

**SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY: SOCIOLOGY 341.01**  
**WINTER TERM 2014**  
[Please - read carefully]

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Bruce Arnold\*  
**OFFICE:** SS912  
**Email:** [drarnold@ucalgary.ca](mailto:drarnold@ucalgary.ca) (only)  
**PHONE:** 220-6508  
**OFFICE HRS:** (SS912) Tuesday & Thursdays 9:30-10:30am \*  
**CLASS:** Tuesday & Thursday 2:00-3:15PM (ST 143)

\* Please note the instructor uses limited email for substantive or content related course issues because it is an inefficient means for assisting students. Instead, the instructor is available at various times weekly throughout the term to assist you and you are encouraged to use Dr. Arnold as a resource throughout the course. It is my pleasure to assist you with this course. Please use the email above to report an absence from class or to set up an appointment during office hours.

\* Office hours can also be scheduled at mutually convenient times.

\* For student study resources see <http://soci.ucalgary.ca/18/jfstud.htm>

\* The instructor may make some changes to course deadlines, timing, format, and content.

\* Concerns about evaluations and grades must be first put in writing, including the grounds and rationale for said concerns, and submitted to the instructor in advance of a meeting being scheduled at a mutually convenient time.

\* Make up exams (e.g., with official medical documentation) will be during Department of Sociology make-up scheduled dates and times.

\* All audio or video recording in class must have prior written permission from the instructor.

Who are you!? How do you know what you know? How can you know what you don't know? What is a good question? What is a good answer? What is an "individual" in our society? What part does the "society" in general or in specific situations play in each individual's thinking and behavior? Are you socially conditioned more than you realize? Are you the same as you were yesterday or last week? Why do you resist thinking and doing certain things a certain way? Why do you have certain feelings? How do we manage everyday contradictions and uncertainties? Why do we want to change but also stay the same?

We will investigate these and other questions within the framework of this course. It's quite one thing to read about social psychology but it can be quite a challenge to "do" social psychology. Students in this class will quickly realize they already, to some extent, "do" social psychology. We will endeavor to use students' experiences as a platform to study more formal aspects of sociological social psychology. In this process students will: (1) learn more about social psychology and more about themselves in relation to others in various environments; and (2) develop more critical thinking and analytical skills that are transferable to situations and activities outside of this classroom. In this process students will focus on the social psychological perspective in the required custom text but will also be responsible for alternative social psychological issues and

perspectives introduced in the classroom to “rethink” the text materials. **This is a course about you!** *And, thinking about you is exciting - but also challenging!*

Keeping in mind this is an introductory class to complex phenomena, some of the following topics, in addition to general “thinking skills”, will be offered for consideration:

- Social cognition
- Emotions and moods
- Perception and our senses
- Consciousness and the "unconscious"
- Self & Identity
- Desires and resistance to change: the common paradox
- Attitudes
- Stereotypes
- Introduction to various social psychologies
- Time

### **The Nuts and Bolts of the Course**

Lecture notes, outlines, and PowerPoint slides are not available on Blackboard. Students wishing to record lectures in any format will need written permission of the instructor. You will need to develop skills assessing, identifying key points in lectures and class media presentations for recording notes (notes and studying are “ways of thinking”). Instructions will be given in class.

**Student expectations:** Students need to come prepared for each class. Students are expected to do all the readings and exercises on or by the required dates and to be prepared to respond to questions posed by the instructor. Large classes offer specific challenges (more on this in class) but this class is a “learning community” and all members need to come prepared to class to participate and contribute to the learning process and objectives of this course. Please see the instructor during office hours (appointments can also be made for mutually convenient times). I am pleased to assist you during office hours and before and after classes as time permits.

We are using a **custom text** (available in U of C bookstore) specifically designed for this course so as to explore some of the multi-dimensional dynamics that are often excluded from introductory courses in social psychology. This course focuses on what we are already doing, including in the classroom, as social psychology - we are living social psychology 24-7. It is important that students keep a *flexible* and *open* mind to exploring new ways of thinking and behaviour that will arise throughout this course through the readings, assignments, and lectures blended into an inquiry-based pedagogy. Students, will be invited to comment on specific questions in class - and will be invited to do informal individual and small group exercises. All comments made in the classroom by students will be treated respectfully and kept within the classroom context to maintain a friendly and supportive learning environment.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional, courteous, and encouraging manner to all course participants without distracting others. This is large class so students will need to be aware that socializing during class is a distraction to many of their classmates and the instructor. **Please, be considerate of others in this class - thanks in advance**; for instance, turn off your cell phones, avoid talking with classmates, and avoid non-course related use of laptops. Reading and class preparation guidelines (see Blackboard) will be provided by the first class, with some modifications during the term. See other university rules and regulations at the end of this syllabus. All students must adhere to the conditions within this syllabus. You must be registered in this class to attend classes.

It is important that all students will have equal opportunities for evaluation and no special arrangements will be made for any student without proper professional documentation (e.g. medical documentation clearly stating an illness has prevented a student from attending to their specific academic responsibilities). Students with special needs regarding DRC writing exams please contact the instructor as soon as possible. If you do experience an unfortunate illness or something similar, please let me know as soon as possible so I can see what alternative arrangements might be available.

In class examinations:            1<sup>st</sup> Exam = 45% - Thursday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>  
   2<sup>nd</sup> Exam = 45% - Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>  
   3<sup>rd</sup> Final Quiz – 10% Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

### Grading Scheme

A+	96-100
A	85-95
A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	74-76
B-	70-73
C+	67-69
C	64-66
C-	60-63
D+	55-59
D	50-54
F	49-0

Exams are not cumulative. Examinations will draw from all materials used, presented, discussed, and assigned in this course (except informal exercises).

Students are expected to keep up-to-date with all course information and developments in class and on Blackboard. Please check Blackboard regularly. Managing course materials during and after class, including allocating time schedules to do so, are related to social psychological issues in this course: learn by doing. By going through this process, you

will learn new skills and enhance others that are directly transferable to other courses and your life outside the classroom.

It is highly recommended that you find one or two fellow student in this class to share notes and study for exams.

I look forward to your participation in this course and will be available throughout the term, during class and office hours, to assist you. Please note the instructor often does not use a microphone so please sit near the front of the class if you have difficulty hearing the lectures. Students wanting to make any type of recording in class must first receive written permission of the instructor. All recordings must be destroyed by the last day of this term.

Best wishes for a rewarding experience in this course!

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**Required Reading, viewing etc.:**

1. Social Psychology. Social Psychology 341: Custom Readings (available in U of C Bookstore) ISBN 0176466533 The text includes access to on-line resources for chapters taken from the "Social Psychology Alive" text (only). Please note we use the custom text chapter numbers, not those from the original sources, for reference.

2. Elder & Paul. Taking Charge of the Human Mind. Foundation for Critical Thinking.

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***Emergency evacuations:***

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point by [*check link to find assembly point for your building:* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/node/75>]

***Deferrals:***

If at all possible you must provide *advance* notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department.

Please note that requests to defer a final examination or to defer term work past the end of a term go through the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) and must be processed by the deadlines that are established in the U of C Calendar. You can find the forms you need online:

*Deferred Final Exam Application:*

[http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM_0.pdf)

*Deferred Term Work Form:*

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

You must submit these deferral forms to the Faculty of Arts Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre. Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term. Instructors are not involved in such decisions. To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

***Ethics Research:*** Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

***Academic Misconduct:*** Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offences. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

***The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP)*** legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor’s office or the Department main office. Written assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor’s office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

***Safewalk:*** The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus

Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

***Academic Accommodation:*** Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, phone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. **It is a student’s responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.**

***Handing in papers outside of class, return of final papers, and release of final grades:***

1. When students are unable to submit papers in class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant. Papers will not be accepted in the main Sociology Department office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the main Sociology Department office. The Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place (i.e. outside an instructor’s office, the department office etc.) Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will be available for pick-up only during the instructor’s office hours at the end of this term or at the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are available only online.