



**Psychology 345 (Lec 02)
Social Psychology
Winter 2006
Course Outline**

Lectures:	TR 14:00-15:15	Location:	CHC0105
Instructor:	Dr. S. Boon	Office:	Admin 231B
Phone:	220-5564	E-mail:	sdboon@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours:	TBA		

Course Description: Social psychological approaches to understanding social influence, social perception and cognition, attitudes and group dynamics. H(3-0) Area II

Prerequisite: Psychology 205 or equivalent.

Learning Objectives: This course surveys a wide range of areas of study within the field of social psychology. By the end of the course you should be:

1. able to identify and understand the “social psychological perspective” on psychological phenomenon and how it differs from perspectives in other areas of psychology and the social sciences
2. able to identify and understand the major theoretical frameworks within social psychology (e.g., social learning theory, cognitive dissonance theory, etc.) and their real-life applications (e.g., aggression, attitude formation, etc.)
3. familiar with the types of research questions and research designs common in studies in this area, and able to critique research findings on relevant topics that you encounter in the media and elsewhere.

Textbook: Aronson, Wilson, Akert & Fehr (2004) Social Psychology, 2nd Ed. Toronto: Pearson. BE SURE TO GET THE 2ND EDITION. USED COPIES SHOULD BE AVAILABLE.

Additional Readings: set of five readings **on reserve** at the MacKimmie Library

Evaluation and Distribution of Credit

midterm 1	February 7 (chapters 1-5)	33.3%
midterm 2	March 21 (chapters 6-9 and readings)	33.3%
final exam	exam period (chapters 10-13 and readings)	33.3%

Exams will consist of approximately 40-50 multiple-choice items. Questions will cover material from lectures (including material presented in films, film clips and/or videos), assigned chapters in the text, as well as the set of additional readings available from PSYCHS. Exams will be noncumulative in nature. **N.B. Deferred and make-up exams will be short-answer/essay in format.**

Grades

Percentages below indicate the maximum standard required for each letter grade; these may be lowered but will not be raised.

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (i.e., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%; 89.4% will be rounded down to 89%, etc.). In light of opportunities you have to earn bonus credit and in the interests of being fair to all students in the class, I will not entertain requests to raise grades for any reason.

Tentative Topic Outline and Readings

DATE	Topic	Chapters/ Readings
Jan. 10, 12	Introduction and Methodology	Chs 1 & 2
Jan. 17, 19	Social Cognition	Ch 3
Jan. 24, 26	Social Perception	Ch 4
Jan. 31, Feb. 2	Self-Knowledge	Ch 5
Feb. 7	Midterm Exam #1 (ch. 1- 5)	
Feb. 9	Self-Justification	Ch 6
Feb. 14, 16	Self-Justification cont'd	
Feb. 21, 23	No classes – Reading Week	
Feb. 28, Mar. 2	Attitudes and Attitude Change Film, "Still Killing Us Softly	Ch 7
Mar. 7, 9	Conformity Film, "Quiet Rage: The Stanford Prison Experiment	Ch. 8 Osherow and Meyers readings
Mar. 14, 16	Group Processes	Ch. 9 Moorhead et al. reading
Mar. 21	Midterm Exam #2 (ch. 6 – 9 and readings)	
Mar 23	Interpersonal Attraction	Ch 10
Mar. 28, 30	Prosocial Behaviour	Ch 11
April 4, 6	Aggression Film, "Faces of the Enemy"	Ch 12 Gelles reading
April 11, 13	Prejudice	Ch. 13

	Steele reading
April 12	Last day to allocate Bonus Credits to Winter Session half courses.
April 13	Last day to withdraw from Winter Session half courses.
April 17-28	Winter Session Final Examinations

N.B. The above schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

Students' learning experiences in this course support the following University of Calgary Curriculum Redesign Features:

1. *Interdisciplinarity*: Some topics in the course (e.g. aggression) include discussion of different disciplinary approaches to the phenomenon.
2. *Research Integration*: Students will also be examined on a chapter devoted to social psychology research methods.

Core Competencies

University of Calgary Core Competencies facilitated by successful completion of this course include:

1. *Critical and creative thinking* through application of course concepts to everyday experience.

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next fifteen days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same.

If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within fifteen days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is a student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation and **have not** registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. If you are seeking academic accommodation, please notify your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the commencement of the course. Note that the lecturer must approve any tape recordings of lectures.

Absence From A Test

Make-up exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). You must contact the instructor before the scheduled examination or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. At the instructor's discretion, a make-up exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup exam is written within two (2) weeks of the missed exam.

A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test for health reasons. The student will be required to pay any cost associated with the Physician Counselor Statement.

Bonus Course Credits for Research Participation

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally-approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to an individual's final grade. Information about current experiments is on the Experimentrix website at <http://experimentrix.com/uc>. The read.me link at that site provides a guide to using the system and assigning your credits. The last day to participate in research and ALLOCATE YOUR CREDITS TO YOUR COURSES is April 12, 2006.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in the Administration building, room 170 or may be contacted at 220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is January 20, 2006. The last day to withdraw from this course is April 13, 2006.