological theory we have learned about. In the paper, you will apply this theory **and** critically evaluate it as follows:

- **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.

Additional Information

Office hours: Office hours are a time that I set aside to be available for you, so I strongly encourage you to come to office hours with questions or concerns about an assignment or course material. If you cannot meet during my office hours, we can arrange another time to meet.

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

Grading

	Points (1000 total)	Percentage of grade
Midterm exam	300	30%
Final exam	300	30%
Short paper	150	15%
Participation	120	12%
In-class assignments and activities	130	13%

Final Grades

Grades will be assigned as follows:

- 900+ points: A
- 850-899 points: B+
- 800-849 points: B
- 750-799 points: C+
- 700-749 points: C
- 600-699 points: D
- 599 or fewer points: F

Class Calendar

Date	Topic	Reading
Wednesday, May 30	Introduction to Social Psychology and Research Methods	Chapter 1
Friday, June 1	The Self in a Social World	Chapter 2
Monday, June 4	Social Beliefs and Judgments	Chapter 3
Wednesday, June 6	Social Beliefs and Judgments, Behavior and Attitudes	Chapters 3 and 4
Friday, June 8	Behavior and Attitudes	Chapter 4
Monday, June 11	Genes, culture, and gender	Chapter 5
Wednesday, June 13	Conformity and obedience	Chapter 6
Friday, June 15	MIDTERM EXAM (chapters 1-6)	
Monday, June 18	Persuasion	Chapter 7
Wednesday, June 20	Group Influence	Chapter 8
Friday, June 22	Prejudice	Chapter 9
Monday, June 25	Aggression	Chapter 10
Wednesday, June 27	Attraction and Intimacy	Chapter 11
Friday, June 29	Helping	Chapter 12
Monday, July 2	Conflict and Peacemaking; SHORT PAPER DUE	Chapter 13
Wednesday, July 4	NO CLASS	
Friday, July 6	FINAL EXAM (chapters 7-13)	

Academic Accommodations:

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. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

Should you require academic accommodations.

***Please provide me with the appropriate documentation from the Office of Disability Services at least one week prior to any request for specific testing accommodations.*

Academic integrity

Cheating on tests or plagiarizing materials in your papers deprives you of the educational benefits of preparing these materials appropriately. It is personally dishonest to cheat on a test or to hand in a paper based on unacknowledged words or ideas that someone else originated. It is also unfair, since it gives you an undeserved advantage over your fellow students who are graded on the basis of their own work. In this class we will take cheating very seriously. All suspected cases of cheating and plagiarism will be automatically referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs, and we will recommend penalties appropriate to the gravity of the infraction.

The university's policy on Academic Integrity is available at:

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy>

I strongly advise you to familiarize yourself with this document, both for this class and for your other classes and future work. To help protect you, and future students, from plagiarism, we require all papers to be submitted through Turnitin.com.

Since what counts as plagiarism is not always clear, I quote the definition given in Rutgers' policy:

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use of another person's words, ideas, or results without giving that person appropriate credit. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or appropriate indentation and both direct quotation and paraphrasing must be cited properly according to the accepted format for the particular discipline or as required by the instructor in a course. Some common examples of plagiarism are:

- Copying word for word (i.e. quoting directly) from an oral, printed, or electronic source without proper attribution.
- Paraphrasing without proper attribution, i.e., presenting in one's own words another person's written words or ideas as if they were one's own.
- Submitting a purchased or downloaded term paper or other materials to satisfy a course requirement.
- Incorporating into one's work graphs, drawings, photographs, diagrams, tables, spreadsheets, computer programs, or other nontextual material from other sources without proper attribution.

A SPECIAL NOTE: Students often assume that because information is available on the Web it is public information, does not need to be formally referenced, and can be used without attribution. This is a mistake. **All** information and ideas that you derive from other sources, whether written, spoken, or electronic, must be attributed to their original source. Such sources include not just written or electronic materials, but people with whom you may discuss your ideas, such as your roommate, friends, or family members. They deserve credit for their contributions too!

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.

Scarlet Listeners

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

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