



**Department of Psychology**  
**Psychology 345 (L02) – Social Psychology**  
**Winter 2010 – Course Outline**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Nancy Johnson Smith	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	PF 120
<b>Phone:</b>	Home office: 403 239-0255 University: 403 220-2242	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	Saturdays 1-5 PM
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<b>Office:</b>	Admin 257D		
<b>Office Hours:</b>	TBA		

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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.

### **Prerequisites**

Psyc 205 – Principles of Psychology

### **Required Text**

Aronson, Wilson, Akert, & Fehr (2010). Social Psychology (4th. Canadian ed.), available in the University Bookstore.

### **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 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 to be covered by each exam. As well, lecture outlines (including a list of relevant video material), 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.

Study aids (e.g., class notes) and computers will not be permitted during the exams.

Exam	Text coverage	Percent of grade	Date
Midterm Exam 1	Chaps. 1- 4	20%	January 29
Midterm Exam 2	Chaps. 5 – 9, portion of 10	32%	March 12
Final Exam	Remainder Chap. 10 plus 11- 12, SPA 1, 2, 3	33%	April 16

**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, maximum 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 5 pm on the due date as a Word.doc 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 class.

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 5	1-5
2	March 19	6-11
3	April 2	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%

To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

### Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Textbook Chapters, Topics and Due Dates
S Jan 15	Lectures Begin Ch. 1: Introduction to Social Psychology

	Ch. 2: Methodology: How Social Psychologists do Research
F Jan 21	<i>Last day for registration/change of registration. Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.</i>
S Jan 22	Ch. 3: Social Cognition: How We Think about the Social World Ch. 4 Social Perception How We Come to Understand Other People
S Jan 29	<b>Midterm Exam 1: Ch. 1-4</b> Ch. 5 Self Knowledge and the Need to Maintain Self Esteem
S Feb 5	<b>Thought Piece 1 Due (on Ch. 1-5)</b> Ch. 6: Attitudes and Attitude Change: Influencing Thoughts, Feelings and Behaviour Ch. 7: Conformity: Influencing Others
S Feb 12	Ch. 8: Group Processes: Influence in Social Groups Ch. 9: Interpersonal Attraction: From First Impressions to Close Relationships
S Feb 19	Reading Days. No lectures
S Feb 26	Reading Days. No lectures.
S Mar 5	Finish Ch. 9 Begin Ch. 10: Prosocial Behaviour: Why do People Help?
S Mar 12	<b>Midterm 2: Ch 5- 9, plus portion of Chap 10 covered March 5</b> Finish Ch.. 10 Ch. 11: Aggression: Why We hurt Other People
S Mar 19	<b>Thought Piece 2 Due (on Ch. 6- 11)</b> Ch. 12: Prejudice: Causes and Cures Begin SPA 3: Social Psychology and the Law
S Mar 26	Finish SPA 3 Begin SPA 1: and SPA 2: The Environment
S Apr 2	<b>Lectures end</b> <b>Thought Piece 3 Due (on Ch 12 SPA 1-3)</b> Finish SPA 1 and 2 Last day to withdraw from course
R Apr 14	Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits
S Apr 16	<b>Final Exam (scheduled by Registrar) Remainder of Chap10 plus 11-12, SPA 1-3</b>

### Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 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 15 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 15 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 403-220-8237. 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.

## Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

## Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two (2) 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 timeslots 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 timeslots. 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 14, 2011**

### **Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints> Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

### **Student Ombudsman's Office**

The Office of the Student Ombudsman provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca) (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

### **Safewalk**

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333.

### **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 403-220-5567.

<b>Student Union VP Academic:</b>	Phone: 403-220-3911	<a href="mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca">suypaca@ucalgary.ca</a>
<b>Student Union Faculty Rep.:</b>	Phone: 403-220-3913	<a href="mailto:socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca">socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca</a>

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is **Jan 21, 2011**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 24, 2011**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Apr 2, 2011**.