

PSYC 443	INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS		Fall 2018
Instructor:	Dr. Rebecca Malhi	Lecture Location:	SH284
Phone:	403-220-4383	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF – 9:00 – 9:50
Email:	rmalhi@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	AD 155B	Office Hours:	TBA

Course Description

Application of social psychological theory and methodology to a variety of topics in the area of interpersonal relationships such as attraction, close relationships, interpersonal conflict, communication, and power. Course projects will be an integral part of the course.

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 psyc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/program-learning-outcomes), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Apply theories of social psychology and interpersonal relationships to real-life settings	Multiple choice exams, class discussions	1, 4, 5, 7	A
Demonstrate knowledge of key concepts and theories of interpersonal relationships	Class discussions, written assignments	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C
Critically evaluate primary research papers, comparing and contrasting findings, and identifying gaps in the literature	Research proposal, written assignments	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	A
Compare and contrast differences in conceptualizations of love, marriage, sex, and the family across history and cultures	Multiple choice exams, class discussions	1, 5	A
Apply psychological knowledge about interpersonal relationships to understand/evaluate portrayals of relationships in the media	Class discussions, written assignments	1, 2, 4, 5	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, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

Prerequisites

PSYC 300 – Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology I

PSYC 301 – Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology II **or**

PSYC 312 – Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology

PSYC 345 – Social Psychology

Required Text

Miller, R.S. (2018). *Intimate Relationships*. 8th Edition. McGraw-Hill. Two formats are available at the University Bookstore – either format is acceptable.

Additional Readings

Any additional readings will be provided on D2L throughout the course.

Course Evaluation

Course Component	Weighting	Due Date
Midterm #1	15%	Wednesday, October 10, 2018
Written Assignments	15%	Two assignments will be due during term: <ul style="list-style-type: none">#1 - 5% of grade – due Sep. 26#2 - 10% of grade – due Oct. 22
Midterm #2	15%	Friday, November 2, 2018
Participation	5%	Throughout the course
Research proposal outline	5%	Friday, November 9, 2018
Final paper (Research Proposal)	20%	Wednesday, December 5, 2018
Final Exam	25%	To be scheduled by registrar during final exam period

EXAMS

There will be two mid-term exams that will be held during scheduled class time. Each mid-term exam will consist of multiple choice questions and short answer questions. No written materials (textbook, notes, etc.) nor electronic devices may be used during the duration of the exams.

- Mid-term exam #1 (15%) will cover material from September 7 – October 3 and includes all lecture and textbook material (Chapters 1, 3, 4, 5) covered during that time.
- Mid-term exam #2 (15%) will cover material from October 5 – October 31 and includes all lecture and textbook material (Chapters 6, 7, 8, 10) covered during that time.

The final exam (25%; to be scheduled by the registrar) will be **cumulative**. The final exam will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Questions will be drawn from all materials presented in class as well as from the textbook. No written materials (textbook, notes, etc.) nor electronic devices may be used during the duration of the exam.

The use of additional resources (e.g. computers, iPads, iPhones, books, notes, etc.) is NOT permitted for exams in this course. Exam answers must be written in the booklets provided by the instructor for the exam.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

You will be expected to complete two written assignments during the term, in addition to the final paper/research proposal (see description below). The content of each paper is up to the student, but it must relate to concepts discussed in the course (either in the lectures or textbook). Possible topics could include: designing your own follow-up study to a published research paper, providing a critique of a published research paper, applying theoretical concepts to your own experiences (i.e., your own relationships, relationships of friends, relationships portrayed in movies, etc.), watching and responding to an online TED talk, etc.

- Written assignment #1 (5%) is due on September 26.
- Written assignment #2 (10%) is due on October 22.

For each assignment, evaluation criteria will include: evidence of critical thinking about the interpersonal relationship concept of interest, your ability to apply the concept to your particular topic, as well as the coherence of your argument, clarity of writing, etc. Further details about the length of each paper, format, grading criteria, etc. will be provided at the beginning of the course and also posted on D2L.

FINAL PAPER (RESEARCH PROPOSAL) and PROPOSAL OUTLINE

The research proposal (20%) will be a 10 page double-spaced paper of text, plus title page, references, and tables (if any). You must use Times New Roman font, size 12, with margins of 1 inch (2.54 cm) on all four sides of the page, and adhere to the guidelines in the APA manual (6th Edition). The research proposal is due in class on Wednesday December 5th. Further details about the format, grading criteria, etc. will be discussed in class and also posted on D2L.

The research proposal will describe a novel experiment that would contribute to the literature on interpersonal relationships. The paper should include an introduction that reviews past studies and explains how your study would extend our knowledge; a method section that describes how the experiment should be done (e.g., participants, manipulations, measures, procedure, etc.); and an implications section that describes how the expected pattern of results will contribute to the literature and applied setting.

You must submit a 1-page outline of your research proposal in class on November 9. The outline (5% of grade) will help you to structure your paper and get a start on writing the final paper. Further information will be provided in class and on D2L.

CLASS PARTICIPATION (5%)

Participation grades will be assigned based on each student's comments during each session. In order to benefit from the course material, you must read and analyze the assigned readings before each class session. Thorough preparation before each session will help you to consistently offer high-quality comments during the class discussions. You are encouraged to regularly contribute relevant facts,

questions, interpretations, examples, terminology, frameworks, and alternative points of view during the class discussions.

The participation grade is not a function of the *quantity* of participation, but the *quality* of participation.

The following questions will be considered in grading participation:

- Does the student arrive promptly for class and participate in discussions? Do the questions and comments move the discussion forward and contribute to a learning environment?
- Is the student prepared to report facts, analyses, and conclusions? Do comments interpret and integrate facts using theories, concepts, and analytical tools.
- Does the student take a defensible position on the recommended course of action? Are the arguments and answers to questions persuasive?
- Is the student able to communicate effectively? Are comments presented in a concise, compelling, and convincing manner?
- Does the student listen to other comments? Is the student able to build upon and evaluate other comments? Does the student learn from and show respect for other speakers and their points of view?

Your discussion performance will be graded following each class session based on the considerations above.

Submission of Assignments/Papers: You are expected to hand in your printed assignments at the beginning of class on the assigned due dates. Electronic submissions will NOT be accepted. A 10% penalty will be assessed for **each** work day that the paper is late (including weekends). It is your responsibility to ensure that I receive the assignment on time. Late assignments may be handed in at the Psychology Office Dropbox (after hours, the box outside this office), but will still be subject to late penalties.

Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology professors 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%

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.

In this course there will be **no rounding up** of final grades, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research participation.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity/Important University Dates	Chapter	Exam Date/ Assignment Due Date
F Sep 7	University Lectures begin. Introduction to Psyc 443; Relationships and Building Blocks in Relationships	Ch. 1	
M Sep 10	Relationships and Building Blocks in Relationships	Ch. 1	
W Sep 12	Relationships and Building Blocks in Relationships	Ch. 1	

R Sep 13	Last day to drop Fall Term half courses. No refunds for Fall Term half courses after this date.		
F Sep 14	Last Day to Add Classes Attraction	Ch. 3	
M Sep 17	Attraction	Ch. 3	
W Sep 19	Attraction	Ch. 3	
F Sep 21	Fee payment deadline for Fall courses. Social Cognition	Ch. 4	
M Sep 24	Social Cognition	Ch. 4	
W Sep 26	Social Cognition	Ch. 4	Written Assignment #1 (5% of grade) due at beginning of class
F Sep 28	Communication	Ch. 5	
M Oct 1	Communication	Ch. 5	
W Oct 3	Communication	Ch. 5	
F Oct 5	Interdependence	Ch. 6	
M Oct 8	Thanksgiving Day, University closed. No lectures.		
W Oct 10	Midterm #1 (15% of grade)		Covers material from Sep. 7 to Oct. 3
F Oct 12	Interdependence	Ch. 6	
M Oct 15	Interdependence	Ch. 6	
W Oct 17	Friendship	Ch. 7	
F Oct 19	Friendship	Ch. 7	
M Oct 22	Love	Ch.8	Written Assignment #2 (10% of grade) due at beginning of class
W Oct 24	Love	Ch.8	
F Oct 26	Love	Ch.8	
M Oct 29	Stresses & Strains	Ch. 10	

W Oct 31	Stresses & Strains	Ch. 10	
F Nov 2	Midterm #2 (15% of grade)		Covers material from Oct 5 to Oct. 31
M Nov 5	Conflict	Ch. 11	
W Nov 7	Conflict	Ch. 11	
F Nov 9	Conflict	Ch. 11	Research Proposal outline (5% of grade) due at beginning of class
Nov 11-17	Reading Days. No lectures.		
M Nov 12	Remembrance Day (Observed). University Closed. No lectures.		
M Nov 19	Dissolution and Loss of Relationships	Ch. 13	
W Nov 21	Dissolution and Loss of Relationships	Ch. 13	
F Nov 23	Dissolution and Loss of Relationships	Ch. 13	
M Nov 26	Maintaining and Repairing Relationships	Ch. 14	
W Nov 28	Maintaining and Repairing Relationships	Ch. 14	
F Nov 30	Culture and Interpersonal Relationships		
M Dec 3	Non-Typical Relationships		
W Dec 5	Non-Typical Relationships		Final Paper (20% of grade) due at beginning of class
F Dec 7	Fall Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Fall Term half courses.		
Dec 10-20	Fall Term Exam Period.		

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the paper 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 Director of Undergraduate Studies who will arrange for a reassessment of the work **within the next fifteen days**. Students in faculties without a departmental structure should take the matter to the dean or the associate/assistant dean (Academic/Student Affairs) of the faculty offering the course. The result of that reassessment should be

given to the student in writing. *The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered or to remain the same.*

Reappraisal of Final Grade: see procedure described in University of Calgary 2018-2019 Calendar: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

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 <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>.

Academic Accommodations

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy. Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy. Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the instructor.

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 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 up to 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 during exam make-up hours provided by the department <http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/exam-and-course->

[information#mues](#). 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 http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final.

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 http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final. Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology (psyugrd@ucalgary.ca).

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 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.

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, Region III.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

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 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 **Dec 7, 2018**.

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 Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS).

They are located in Administration 130 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombudsmen 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

(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>)

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.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **September 13, 2018**. Last day to add a course is **September 14, 2018**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **December 7, 2018**.