

PSYCHOLOGY 360
SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
Spring/Summer 2020

Professor: Christine Smith, Ph. D.
ASH 2321
331-2424
Office Hours: Online Office Hours via Collaborate Ultra by appointment
Email: SmithC@GVSU.edu

Method of Instruction: This course is taught under the **online designation**, meaning that the entire course is delivered online through Blackboard. You will find that this class affords you an incredible amount of flexibility with respect to when you engage with the course materials. However, it is important to note that a detailed calendar with due dates is presented in this syllabus and submitting each week's required work on or before the stated deadline is a critical determinant of successfully completing the course. We will use Blackboard for all of our online activity.

Technology Requirements and Help: All class specific technologies will be available to you through Blackboard. You will need to be able to open and save PDF files. Any technology related questions you have while taking this course can be answered by the helpdesk at GVSU (helpdesk@GVSU.edu). I will use the standard word processing program of GVSU. Word documents in the course site will be posted as .docx files. If this is not compatible with your digital device, please get in touch with me immediately. All work submitted for this course should be submitted as .docx files or PDF files.

Required Readings: All readings for the course are available as digital files posted to BB.

Course Objectives: This course is designed to introduce you to the scientific study of human social behavior. From the readings, lectures, and discussion board interactions you will find that one of the most exciting aspects of social psychology is how relevant it is to your everyday life. Throughout this course you can expect to develop knowledge of the rich variety of social psychological concepts, and to develop a better understanding of the scientific method as it applies to social psychological phenomena. The material presented in this course should prepare you for future study within the field of psychology and will also be useful in your work and in other parts of your life.

As a student, you are responsible, at a minimum, for reading the material and completing the assignments on time, retaining material presented in the lecture, and participating actively in the discussion board devoted to this course. In some content-focused courses absorbing the material and repeating it back on exams is all that is required for a good grade. Such is not the case with this class, for I am more interested in your ability to conceptualize theoretical issues, apply material in new contexts, and energetically examine your social world.

Class Format: This course is reading, writing, and discussion board intensive. Each week you will be required to discuss a series of questions with your fellow classmates within the course's discussion board. Success in this course is strongly dependent upon reading and thinking deeply about the assigned readings. As long as your contributions to the discussion board are thoughtful, submitted on time, and demonstrate that you have done the assigned reading; you will perform well on them.

Assignments: Over the course of the semester you will complete two short (3 pages) papers that will require you to apply social psychological theory to real world events and to synthesize the material presented in lecture and in your readings. These papers and their due dates are listed in the course outline below and are to be submitted to BB.

Papers submitted late will earn half credit only.

Weekly Quizzes: At the end of each week's learning modules, students will be required to take a quiz on the material presented within the module. Quizzes need to be completed by midnight on Sunday of each module's respective week. The quizzes will be a combination of short answer and multiple choice items. There will be weeks where the quiz is divided across several modules, however, the number of quiz points in any given week will remain constant (20 points each week).

Weekly Discussion Board Participation: We will be using the Discussion Board on BB as a means to facilitate discussion of a variety of issues related to the topics we explore in this course. Your discussion board will be shared by approximately 10 other students in the class for the duration of the semester. Each topic to be discussed in a given week will be available on Monday at 8 AM and your final contribution for the week needs to be completed by Sunday at Midnight of the same week. You will need to create your first post each week by Wednesday at midnight. You will also be asked to comment upon at least two other classmates' posts each week (the final of which must occur before Sunday at Midnight). Details regarding Discussion Board grading are provided separately.

Academic Integrity: Each student is expected to pursue the academic goals and objectives in this course with the highest level of honesty and integrity. Representing someone's words or ideas as your own, whether done unintentionally or deliberately is plagiarism. Any student found plagiarizing will receive a grade of "F" in the course.

Grading: Your final grade will be based on 2 papers (50 points each), 6 weeks of quizzes (20 points each) and 6 weekly discussion board assignments (20 points each). Thus, the maximum number of points you can earn is 340. You are guaranteed the following grade based on your percent of total possible points.

Grade Distribution:

A	100-94%	A-	93.99-90%	B+	89.99-87%
B	86.99-84%	B-	83.99-80%	C+	79.99-77%
C	76.99-74%	C-	73.99-70%	D+	69.99-67%
D	66.99-60%				
F	59% and lower				

Course Topics Outline and Assignment Deadlines

Week 1: Introduction to Social Psychology and the Social Self

Complete Module Quiz and Discussion Board entries by May 10th @ Midnight

Week 2: Social Memory and Explaining Others' Behavior

Complete Module Quiz and Discussion Board entries by May 17th @ Midnight

Week 3: Intergroup Relations and The Psychology of Prejudice

Module Quiz and Discussion Board entries by May 24th @ Midnight

Submit Small Paper # 1 by May 24th @ Midnight

Week 4: Attitudes and Persuasion

Complete Module Quiz and Discussion Board entries by May 31st @ Midnight

Week 5: Social Influence and Conformity

Complete Module Quiz and Discussion Board entries by June 7th @ Midnight

Week 6: Bystander Intervention and Aggression

Submit Small Paper # 2 by June 12th @ Midnight

Complete Module Quiz and Discussion Board entries by June 14th @ Midnight