

Social Psychology (PSY 360-04)
Tuesday and Thursday, 11:30am – 12:45pm, Mackinac Hall BLL110
Winter 2017

Instructor: Ernest Park, Ph.D.

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I will try to respond to emails within 24 hours if they are received Monday-Friday. See me in person (e.g., during office hours) if you have any questions/concerns that may require a lengthy response. Please be aware that I may not respond to email inquiries that involve information that has already been covered in the syllabus or in class.

Office Hours: Tues and Thurs: 2 – 4pm; I can also be available by appointment

Required Textbook:

Aronson, E., Wilson, T., & Akert, R., & Sommers, S. (2016). *Social Psychology* (9th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson.

*This syllabus is subject to change. Changes (if any) will be announced in class. Students are responsible for keeping informed of any such notices.

Prerequisites: Undergrad level PSY 101 (minimum grade of D), or Undergrad level PSY 201 (minimum grade of D), or Undergrad level HNR 234 (minimum grade of D).

Course Description: This course is designed for undergraduate students interested in learning about how our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are influenced by (1) situational factors (particularly other people), as well as (2) our membership in social groups. Throughout this course, we will be discussing the roles that both individual differences and situational factors play in guiding our everyday thoughts and actions. A primary goal of this course is to provide students with a foundation for understanding how people make sense of their lives and experiences, with an emphasis on contemporary theory and research. The class format is predominantly lecture-based, but questions/comments are strongly encouraged.

Course Objectives: By the end of the semester, students should be able to: 1) understand and explain contemporary theories, concepts and principles drawn from social psychology, 2) appropriately integrate related concepts, and 3) apply knowledge to more accurately describe, explain, and predict one's own social tendencies and those of others

Basis for grading:

Exam 1 = 100 points

Exam 2 = 100 points

Exam 3 = 100 points

In-class quizzes = 4 X 5 points = 20 points

Homework assignment #1 = 20 points

Homework assignment #2 = 20 points

Total possible points = 360 points

Number grade = Earned points/360 X 100 (grades ending with .499 and below will be rounded down, and .50 and above will be rounded up)

Grading scale:

A = 94 and above

C+ = 77-79

F= 59 and below

A- = 90-93

C = 73-76

B+ = 87-89

C- = 70-72

B = 83-86

D+ = 67-69

B- = 80-82

D = 60-66

Exams: Exams will consist of multiple choice questions. Students are required to bring their own No. 2 pencils on exam days. Students are responsible for knowing material from the text and any content discussed in class (including content from videos). If an exam is missed due to illness, I must be notified by email within 12 hours of the scheduled exam time and students must be able to provide a doctor's note to reschedule the exam. If an exam is to be missed for a reason other than illness, students must contact me in person at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled exam time. A valid excuse must be provided and students should wait for my approval before assuming an excuse is acceptable. Missed exams or failure to comply with these policies will result in a zero on the exam.

In-class quizzes: There will be 5 in-class quizzes throughout the semester. These quizzes will each consist of 5 multiple choice questions that cover *any material* that has been discussed in the text or in class by the time of the quiz. These will be "pop" quizzes (advanced notice about the quiz will not be provided). To receive credit, students must be in class when quizzes are distributed, and must complete the in-class quiz within the allotted time. To maintain fairness to all, make-up opportunities cannot be granted, but the lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Since "pop" quizzes will cover any material discussed up to the time the quiz is taken, it is critical for students to arrive to class on time, keep up with the assigned readings, and to remember what has been covered throughout the semester. Class attendance and attentiveness are thus strongly encouraged.

Homework assignments: Students will be required to complete two homework assignments. These assignments are designed to provide students with the opportunity to apply principles that have been covered in class. For each assignment, students will be given an essay topic and will write a brief paper in response (*at least* one double-spaced, typed page). More information about these assignments will be provided later in the semester.

Policies:

Late assignments: If an assignment deadline is missed due to illness, I must be notified by email within 12 hours of the scheduled due date and students must be able to provide a doctor's note. For a reason other than illness, students must contact me at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled due date. A valid excuse must be provided and students should wait for my approval before assuming the excuse is acceptable. Assignments that are not turned in, or are turned in late and fail to meet these regulations will result in a zero.

Academic integrity: The following are statements provided by the university and can be found in the Student Code, Sections, 223.00 and 223.01.

Students will do original work and will not take or receive the efforts of another person on any test or assignment, use unauthorized resources on quizzes or tests, plagiarize, or give/sell other students papers or assignments not authorized by the instructor. You are responsible for making yourself aware of and for understanding the policies and procedures that pertain to academic integrity. To that end, be sure to familiarize yourself with the GVSU Student Code (Section 223.00 and 223.01) related to academic integrity. Furthermore, be sure to reference sources at all times. If you are uncertain about such an issue prior to submission of an assignment, project, or test, please see me so we can eliminate that uncertainty.

No student shall knowingly plagiarize or copy the work of another person and submit it as his/her own. Offering the work of someone else as one's own is plagiarism. Any ideas or material taken from another source for either written or oral presentation must be fully acknowledged. The language or ideas taken from another may range from isolated formulas, sentences, or paragraphs to entire articles copied from the internet, books, periodicals, speeches, or from the writing of other students. The offering of materials assembled or collected by others in the form of projects or collections without acknowledgement also is considered plagiarism. In short, any student who fails to give credit in written or oral work for the ideas or materials that have been taken from another is guilty of plagiarism.

Disability: If there is any student in this class who has special needs because of a learning, physical, or other disability, please contact me and Disability Support Services (DSS) at (616) 331-2490. Furthermore, if you have a disability and think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency, please make me aware so that the university and I can develop a plan to assist you. It is the student's responsibility to request assistance from DSS.

Electronic devices: Use of computers in class is permitted only for taking notes. Unless authorized by me, phone and internet activity is not permitted since it is distracting to other students and is disrespectful. Unless authorized by me, audio/visual recordings during class are not permitted. If you fail to comply to policies you may be asked to leave class.

Cancelled classes: If the university is closed and classes are cancelled, any scheduled exam will take place the next class meeting (unless you are notified otherwise by me).

Students are expected to read the assigned chapter before the first lecture of the week

Tentative Schedule

	Topic	Assignments Due
Week 1, Jan. 9	Ch. 1: Introducing social psychology Ch. 2: Methodology	
Week 2, Jan. 16	Chapter 3: Social cognition	
Week 3, Jan. 23	Chapter 4: Social perception	
Week 4, Jan. 30	Chapter 5: the Self	HW Assignment # 1 Due 2/2/17 (5pm)
Week 5, Feb. 6	Exam 1 (Tues. Class) Chapter 6: the Need to justify our actions (Thurs. Class)	Exam 1 on 2/7/17
Week 6, Feb. 13	Chapter 7: Attitudes and Attitude Change	
Week 7, Feb. 20	Chapter 8: Conformity	
Week 8, Feb. 27	Chapter 9: Group processes	
Week 9, Mar. 6	Spring Break (NO CLASSES)	
Week 10, Mar. 13	Ch. 9 continued	
Week 11, Mar. 20	Exam 2 (Tues. class) Chapter 10 – Interpersonal attraction	Exam 2 on 3/21/17
Week 12, Mar. 27	Chapter 11 – Prosocial behavior	
Week 13, Apr. 3	Chapter 12 – Aggression	HW Assignment #2 Due 4/4/17 (5pm)
Week 14, Apr. 10	Chapter 13 – Prejudice	
Week 15, Apr. 17	Chapter 13 continued	
Final (Exam 3) Wednesday, April 26, 12 - 1:50pm		