

PSYC 345(01)	Social Psychology	Winter 2024
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<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Michael King	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	TI 160
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:michael.king2@ucalgary.ca">michael.king2@ucalgary.ca</a>	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	TR 11:00 – 12:15
<b>Office:</b>	AD 155+155B	<b>Teaching Assistant:</b>	Madeline Springle
<b>Office Hours:</b>	By appointment	<b>TA email:</b>	<a href="mailto:madeline.springle@ucalgary.ca">madeline.springle@ucalgary.ca</a>

### Course Description

This course examines a broad range of key topics in social psychology. It is designed to help students become familiar with social psychological concepts, processes, and theories, with emphasis on how these can be applied to real-world issues. Some of the topics to be covered include: understanding social influence, social cognition, attitudes, conformity, aggression, prejudice, altruism, and attraction.

### Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Psychology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate (see <https://live-arts.ucalgary.ca/psychology/about#program-learning-outcomes>), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Evaluate and understand research methods in social psychological research	Mid-term; Final exam; term paper	1,2,4	I
Describe the major theories of social psychology	Mid-term; Final exam; term paper	1, 7	C
Apply social psychological theory and research to a current social issue	Bonus assignment; term paper	1,2,4, 5,7,8	C
Complete a report on a social psychological topic	Term paper	1,2,4, 5,7,8	C

Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles in a diverse world, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills, 8 = Demonstrate multicultural competence and awareness of issues related to equity, diversity, and inclusion. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

### Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 and 6).

## Course Format

This is an in-person class held on campus.

## Prerequisites

PSYC 200 and PSYC 201 (or equivalent) – Principles of Psychology I & II

## Required Text

Title: Social Psychology  
Author: David G. Myers  
Edition: 8<sup>th</sup> Canadian edition  
Publisher: McGraw Hill  
ISBN: 9781260327014  
Publication Date: Jun. 6, 2021

The required textbook is available in the University Bookstore. You can either purchase the physical book or a digital copy.

## Assessment Methods

(1) Bonus Assignment	(due January 18)	bonus 2% added to your final grade
(2) Mid-Term Exam	(February 27)	worth 35% of your final grade
(3) Term Paper	(due March 26 before 9pm MT)	worth 30% of your final grade
(4) Final Exam	(Scheduled by registrar)	worth 35% of your final grade

### (1) Bonus Assignment

The bonus assignment is a *thought paper* in which you describe one or more “curiosities” that you have about human thought and/or behaviour. Social psychologists engage in research for a variety of reasons including using a theory to predict behaviour, wanting to make the world a better place, or simply because of a basic curiosity about why people do what they do. For this assignment, describe one or more “curiosities” you have about people. For example, is there something that people do (or do not do) that surprises you? Do you wonder why you or others think certain things or respond certain ways in particular situations? Completion of this assignment will result in 2 bonus percentage points being added to your final grade and will help you start thinking about topics for your Term Paper. The assignment is a minimum 1 page, maximum 2 pages, double-spaced paper, excluding (a) a title page with your name and student number, and (b) a page for references. The bonus assignment is due before the beginning of class on January 18, and must be submitted on the D2L course dropbox. Late assignments will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.

### (2) Mid-Term Exam

- Includes material covered during lecture 1 to 12 as well as from the textbook chapters 1 to 7.
- Comprised of multiple-choice questions.
- Worth 35% of the final grade.
- Exams in this course are closed book. The use of resources, including class notes, the textbook, or online resources is prohibited during the exams in this course.
- Students may not communicate with others about course material or the exam either in person or electronically during exams.

### **(3) Term Paper**

- You are required to write a Term Paper about a “curiosity” that you have about human thought/human behaviour.
- For your Term Paper, you must apply a social psychological theory to analyze and explain your “curiosity”. Specifically you should:
  - Introduce your curiosity and describe why it is important to understand.
  - Apply a social psychological theory to your curiosity.
  - Review the background and research related to the social psychological theory.
  - Describe the limitations of the social psychological theory as it applies to your curiosity.
- More detailed instructions and grading criteria will be posted on D2L during the semester.
- The Term Paper should be a minimum of 4 pages —and a maximum of 5 pages— in length excluding a title page which contains your name and student number, and additional pages for references. To be clear: Term Paper = [title page] + [4 or 5 pages] + [pages with references]
- Your term Paper must be formatted following APA guidelines (7th edition).
- Your Term Paper must be submitted to the D2L course dropbox before 9pm MT on March 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Without instructor’s prior approval, late assignments will be penalized 5% per day, including weekends.

### **(4) Final Exam**

- Includes material covered during lectures 13 to 24 as well as from the textbook chapters 7 to 12.
- Comprised of multiple-choice questions
- Worth 35% of the final grade
- Exams in this course are closed book. The use of resources, including class notes, the textbook, or online resources is prohibited during the exams in this course.
- Students may not communicate with others about course material or the exam either in person or electronically during exams.

Once approved by the course instructor, and at their discretion, alternative arrangements for missed assessments may be considered. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-2.html>. Students may be asked for documentation <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.

### **University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy**

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity.

Research integrity, ethics, and principles of conduct are key to academic integrity. Members of our campus community are required to abide by our institutional code of conduct and promote academic integrity in upholding the University of Calgary’s reputation of excellence. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have read and are familiar with the student academic misconduct policy:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf>.

### **Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades**

Psychology course instructors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance*. An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance*. Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.

B Range: *Good Performance*. Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

C Range: *Satisfactory Performance*. Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

D range: *Marginally meets standards*. Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

F grade: *Course standards not met*. Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

#### **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%

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 (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

### Tentative Lecture Schedule

Lecture	Dates	Topic	Textbook Chapter	Note
1	Jan 9	Intro	1	
2	Jan 11	Methods	1	
3	Jan 16	The Self	2	
4	Jan 18	The Self	2	Bonus Assignment deadline 9pm MT
5	Jan 23	Social Beliefs and Judgment	3	
6	Jan 25	Social Beliefs and Judgment	3	
7	Jan 30	Behaviour and attitudes	4	
8	Feb 1	Behaviour and attitudes	4	
9	Feb 6	Persuasion	5	
10	Feb 8	Persuasion	5	
11	Feb 13	Conformity	6	
12	Feb 15	Conformity	6	
	Feb 20 - 22	<b>TERM BREAK</b>		
	Feb 27	Mid-Term exam		Exam on chapters 1 to 6, and lectures 1 to 12
13	Feb 29	Group Influence	7	
14	March 5	Group Influence	7	
15	March 7	Altruism	8	Volunteering
16	March 12	Aggression	9	
17	March 14	Aggression	9	
18	March 19	Attraction and Intimacy	10	
19	March 21	Attraction and Intimacy	10	
20	March 26	Prejudice	11	Term paper deadline 9pm MT
21	March 28	Prejudice	11	
22	April 2	Conflict	12	
23	April 4	Peace	12	
24	April 9	Life lessons	N/A	
	April 12-23	Final Exam Period		Exam on chapters 7 to 12, and lectures 13 to 24

### Extra Research Participation Course Credit is Not Offered for this Course.

#### Seating During Exams

Instructors and exam invigilators are free to ask students to move seats before an exam begins or even during an exam. Students must comply with this request and refusal to do so may warrant a charge of academic misconduct.

#### Absence From Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-1.html> At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Once approved by the instructor a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

### **Travel During Exams**

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam [Deferred Final Exams | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#). Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology [psyugrd@ucalgary.ca](mailto:psyugrd@ucalgary.ca).

**Reappraisal of Final Grade** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

### **Academic Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>.

### **Academic Misconduct**

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed, or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **Copyright Legislation**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright

([https://library.ucalgary.ca/services/copyright?\\_gl=1\\*bcjlpn\\*\\_ga\\*OTY1ODc0Njg0LjE2NjkxNTA1NTM.\\*\\_ga\\_X4GN9Y4W7D\\*MTY3Nzc5MjM3Ni4xNy4xLjE2Nzc3OTI4MDYuMC4wLjA](https://library.ucalgary.ca/services/copyright?_gl=1*bcjlpn*_ga*OTY1ODc0Njg0LjE2NjkxNTA1NTM.*_ga_X4GN9Y4W7D*MTY3Nzc5MjM3Ni4xNy4xLjE2Nzc3OTI4MDYuMC4wLjA)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

**Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

**Student Support and Resources**

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

**Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Last day add/swap a course is **Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.