

**Social Psychology**  
**01:830:321:03**  
**Spring 2019**

**Instructor:** Rachel Rubinstein, Ph.D.

**Email address:** [rachel.rubinstein@rutgers.edu](mailto:rachel.rubinstein@rutgers.edu)

**Office:** Tillett Hall, room 303

**Office Hours:** Thursdays 4-6 PM and by appointment, Tillett 303

**Meeting Times:** Monday/Wednesday 1:40-3 PM

**Location:** Tillett Hall, room 232

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

**Graduate Student Teaching Assistant:** Rachel Cultice

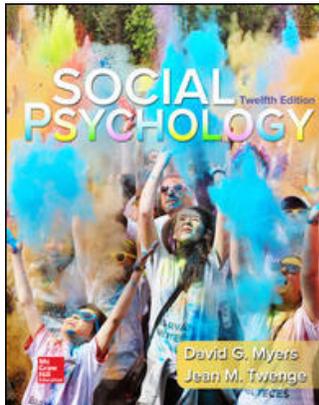
**TA office hours:** Tuesdays 1-2 PM, Tillett 615

**Course website:** If you are properly registered for the course, you have access to the course website through Sakai. There you will find slides and resources. Lectures and any relevant resources will be posted before each class.

**Required Instructional Resources:**

**Textbook:**

Myers, D., & Twenge, J. M. (2015). Social Psychology (12th Ed.). New York, NY: McGraw Hill.  
ISBN: 978-0-07-786197-1



**Clicker app:** Reef iClicker

**Download:** <https://www.iclicker.com/students>

2 week free trial, and then \$9.99 for a one semester subscription

## 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 four in-class exams consisting of multiple choice questions: three hourly exams and a final exam. The first three exams will cover material we have learned in that section of the course. The final will be cumulative; it will cover material from the whole semester. Test material may be taken from the required readings, class lectures and discussions, and videos shown in class.

*However*, I understand that everyone has an off day sometimes, so to make sure this does not influence your grade too much, I will drop your lowest exam score (including the final exam). This also means that you can miss one of the four exams without penalty.

- **Make-up Exams:** Make-up exams will not be permitted without advance permission and/or documentation of an unavoidable circumstance (e.g., a doctor's note, an obituary or funeral notice, police report, etc.). Makeup exams will be taken during departmental makeup exam sessions.

**Clicker extra credit:** The Reef iClicker app allows for class participation in our large class, and will allow me to assess whether you understand the material that is being taught. When a question is presented on the PowerPoint during lecture, you will answer on Reef. Some questions will be opinion-based, and everyone will receive credit for these questions. Others will be factually based; for these questions, you will only receive credit if you get the question correct. For each day there are clicker questions, you earn points, which you can keep track of on the Reef app. At the end of the semester the proportion of points you receive (out of the total available for the semester) will be multiplied 100, and this will be added to your average exam percentage score. You can earn a maximum of 3% added to your exam average.

It is important that you purchase your Reef subscription as soon as possible. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> lectures will count as practice. Starting with the 4<sup>th</sup> lecture of the semester, responses will count toward your grade.

Note: Because we will be using the Reef app, you will need to bring either a laptop or a smartphone to each class session.

### 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:** While laptops or smartphones are necessary for class due to Reef, please **do not use them to surf the internet, text, etc. during class**. This not only detracts from your ability to learn, but from that of other students around you.

### Grading

**Exam 1: 50 points**

**Exam 2: 50 points**

**Exam 3: 50 points**

**Exam 4 (cumulative): 50 points**

**Total: 150 points (1 exam dropped)**

**Extra credit:** up to 3% will be added to your exam average from Reef questions, depending on your attendance and performance (described above)

### Computing and Assigning Final Grades

- Add up your 3 highest exam grades (each is out of 50) and divide by 150
- Multiply this decimal by 100, and then add your Reef percentage points.
- Grades will be assigned as follows (**source: standard Rutgers undergraduate grading scale**) and **no exceptions will be made for any reason:**

A 90.0 -100.0%

B+ 87.0 - 89.99%

B 80.0 - 86.99%

C+ 77.0 - 79.99%

C 70.0 - 76.99%

D 60.0 - 69.99%

F 0.0 - 59.99%

### Class Calendar\* (Subject to change)

Date	Topic	Reading
Wednesday, January 23	Syllabus review and introduction to the course	
Monday, January 28	Introduction to Social Psychology, Research Methods in Social Psychology	Chapter 1
Wednesday, January 30	Research Methods in Social Psychology	
Monday, February 4	The Self in a Social World, Part 1	Chapter 2
Wednesday, February 6	The Self in a Social World, Part	

	2	
Monday, February 11	Social Beliefs and Judgments	Chapter 3
Wednesday, February 13	Social Beliefs and Judgments, Part 2	
Monday, February 18	Behavior and Attitudes	Chapter 4
Wednesday, February 20	<b>EXAM 1, CHAPTERS 1-4</b>	
Monday, February 25	Genes, Gender, and Culture, Part 1	Chapter 5
Wednesday, February 27	Genes, Gender, and Culture, Part 2	
Monday, March 4	Prejudice	Chapter 9
Wednesday, March 6	Prejudice, Part 2	
Monday, March 11	Aggression, Part 1	Chapter 10
Wednesday, March 13	Aggression, Part 2	
Monday, March 18	<b>NO CLASS—SPRING BREAK</b>	
Wednesday, March 20	<b>NO CLASS—SPRING BREAK</b>	
Monday, March 25	Persuasion	Chapter 7
Wednesday, March 27	<b>EXAM 2, CHAPTERS 5, 7, 9, 10</b>	
Monday, April 1	Conformity and Obedience	Chapter 6
Wednesday, April 3	Conformity and Obedience	
Monday, April 8	Group Influence	Chapter 8
Wednesday, April 10	Group Influence	
Monday, April 15	Helping	Chapter 12
Wednesday, April 17	Helping	
Monday, April 22	Attraction and Intimacy	Chapter 11
Wednesday, April 24	Attraction and Intimacy	
Monday, April 29	Social Psychology in Court	Chapter 15
Wednesday, May 1	<b>EXAM 3</b>	
Monday, May 6	Review	
	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	

*\*Please complete all readings before class!*

**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](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.

### **Scarlet Listeners**

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

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