



PSY 360 Course Syllabus

Social Psychology – Winter 2025 Sections: 01, 02, 04

Section 1: Course Overview	1
Section 2: Course Materials and Tech Requirements	2
Section 3: Communication Policy	3
Section 4: Other Policies	3
Section 5: Grading	5
Section 6: Schedule	7
Section 7: Student Resources & Support	9

Section 1: Course Overview

Instructor

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Office hours: Wednesdays via Zoom 1- 4 pm; and/or zoom, by appointment.

Course Information

Social Psychology – PSY 360 Sections: 01, 02, 04

Winter 2025 – 3 Credit Hrs.

January 6 – April 26, 2025

Modality: Asynchronous, online

Course Prerequisites

PSY 101 Introductory Psychology

Course Overview

The main objective of this course is to acquaint you with the fundamentals of social psychology – the scientific study of how people think about, influence, and interact with one another. This course is designed to give undergraduate students instruction into the concepts, theories and research involved in the study of how the impact of others influence our feelings, thoughts and behavior.

Course Objectives

Following a brief review of the historical background of the discipline and research methods, the course will examine the major areas of social psychology (i.e., social thinking, social influence, and social relations). Specifically, after completing this course you will be able to:

- **Describe** the basic concepts of social psychology, including concepts and terminology.
- **Identify** basic research methods and application of scientific methods used in the study of social psychology.
- **Compare and contrast** theoretical approaches to the study of social psychology.
- **Identify and evaluate** classic and current research in the field of social psychology.
- **Explain** how social psychological theories and concepts apply to people's experiences in everyday social life.

Section 2: Course Materials and Tech Requirements

Course Textbook and Materials

Required:

Myers, D. G., & Twenge, J. M. (2022). *Social Psychology* (14th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw Hill.

Method of Instruction:

Prerecorded lectures, video clips, discussion forums

Technical Requirements in Online Classes

Internet:

This course is entirely online, which means we will not be meeting in a traditional classroom. All interactions and activities will utilize internet technologies. You are responsible for having consistent and reliable access to a computer and high-speed internet connection throughout the course.

Online learning takes self-discipline and motivation. GVSU has a plethora of helpful resources to help you perform at your best in online learning. The following link provides you with resources and tips for how you can succeed in online courses: <https://www.gvsu.edu/sasc/online-learning-tips-140.htm>

Computer Requirements:

This course requires that you have reliable, high-speed access to the internet and computer/laptop with updated software. You need to have access to and must be able to use:

- Updated Web browser – the *latest version* of Chrome, Firefox or Safari is recommended.
- Microsoft Office365 - Free to GVSU students as part of your tuition.
- **NOTE: Online courses CANNOT be completed on mobile phones.**

Learning Management System (Blackboard Ultra):

This course uses Blackboard Ultra as its learning management system (LMS). You must be able to use Bb Ultra to download and view documents, review and submit assignments, post to discussion boards, interact with others in the class, and view posted grades and instructor feedback.

If you would like to learn how to navigate Blackboard Ultra and practice using its tools, GVSU eLearning resources specific to Bb Ultra can be found here: <https://www.gvsu.edu/elearn/help/blackboard-student-help-2.htm>

Section 3: Communication Policy

Communication Policy

If you have questions regarding this course, please use the “3 before me” policy before asking me to respond to individual questions of a non-personal nature:

1. View your *syllabus*
2. View the *announcements* in Blackboard Ultra
3. View the *General Questions Discussion* Page in Blackboard Ultra

General Questions:

If you cannot find the answer to your question, and it is of a non-personal nature, please post your question in the *General Questions Discussion* page, which I monitor closely. This is like raising your hand in class; and just as in a traditional classroom, your question will be answered and benefit your fellow classmates. You are encouraged to answer questions from other students – this not only allows us to support each other but also helps provide timely assistance if I am away from my computer.

Personal Questions/Private Communication:

If you need to ask me a personal question (e.g., about a grade), have a private conversation about a sensitive issue, or notify me of a personal emergency, please email me directly, or message me through Bb. I am also available via zoom by appointment.

Instructor Response Expectations:

I do my best to respond to any emails, messages or posts of a non-personal or personal nature within 24-48 business hours, but typically respond much sooner.

Section 4: Other Policies

Attendance/Participation

You are responsible for information presented in this course on Blackboard Ultra. Students are expected to log into and to participate in quizzes, exams, assignments, and discussion forums. Not logging in regularly will likely affect your overall performance in the course.

All work must be completed on time. In this class, many assignments and discussions require you to participate during the time we are covering that material with other students. If you follow the schedule in Bb Ultra, and prioritize your time, you should have no problem submitting assignments and quizzes on time. **Any assignments submitted after the due date will not receive credit.** I am aware that real

emergencies do happen. I am willing to work with you on a *short-term, limited basis* when these things happen. **You must contact me as soon as possible to make arrangements for late work without a penalty.**

Student Code of Conduct / Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for obeying GVSU policies. This course is subject to the GVSU policies listed at: <http://www.gvsu.edu/coursepolicies>

GVSU holds its students to the highest standards of academic honesty. Any form of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating, plagiarism) will not be tolerated and can have serious consequences, including automatic failure in the course and/or dismissal from the college. Please read the following GVSU statements regarding academic honesty.

GVSU Statement on Plagiarism:

Appropriation of, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source without any indication or citation of the original source, including words, sentences, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one's own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program, course, or degree requirements.

GVSU Student Code Section 4 on Academic Integrity states:

- No student shall knowingly, without authorization, procure, provide or accept any materials, which contain questions or answers to any examination or assignment.
- No student shall, without authorization, complete, in part or in total, any examination or assignment for another person.
- No student shall, without authorization, allow any examination or assignment to be completed, in part or in total, by another person.
- No student shall knowingly plagiarize or copy the work of another person and submit it as their own.
- No student shall submit work that has been previously graded or is being submitted concurrently to more than one course, without authorization from the instructor(s) of the class(es) to which the student wishes to submit it.

AI-based Assistance Policy (adopted from Holly Lunch, University of Pennsylvania):

You may use AI-based programs such as ChatGPT and Copilot to help generate ideas and brainstorm. *However*, you should note that the material generated by these programs may be inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise problematic. Beware that use may also stifle your own thinking and creativity.

You may not submit any work generated by an AI program as your own. If you include any material generated by an AI program, it should be cited like any other reference material. Any plagiarism or other form of cheating will be dealt with under GVSU's relevant policies.

The American Psychological Association's (APA) current advice for citing generative AI content. APA Style for Citing AI-Generated Content can be found by visiting the following link: <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>

Accessibility

If you need special accommodations for this class (e.g., extended testing time), please contact Disability Support Resources (DSR) to set up the necessary accommodations to support your learning. You can contact the DSR office by calling (616) 331-2490, or via email to dsrgvsu@gvsu.edu. All discussions will remain confidential. For additional information about services provided, please visit the following link: <https://www.gvsu.edu/accessibility/>

Further, GVSU provides an accessibility tool that helps create accessible documents within Blackboard Ultra – Blackboard Ally. Please visit the following link: <https://www.gvsu.edu/accessibility/blackboard-ally-111.htm>

Copyright/Subject to Change

All materials and content in this course were created by the instructor, unless otherwise specified. I reserve the right to make any changes to the assignments, quizzes, deadlines, or any part of the syllabus if deemed necessary. It is your responsibility to read course announcements in Bb Ultra and/or other communications that may be announced during the duration of the course. Logging in often and/or daily will help you avoid any missed announcements.

Section 5: Grading

Assessments, Grades and Grading Scale

- **WEEKLY QUIZZES:** There will be 14 chapter quizzes. A chapter quiz will be available each week throughout the week. All quizzes are open book, open notes. Each chapter quiz needs to be completed by the Sunday 11:59 pm of each week in Bb Ultra. **Once you begin the quiz you will have 45 minutes to finish and submit the quiz.** Because you have the entire week to complete the quiz, there are no make-up quizzes. You will only have one chance to take each quiz. Quizzes *not* completed by the weekly deadline will receive a 0. These quizzes are to check your understanding of chapter material and help you prepare for the exams.
- **DISCUSSION FORUMS:** There will be 10 discussion forums throughout the duration of the course. Specific instructions for each discussion will be posted in each of the corresponding modules in Bb Ultra. ***Initial discussion posts are due the Thursday of the assigned week, while 2 response posts are due the following Sunday.*** A Discussion Rubric is also provided to help you understand what is expected of you in a discussion and how your work will be evaluated. Discussion boards in this class serve many purposes and are beneficial because they can:
 - **Create** a collaborative learning environment where you can share ideas and ask questions
 - **Apply** the concepts and learned material to experiences in your everyday life
 - **Provide** thoughtful reflection and responses to your classmates
 - **Develop** critical thinking skills by challenging you to analyze both your response posts as well as your classmates
- **EXAMS:** There will be 4 exams throughout the semester, none of which are cumulative. Each exam will cover material from the previous exam. Exams will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions. Students are responsible for material from the text, lectures, Ppt notes, and any

content presented within the modules (including content from videos). All exams are open book and open notes. Please note that each exam covers multiple chapters and going into the exam fully prepared will help you succeed – that means reading the assignment material ahead of time. You will have 90 minutes to complete the exam once you begin. You will only have one chance to take each exam. (Please note that during the weeks you have an exam scheduled you will not have a discussion assignment due. This is to give you more time to focus and prepare for the exam).

Evaluation in this course is based on the number of points earned.

Elements of the Course	Points Each	Total Points	Percentage of Overall Grade
14 Chapter Quizzes	15	210	21%
10 Discussion Forums	25	250	25%
4 Exams	125	500	50%
Orientation Activities and Final Thoughts	10	40	4%
Total		1000	100%

Letter Grades

The grading scale is standard, as follows:

Letter/Percent	Letter/Percent
A (93 - 100%)	C (73 - 76%)
A- (90 - 92%)	C- (70 - 72%)
B+ (87 - 89%)	D+ (67 - 69%)
B (83 - 86%)	D (60 - 66%)
B- (80 - 82%)	F (59 and below)
C+ (77 - 79%)	

Return of Graded Work

Quiz and exam grades will be posted immediately upon submission. Other grades such as discussions, essays or other written work will typically be posted within 1 week after the assignment's due date. Please allow additional time for return of more extensive assignments – providing you with detailed and meaningful feedback is important to me.

Section 6: Schedule

MODULE	TOPIC	Assignments, Graded Activities and Due Dates
ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES Jan 6 - 11	Course Expectations and Introductions Orientation Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> View Course Expectations Video Read syllabus and take the syllabus quiz Orientation Discussion (Introduce Yourself) initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due by Sun at 11:59 pm
MODULE 1 Jan 6 – 11	CHAPTER 1: Introducing Social Psychology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Chapter 1 Review related videos and lectures Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 2 Jan 12 – 18	CHAPTER 2: The Self	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Chapter 2 Review related videos and lectures Discussion initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due Sun at 11:59 pm Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 3 Jan 19 – 25	CHAPTER 3: Social Beliefs and Judgements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Chapter 3 Review related videos and lectures Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm EXAM 1: CHAPTERS 1 – 3 due by Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 4 Jan 26 – Feb 1	CHAPTER 4: Behavior and Attitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Chapter 4 Review related videos and lectures Discussion initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due Sun at 11:59 pm Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 5 Feb 2 – 8	CHAPTER 5: Genes, Culture and Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Chapter 5 Review related videos and lectures Discussion initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due Sun at 11:59 pm Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 6 Feb 9 – 15	CHAPTER 6: Conformity and Obedience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Chapter 6 Review related videos and lectures Discussion initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due Sun at 11:59 pm Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 7 Feb 16 – 22	CHAPTER 7: Persuasion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Chapter 7 Review related videos and lectures Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm EXAM 2: CHAPTERS 4 – 7 due Sun 11:59 pm

MODULE 8 Feb 23 – Mar 1	CHAPTER 8: Group Influence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Chapter 8 • Review related videos and lectures • Discussion initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due Sun at 11:59 pm • Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm
<i>SPRING BREAK NO CLASSES MARCH 2 - 9</i>		
MODULE 9 Mar 9 – 15	CHAPTER 9: Prejudice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Chapter 9 • Review related videos and lectures • Discussion initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due Sun at 11:59 pm • Multiple-Choice Quiz due Sun at 11:59 pm
MODULE 10 Mar 16 – 22	CHAPTER 10: Aggression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Chapter 10 • Review related videos and lectures • Discussion initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due Sun at 11:59 pm • Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 11 Mar 23 – 29	CHAPTER 11: Attraction and Intimacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Chapter 11 • Review related videos and lectures • Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm • EXAM 3: CHAPTERS 8 -11 due Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 12 Mar 30 – Apr 5	CHAPTER 12: Helping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Chapter 12 • Review related videos and lectures • Discussion initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due Sun at 11:59 pm • Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 13 Apr 6 – 12	CHAPTER 13: Conflict and Peacemaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Chapter 13 • Review related videos and lectures • Discussion initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due Sun at 11:59 pm • Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 14 Apr 13 – 19	CHAPTER 15: Social Psychology in the Courtroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Chapters 15 • Review related videos and lectures • Discussion initial post due Thurs at 11:59 pm and responses due Sun at 11:59 pm • Multiple-Choice Quiz due by Sun 11:59 pm
MODULE 15 Apr 20 – 26	Final Thoughts and EXAM 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Thoughts Discussion Assignment due Thursday at 11:59 pm • FINAL EXAM CHAPTERS 12, 13 and 15 due FRIDAY, APRIL 25th by 5:00 pm

Section 7: Other Student Resources & Support

GVSU has numerous resources and support throughout campus and online to help you succeed in your classes and in life.

“Assist” is a where you can find help with technology, library tools, tutoring, academic advising, mental health, accommodations, etc. just to name a few. Please follow this link to view the many resources and support available to you as a GVSU student:

<https://lms.gvsu.edu/ultra/integration/bbAssist>

Also, specific psychology course related help is available to you through *Psych Friends Peer-to-Peer Mentorship*. Psych Friends mentors are upper-level psychology and behavioral neuroscience students who are trained to provide support in many areas, such as:

- effective studying and time management techniques,
- exam preparation and reflection skills,
- understanding the PSY and BNS major requirements,
- potential jobs and careers in the field,
- the process of applying for graduate school, and
- how to maintain physical and mental health as a student.

Please Visit: <https://www.gvsu.edu/navigate> to schedule an online or in-person meeting.