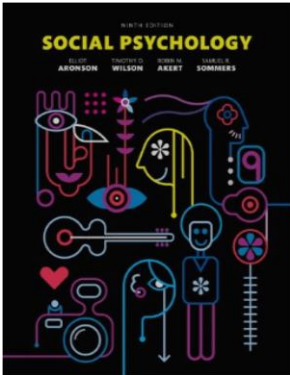


University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2016
August 22-December 13
SYLLABUS

PSCY: 3100 Social Psychology; 3 HRS			
Department of	Sociology & Psychology	School of	Social Sciences
Instructor Name:	Patricia Lyons, PhD		
Office Location:	W189B Mountain View College Campus		
Office Phone:	214-860-8612 (email preferred)		
Email Address:	plyons@dcccd.edu		
Office Hours:	M/W 9:30 – 10 AM and 2:00 – 3:00 PM; T/TH 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM		
Course Format/Structure:			
Classroom Location:	W170B – MVC Campus		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 – 10:50 AM		
Course Catalog Description:	Survey of psychological research and theory on social behavior with attention to person perception, interpersonal attraction, group processes, attitudes, helping behavior, aggression and applied social psychology.		
Prerequisites:	1630D or 1650D		
Co-requisites:			
Required Text:	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="flex: 1;">  </div> <div style="flex: 2; padding-left: 10px;"> <p>Textbook only: Social Psychology, Elliot Aronson, Timothy Wilson, Robin Akert, & Samuel Sommers 9th Edition, ISBN-10: 1-13-393654-6; ISBN-13: 978-0-13-393654-4 An eText version of the text is available through Pearson.</p> <p>Required materials may be purchased through the MVC Bookstore or directly from Pearson at www.pearson.com. A link will be provided from the course home page in (Blackboard). For students unable to purchase the materials by the first day of class, there is a 14-day, free trial period available. More details will be sent via email.</p> <p>Class readings as assigned: Class discussions are more interesting and meaningful if everyone comes to class prepared. All class readings should be completed prior to the class day they are discussed. See Course Outline below.</p> </div> </div>		
Recommended Text and References:			
Access to Learning Resources:	MVC Library MVC Bookstore (S Building) Psychology Learning Center (W170B) Computer Lab (W1) UNT Dallas Library: (Founders Hall) phone: (972) 780-1616 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/library e-mail: Library@untdallas.edu UNT Dallas Bookstore: (Building 1) phone: (972) 780-3652 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com		

Course Goals or Overview: The goals of this course are as follows - Specifically, this course is designed to assist students to:

1. Increase knowledge regarding important empirical findings in social psychology.
2. Communicate the research methods employed by social psychologists, and the ability of those methods to properly evaluate evidence. More specifically, this course will illustrate the manner in which social psychologists approach questions about the human condition – from developing theories, to generating hypotheses, to designing experiments, to analyzing results.
3. In the opportunity to practice and apply their knowledge of social psychological principles through active group demonstrations.
4. Develop written/oral communication and critical thinking skills within the major research/theoretical contexts of social psychology.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

	List all course Student Learning Outcomes At the end of this course, students will be able to
	1. Know, understand, and <i>explain</i> principles, concepts, and major perspectives of social psychology
	2. Know, understand, and <i>analyze</i> the scientific method and research results in social psychology.
	3. Exchange ideas effectively via oral/verbal communication with peers.
	4. Exchange ideas effectively via written communication.
	5. Demonstrate critical thinking by examining, <i>analyzing</i> , and reporting on concepts, theories, and research in social psychology (includes written essays, class discussions, and group presentations).
	6. <i>Apply</i> humanistic principles to group-centered, intellectual exchanges and tasks.

	Degree Program Student Learning Outcomes
	1. Communication: Students will be able to demonstrate effective writing for different purposes, exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes, and interact effectively with others.
	2. Critical Thinking: Students will be able to use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena, engage in innovative and integrative thinking and problem solving, and interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research.
	3. Ethical and Social Responsibility: Students will be able to apply ethical standards to psychological science and practice and adopt values that build community at local, national, and global levels.
	4. Knowledge Base: Students will be able to describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology, and will be able to describe applications of psychology
	5. Professional Development: Students will be able to apply psychological content and skills to career goals, exhibit strong teamwork capacity, and develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation.

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Blackboard announcement. Additional readings and activities may be added, these will be noted in the Readings and Activities/Assignments sections.

Dates	Topic	Assignments	Due	SLOs
Week 1 August 23-25	Introductions Review Course Outline and Expectations What is Social Psychology?	Reading: Chapter 1 In Class and Review Paper: 1. Research APA site for divisions in Social Psychology 2. Written reflection paper on self and others in your life	Aug 23 Aug 25 Aug 25	
Week 2 Aug 30-Sept 1	How do we Study Social Psychology?	Reading: Chapter 2 In-class activity Review and analysis of recent article on a research topic in Social Psychology	Aug 30 Sept 6	
Weeks 3-4 Sept 6-15	Social Cognition and Perception	Readings: Chapters 3 and 4; handouts Chapter topic outline Class Discussion	Sept 6 Sept 13	
Week 5 Sept 20-22	The Self and Social Situations	Reading: Chapter 5 Review written essay on self Chapter topic outline	Sept 20 Sept 22	
Week 6 Sept 27-29	Beauty, Interpersonal Relationships, and Attraction	Reading: Chapters 10 and handouts Class Activity My Beautiful Community project	Sept 27 Oct 6	
Week 7	EXAM 1 In-class	Modules 1-5	Oct 4	
Week 7		Review Exam, Beautiful Community essays, Project Guidelines	Oct 6	
Week 8 Oct 11-13	Attitude Formation and Change	Reading: Chapters 6 & 7 Class Activity Cognitive Dissonance assignment	Oct 11 Oct 18	
Week 9 Oct 18-25	Social Influence: Conformity, Obedience, Persuasion	Reading: Chapters 7 & 8 Political climate analysis applying principles of social influence	Oct 18 Nov 1	
October 27	Extra Credit: TEDx Mountain View	Essay	Nov 1	
Week 10 Oct 27-Nov 1	Group Processes	Reading: Chapter 9 Class Activity Apply principles of Group Processes to your current/future career Chapter Topic Outline	Oct 27	
Weeks 11-12 Nov 3-10	Intergroup Relations: Stereotypes, Prejudice, Discrimination	Reading: Chapter 13 Class Activity Analysis of current events	Nov 3 Nov 15	
Week 13 Nov 15-17	Aggression and Prosocial Behavior	Readings: Chapters 11 & 12 Class Activity	Nov 15 Nov 17	

Week 14 Nov 22	Group/Individual Project work day		Nov 22	
Week 14 Nov 24-27	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	No classes		
Week 15 Nov 29- Dec 1	Catch up Group/Ind Projects		Nov 29 Dec 1	
Week 16 Dec 6-8	Group/Ind Projects Final Exam Review		Dec 6 Dec 8	
	FINAL EXAM		TBA	

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Please see the detailed description of Assignments, Projects, and Exams at the end of this syllabus.

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Measures Program SLOs	Value (points or percentages)	Total
Readings	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Chapters and handouts for class discussion and assignments	
Assignments and and class activities	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	6 -8 in-class, written, and/or presentation assignments	100 (average based on number of total assignments)
Beautiful Community Project	1, 2, 3, 4	100	100
Attendance	1, 2, 3	100	100
Research Project: Presentation and Paper	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Group Project and Individual Research Paper (100 each)	200
Mid-Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	100	100
Final Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	100	100
TOTAL:			700

Please see the detailed descriptions of the assignments and course expectations at the end of this syllabus.

Grade Determination

A = 630 – 700 pts; i.e.90% or better
B = 560 - 629 pts; i.e.80 – 89 %
C = 490 – 559 pts; i.e.70 – 79 %
D = 420 – 489 pts, i.e.60 – 69 %
F = 319 pts or below; i.e. less than 60%

There is no grade curve. Grading is strictly based on these formulas. Please do not ask to have your grades curved or moved up to the next letter grade, especially if you have not earned the points. If you have any questions about the grades that you have earned, please let me know as soon as possible after the grade is recorded.

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance): The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untdallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDdisability@untdallas.edu or at Founders Hall, room 204. (UNTD Policy 7.004)

CoursEval Policy: Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

- All assigned readings should be done before the topic is covered in class. This makes for much more engaging class discussions.
- All assignments, except those done spontaneously in class, must be typed using a legible 12-point font (e.g., Arial, Times New Roman, Calibri, etc.), and using the proper APA format. In psychology, we use APA, not MLA, as our preferred format. We will review this format at the beginning of the semester.
- Assignments are due **at the beginning of class on the date specified**. Late, written assignments will be deducted 50% on the first day after the assignment is due (including if turned in after class). Assignments will not be accepted on the next class day. If you come to class and still need to print your assignment, it will be considered late and will be deducted 50%.
- If you use the MVC Writing Center services, you may print your work there for free.
- Emailed assignments are not accepted unless you make arrangements with me prior to the due date of the assignment (e.g., you have an approved absence on the day the assignment is due).

Exam Policy: There are two exams: a mid-term covering Modules 1-5, and a Final Exam covering Modules 6-10 and group projects. Exams will be taken in class as scheduled. **No** makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity (Policy 7.002) at http://www.untdallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct at http://www.untdallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/hds0041/pdf/7_001_student_code_of_conduct_may_2014.pdf Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. In addition, all academic work turned in for this class, including exams, papers and written assignments must include the following statement: "*On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.*"

Bad Weather Policy: Campus facilities will close and operations will be suspended when adverse weather and/or safety hazards exist on the UNTD campus or if travel to the campus is deemed dangerous as the result of ice, sleet or snow. In the event of a campus closure, the Marketing and Communication Department will report closure information to all appropriate major media by 7 a.m. That department will also update the UNTD website,

Facebook and Twitter with closing information as soon as it is possible. For more information please refer to <http://www.untdallas.edu/police/resources/notifications>

Attendance and Participation Policy: This class starts at 9:30 AM and ends at 10:50 AM. We meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays. You are expected to be in class for each session, to be on time, and to stay for the full duration of the class. Attendance accounts for almost 15% of your grade. You will receive 4 points for each class that you attend on time and for the full duration. That is, if you arrive late (5 or more minutes after class starts) or leave early without a valid reason, you will not get the points for that day. I have given you 12 “free points” to account for those days that you may need to miss because of illness, or a family issue (e.g., child illness, death in the family/funeral). Missing class because of your outside work is not a valid excuse. If you know that you are going to miss class, please let me know.

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Please refer to Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at <http://www.untdallas.edu/hr/upol>

Diversity/Tolerance Policy: Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive and inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate. (UNTD Policy 7.001)

Additional Class Notes: If, at any time, you are experiencing difficulty or confusion with the course material, please let me know. I want you to be successful in this class. I am willing to work with you if you have questions or concerns; however, you need to let me know, and to give us time to work out a plan for you.

If you find yourself falling behind, please do not wait until the last weeks of class to address this issue. The sooner we can discuss a plan for you, the better.

I reserve the right to change the course outline, assignments, and exam formats and dates. Any changes will be communicated to you via email and/or on Blackboard, and in class.

COURSE OUTLINE AND DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS, PROJECTS, AND EXAMS

Module Week 1 August 23-25

1. What is Social Psychology?

Review the principles of Social Psychology.

The role of social situations, self-evaluation, and one's perception of social situations in predicting human behavior, thoughts, and feelings.

What is the role of self and the situation in understanding human behavior, thoughts, and feelings?

How is Social Psychology similar to and different from other disciplines in psychology, economics, political science and sociology?

Assignment: Search the APA website for divisions related to social psychology. In a one-page paper, answer the following in essay format: Describe the division and its primary area of study. Based on your understanding of Social Psychology, how is this division related? What made you choose this division as an example of Social Psychology? What other areas of psychology might that division be related to? Did you learn something that you did not know before? Explain.

Due August 25.

Assignment: Written reflection on self and important others in your life. How does what they do and think influence your behaviors and thoughts?

Due August 25.

Week 2 August 30-September 1

2. How do we Study Social Psychology?

The Scientific Method applied to Social Psychology

Assignment: Reading

Assignment: Find a recent (2012 and after) article that discusses and research issue related to social psychology. Identify the type of research. Identify the relationship of the variables in the article. Does the research appear valid (externally and internally)? What could be added to the research. Attach a copy of the article you used, or a link that we can access during class. Use proper citation (see guidelines discussed in class).

Due September 6.

Weeks 3-4 September 6-15

3. Social Cognition and Perceptions

How do people perceive and think about their world? How does Automatic Thinking influence our thoughts, behavior, feelings in relationship to others?

Assignment: Reading

Assignment: Chapter Topic Outline; Class Discussion

Due September 20

Week 5 September 20-22

4. The Self in Social Situations

Self-esteem; Motivation and Emotions; Impression management; emotional regulation

Assignment: Reading

Assignment: Go back to the written reflection on self and important others in your life that you wrote at the beginning of the class. How does what they do and think influence your behaviors and thoughts? What can you add to this essay?

Assignment: Chapter Topic Outline

Due September 22

Week 6 September 27-29

5. Beauty, Interpersonal Relationships, and Attraction

How do we define beauty? What are the psychological principles that influence attraction and relationships?

Assignment: Readings

Assignment: My Beautiful Community: Analysis and application of theories on perception, attraction, and beauty. A written reflection, analysis, and class discussion applying social psychological concepts on how something in your community (to be defined) has impacted you and/or others. This topic can include an event, and thing, people, institutions, a “movement,” or an attitude

Due October 6

Week 7 October 4: **In-Class Exam 1 over Modules 1-5. Exam will include essay, short answer and multiple choice questions.**

October 6: Review Exam, Beautiful Community essays, and Project Guidelines

Week 8 October 11-13

6. Attitudes: Attitude Formation and Change, Attitude Justification, and how Attitudes Influence our Thoughts and Behaviors

Assignment: Reading

Assignment: Cognitive Dissonance – write about a personal experience that you have had with cognitive dissonance. Identify the psychological factors and justification of attitudes and behavior. What did you do to reduce dissonance? What are the consequences of reduced dissonance?

Due October 18

Week 9 October 18-25

7. Social Influence: Conformity, Obedience, and Persuasion

Assignment: Readings

Assignment: Review the current political races that are taking place locally and nationally. Analyze and apply principles of attitude formation, compliance and persuasion. How are attitudes and behavior being influenced? Give specific examples of how principles of compliance and persuasion are being used to influence attitudes and behavior. If the presidential election is over, reflect on how these principles may have influenced the outcome of the election.

Due November 1

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY (25 points)

On October 27: Attend the Mountain View College TEDx Conference. Write about one of the speakers. How did the speaker incorporate principles of social influence and persuasion to convey his/her message? **Due November 1.**

Week 10 October 27-November 1

8. Group Processes

How does the presence of others influence our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors? Do we work better alone or in groups?

Assignment: Reflect on your own work experience and/or group experiences. What groups are important to you? Why? What makes for effective group work? Apply the principles of Group Processes to your current and/or future work/career situations.

Week 11-12 November 3-10

9. Intergroup Relations: Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination

What are these constructs and how are they related? What psychological principles explain these concepts? How do stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination affect and influence the self and

society? What can we do to reduce the negative impact of stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination?

Assignment: Readings

Assignment: Intergroup Relations: analyze and apply principles of group behavior (including stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination) to current events or a personal experience.

Due November 15

Week 13 November 15-17

10. Aggression and Prosocial Behavior

What influences aggression? What influences helping behavior? Can we reduce aggression and increase prosocial behavior?

Assignment: Readings

Assignment: Ties in with discussion and assignment on Intergroup Relations

Due November 15

Week 14 November 22 (Tuesday)

Group Project Work Day

Week 14 **November 24-27**

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Week 15 November 29-December 1

If needed, catch up on missed units

Start Group Presentations (this will depend on the number of groups/individual projects that we have).

Week 16 December 6-8

Group and Individual project presentations

Review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM TBA

Essay, short-answer, and multiple choice questions covering Modules 6-10, and group projects.