



Department of Psychology

Psychology 345 (L02) – Social Psychology (Nursing)

Winter 2008

**Instructor: Dr. Valerie
Pruegger
Phone: 268-5126**

**Lecture
Location:
Lecture
Days/Time:**

**Web-based

N/A**

**Email:
vpruegge@ucalgary.ca
Office: N/A
Office Hours: by
appointment**

Course Description and Goals

This course is an introduction to social psychology which tries to understand and predict human behaviour in the social context through the use of scientific methods.

We are all influenced by the world around us and our environment is replete with examples of subtle and direct means to change, adapt or mold our behaviour. Whether it be direct learning from our family in childhood; formal learning in the education system; a set of laws and norms by which our society is governed; or indirect information learned from the media and popular culture; we are both active agents and passive recipients of influence from other people.

We are also lay social psychologists. We all try to make sense of our world and the people in it. What you will learn in this course, is how to explore and test our lay theories with scientific means. You may find that a pet theory of why people do what they do is confirmed or disproved by the data. You will learn to be a more critical observer of human behaviour and discover tools through which to objectively analyze your observations.

This course will help you to:

1. Examine and critical appraise theories of human behaviour in a cultural context.
2. Understand the cultural relativity of psychological theory.
3. Learn to use a variety of methods and methodologies to test hypothesis and theory.
4. Explore the vast range of research done on human behaviour in a social context.
5. Understand gender and cultural difference in a variety of psychological phenomena.
6. Explore the world of social cognition and perception. How do we know what we know?
7. Examine the importance of communication in human behaviour and cultural influences on verbal and non-verbal communication.
8. Learn about the relationship between attitudes and behaviours and how changes occur in these.
9. Examine the role of social behaviour in creating conformity, obedience, group dynamic.
10. Learn about how interpersonal attraction occurs.
11. Examine theories of prosocial and aggressive behaviour. What influences us to act altruistically or destructively?
12. Examine and understand prejudice and discrimination both at the individual and systemic levels.
13. Gain insight into practical applications of social psychology in areas such as health and law.

Required Text

The text is available in the Campus Bookstore.

Aronson, E, Wilson, T.D., Akert, R.M., Fehr, B. (2007). *Social Psychology: Canadian Edition (3rd ed)*. Pearson Education Canada Inc.: Toronto

Evaluation

2008 Nursing 345: Homework Assignments and Exams at a Glance

Unit	Assignment	Grading
1	quiz at http://jonathan.mueller.faculty.noctrl.edu/crow/commonsenseno.htm	on-line discussion will be monitored DUE: Jan 18
2	Compare the CPA code of ethics at http://www.cpa.ca/cpasite/userfiles/Documents/Canadian%20Code%20of%20Ethics%20for%20Psycho.pdf#search=%22code%20of%20ethics%22 to the nursing code of ethics at http://www.cna-nurses.ca/CNA/practice/ethics/code/default_e.aspx	on –line discussion will be monitored DUE: Jan 25
3	magic trick at http://www.hondomagic.com/html/a_little_magic.htm	on-line discussion will be monitored DUE: Feb 1
3	applied exercise on page 73 of the text	No discussion required
4	read article listed at website under study resources in unit 4 www.rxed.org/drugtopics/ce/2000/ce091800.pdf	No discussion required
4	If you could make yourself invisible, whose thoughts would you listen into and do you think they would surprise you?	on-line discussion will be monitored DUE: Feb 7
5	Discussion of self-	on-line discussion will

	concept. Use the quiz on pg 137 of text to get started and then use the questions in the study resources to guide your discussion.	be monitored DUE: Feb 14
5	exercise on pg 139 of text	No discussion required
5	Take test on self control at http://www.bbc.co.uk/science/humanbody/mind/surveys/selfcontrol/index.shtml	No discussion required
6	exercise on pg 169 of text	No discussion required

MIDTERM		DUE: March 5
Unit 8	Play the Prisoner's Dilemma at http://www.princeton.edu/~mdaniels/PD/PD.html	on-line discussion will be monitored DUE: March 7
Unit 8	Leadership Quiz in "Learning Activities"	Discussion not required
Unit 9	TBA	on-line discussion will be monitored. Discuss your results or observations with colleagues. Also, what did you think about the scenario with Elaine and Roger in Learning Activities? DUE: March 14
Unit 10	TBA	on-line discussion will be monitored. Discuss your results with your colleagues DUE: March 21

Unit 11	Aggression Questionnaire under study resources	on-line discussion will be monitored Discuss with your colleagues your observations DUE: March 28
Unit 12	Read paper on white privilege by Peggy McIntosh	on-line discussion will be monitored Discuss the idea of white privilege with your colleagues DUE: April 4
Unit 12	Discuss your reaction to the articles about race. Did you learn anything new?	Submit a 1-2 page essay worth 10% DUE: April 7
Unit 13	No assignments	
Midterm	Your mid-term exam is worth 25% of your final grade. It will be an essay 7-10 pages double-spaced and submitted electronically. You will be asked to choose from among a few topics (3-5 pages each) using material learned from Chapters 1-7 in your text and units 1-7 into your essay. Be sure to proof-read and edit your work carefully. You will be graded on grammar, spelling and sentence structure as well as	25% DUE: March 5

	content.	
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Final Exam	Your final exam is work 35% of your grade. It will be a 7-10 page essay double-spaced focussing on the latter part of your course but can incorporate all of the material learned.	35% DUE: April 25
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Grading for Assignments

1. On-Line Discussions –**20%**
2. Essay 1– **10%**
3. Essay 2 - **10%**
4. Mid term – worth **25%**
5. Final Exam - Essay – worth **35%**

The online discussions are an important part of your learning experience and you will be graded on your participation. I want to encourage you to participate just as you would in a class, in group discussions of the topics. You only need to weigh in once on any given topic, but please feel free to have a respectful and thoughtful dialogue with your colleagues. You may even want to introduce yourself to the others with a brief bio. Participation in these discussions will be worth 20% of your final grade.

Exams for Nursing 345

You will be expected to read a unit and a chapter per week in order to keep up with the course.

Mid-term Exam: Due 2008 March 5

Your mid-term exam is worth 25% of your final grade. It will be an essay 7-10 pages double-spaced and submitted electronically. You will be asked to choose TWO of several provided topics writing between 3-4 pages for each topic. Be sure to proof-read and edit your work carefully. You will be graded on grammar, spelling and sentence structure as well as content.

Essay (25%) will be marked as follows: **10% to structure AND technique, 15% to content:**

Structure: Introduction The introduction should set the stage for the paper. What is your topic? How will you discuss it? In 1 or 2 paragraphs, the reader should have a clear understanding of the argument you are about to present.

Body - Flesh out your ideas logically and with appropriate transition between paragraphs. The reader should be able to see how one point clearly builds on another in a smooth progression of ideas.

Conclusion - Tie it all together. A brief reiteration of what your thesis was, how you developed it, and what conclusions you can draw from the points in your body.

NB - These are not headings for your paper.

Expectations for Papers (please read!!)

This is not an English class, but a good portion of your marks will be graded on your ability to communicate your ideas. Any profession relies on clear writing abilities and I will expect nothing less. Some pitfalls to avoid:

Technique: spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure etc.

These building blocks determine whether your paper will be clear and understandable. You may have excellent content, but if it isn't communicated well, it is all for naught. Do not rely on a computer spell checker! These are notoriously poor at picking out anything but the most glaring errors. I encourage you to use a dictionary, read your paper out loud (often we can hear a grammatical error better than we can see one), and have someone else proof it for you.

Avoid common mistakes like number agreement, i.e., using a plural pronoun to describe a singular noun - "When **an individual** is depressed, **they** often report appetite loss". Here, the writer should have used a plural noun, *individuals*, or changed the pronoun to a singular, *s/he*.

And if you think punctuation isn't important, consider these two letters:

<p>Dear John:</p> <p>I want a man who knows what love is all about. You are generous, kind, thoughtful. People who are not like you admit to being useless and inferior. You have ruined me for other men. I yearn for your. I have no feelings whatsoever when we're apart. I can be forever happy-will you let me be yours?</p> <p>Gloria</p>	<p>Dear John:</p> <p>I want a man who knows what love is. All about you are generous, kind, thoughtful people, who are not like you. Admit to being useless and inferior. You have ruined me. For other men, I yearn. For you, I have no feelings whatsoever. When we're apart, I can be forever happy. Will you let me be?</p> <p>Yours, Gloria</p>
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Or: A woman without her man is nothing. vs. A woman: without her, man is nothing.

Punctuation directs you how to read.

Do not use contractions in academic writing, e.g., don't instead of do not. However, for your essays which are more informal, you may, but not in your midterm or final essays. For more information to help you become a better writer, see this page where you can click on hundreds of common errors in word usage and grammar

<http://www.wsu.edu:8080/~brians/errors/errors.html#errors>.

Content: Have you presented a well-argued, well-grounded thesis? Have you reasonably covered the topic in terms of both breadth and depth? Is it obvious you understand the concepts you are describing?

If you have any questions about your essay assignment, please talk to me well before the deadline for submission.

Please note: Quality of the presentation and/or argument will be considered (spelling, grammar, organization per above).

Final Exam: Due Date Friday, April 25, 2008

Your final exam is worth 35% of your final grade. It will be an essay 7-10 pages double-spaced and submitted electronically. You will be asked write an essay on an assigned topic and integrate what you have learned from this course into your essay focusing on Chapters 8-14 and Units 8-14. Be sure to proof-read and edit your work carefully. You will be graded on grammar, spelling and sentence structure as well as content.

Essay (35%) will be marked as follows: 10% to structure AND technique, 25% to content.

Assignments are due on the dates noted in the table before midnight. They are to be sent electronically to vpruegge@ucalgary.ca. Discussion forums have a cut-off date as noted in Blackboard. No posts will be accepted after these dates and if marks are assigned to a forum, these will be lost. These discussions do not have to be submitted to the instructor. You must contact the course instructor ahead of time if you require an extension. Late assignments will be penalized 5% for each day late.

Grading Scale

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%

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.).”

Lecture Schedule

Date (week of)	Topic	Chapter
Jan 13	Introduction to Social Psychology	1
Jan 20	Research Methods in Social Psychology	2
Jan 27	Social Cognition	3
Feb 3	Social Perception & Communication	4
Feb 10	Self-Knowledge and the Social Self	5

Feb 17	Attitudes and Attitude Change	6
Feb 24	Conformity and Influencing Behaviour	7
March 2	Group Processes	8
March 9	Interpersonal Attraction	9
March 16	Pro-Social Behaviour	10
March 23	Aggression	11
March 30	Prejudice	12
April 6	Social Psychology in Action	Social Action 1-3

Mid-term Exam: Due March 5, 2008

Final Exam: Due Friday, April 25, 2008

University of Calgary Curriculum Objectives

At the May 8, 2001 department meeting the following motion was passed:

This course addresses the following core competencies:

- Critical and creative thinking
- Analysis of problems
- Effective oral and written communication
- Gathering and organizing information
- Abstract reasoning and its applications
- Interpretive and assessment skills

The course will have the following course characteristics:

- A discussion forum where students are encouraged to think critically about course material
- A number of essays and opportunities to develop effective written communication skills
- Opportunities to consider abstract ideas and their application to practical real-life situations
- Opportunities to use insight and different perspectives in generating understanding of concepts

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 the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and **have not** registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

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.

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. Students can create an account and access the Research Participation System website at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. **The last day to participate in research is April 17, 2008.**

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

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is January 25, 2008. The last day to withdraw from this course is April 18, 2008.