



**Department of Psychology**  
**Psychology 345(L98) –Social Psychology**  
**Winter Session 2009**

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<b>Instructor:</b>	Nancy J. Smith, PhD	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	ST 135
<b>Phone:</b>	403 239-0255	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	Saturdays 1-5 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:njsmith@ucalgary.ca">njsmith@ucalgary.ca</a>	<b>Teaching Assistant:</b>	Heather MacKenzie
<b>Office:</b>	Admin 257D	<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:h.mackenzie@ucalgary.ca">h.mackenzie@ucalgary.ca</a>
<b>Office Hours:</b>	TBA	<b>Phone:</b>	403-220-4955

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### **Course Description and Goals**

This course will familiarize you with social psychological approaches to understanding a variety of human experiences. To that end, we will review theoretical and empirical strategies social psychologists have developed to help us understand such things as attitude change, conformity, prejudice, aggression, altruism, and attraction.

### **Required Text**

Aronson, Wilson, Akert, & Fehr (2007). Social Psychology (3<sup>rd</sup>. Canadian ed.), available in the University Bookstore. Recommended: Student Study Guide, for Soc. Psych. 3<sup>rd</sup> Can. Ed.

### **Evaluation**

Performance in the course (grades) will be evaluated on the basis of two mid-term examinations, a final examination, and three written thought pieces.

**Important Note: Students must complete all assignments and examinations to receive a passing grade in the course.**

**Examinations:** All three examinations are non-cumulative and generally multiple choice. However, one or more exams may also include short answer questions. All exams will cover 1) assigned material in the textbook as well as the content of 2) lectures and films and videos shown in class and 3) supplementary readings for each chapter (to be posted on Blackboard). The exam schedule that follows provides specific information regarding the textbook, and video material to be covered by each exam. As well, lecture outlines, supplementary readings and video guiding questions will be posted on the course Blackboard site. Should you miss class, you are encouraged to obtain class notes from another student. If you must miss a mid-term exam due to illness or other circumstances beyond your control, a make-up test may be arranged. Documentation will be required and you should contact the instructor before the test (preferably), or as soon as possible after the test.

	<b>Textbook Content</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Date</b>
Midterm Exam 1:	Chaps. 1- 4	20%	January 31
Midterm Exam 2:	Chaps. 5 - 9	32%	March 7
Final Exam:	Chaps. 10-12, SPA 1, 2, 3	33%	April 18

**Thought Piece Assignments:** Three reports--minimum 3 full pages—maximum 4 pages, with an additional cover page including your ID (but not your name) typed, font size 12, double spaced, with page numbers beginning on cover page -- each report worth 5% of the final grade, for a total weight of 15%. Each assignment will consist of your application of social psychological theories or concepts from specified text chapters to gain increased understanding of a relevant experience or event in your own life. These reports are to be prepared using readings from the textbook and must not include references. The goal is for you to develop your ability to achieve insight into everyday experiences using ideas learned in the course. Format details will be explained in class and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Late papers will lose 10% of the assignment grade per day late, including Sundays.

All assignments: You are expected to hand in printed assignments in class on the due date. If you cannot attend class that day, you must notify the instructor and then 1) drop off the assignment into the Green Box outside A275 before 4:30 pm on the Friday (building closed on Saturday) before the due date or 2) e-mail in your assignment, by 1 pm on the due date as a Word file attachment. You must turn in a printed copy before the next class date if you wish to obtain instructor comments relating to your assignment grade. Printed assignments will be returned, graded, in class to you generally the following lecture date.

If illness or other circumstances beyond your control make it difficult to complete an assignment on time, you are expected to advise the instructor of this before the due date has passed. Faxed assignments will not be accepted.

Thought Piece #.	Due Dates:	Applicable Chapter Content
1	February 7	1-4
2	March 21	5-10
3	April 4	11-12, SPA 1, 2, 3

### 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%

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.).

### Lecture Schedule

Class date	Topic	Chapters
Sat Jan 17	<b>Introduction to Social Psychology</b> 1.Video: The Social Connection, McGraw Hill, Module 1 2.Video: The Power of the Situation, Discovering Psychology: Program 19	1
	<b>Methodology: How Social Psychologists Do Research</b> 1. Video: Candid Camera classic for Intro Psych: "Space doctor TV survey," clip 17. 2. Video: Schacter's Affiliation Experiment, Worth Publishers' Media Archive: Psychology	2





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 14 days after the start of this course.

### **Absence From A Test/Exam**

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

### **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 the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation. The demand for time slots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open time slots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is April 16, 2009.

### **Student Organizations**

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

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 220-3911 [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)  
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 220-3913 [socialsciirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialsciirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course and still receive a fee refund is January 23, 2009. The last day to withdraw from this course is April 4, 2009.