

**University of North Texas at Dallas**  
**Fall 2015**  
**August 24 – December 3**  
**SYLLABUS**

<b>PSYC 3100.003 Social Psychology (3 Credit Hrs)</b>			
Department of	Sociology & Psychology	Division of	Liberal Arts & Life Sciences
Instructor Name:	Debra Yoder, Ed.D.		
Office Location:	MVC W189a		
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Office Hours:	MTWR 9:45AM-11:00AM and by appointment		
Classroom Location:	MVC W170b		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	MW 12:30-1:50		
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:	General Psychology		
Required Materials:	The students purchasing directly from Pearson will purchase through the registration process through Blackboard course or from this link: <a href="http://www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/social-psychology-plus-new-mypsyhlab-with-pearson-9780134131030?xid=PSED">http://www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/social-psychology-plus-new-mypsyhlab-with-pearson-9780134131030?xid=PSED</a>		
MyPsychLab Access Code Card	Note: The MPL access code includes the eTextbook. You may choose to add a print book for an additional cost.		
Access to Learning Resources:	MVC Psychology Learning Center Lab W170b MVC Library UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: <a href="http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm">http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm</a> UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: <a href="mailto:1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com">1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com</a>		
<b>Course Goals or Overview:</b> The goals of this course are as follows -			
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase learners' knowledge regarding the important research findings in social psychology, for the purpose of enhancement of learners' general knowledge base within the field of psychology as a whole.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>3. Afford learners the opportunity to practice and apply their knowledge of social psychological principles through the completion of the Social Justice Project. (see below)</li> <li>4. Develop learners' written/oral communication and critical thinking skills within the major research/theoretical contexts of social psychology.</li> </ol>		
<b>Learning Objectives/Outcomes:</b> At the end of this course, learners will be able to:			
1	Know, understand, and apply principles, concepts, and major perspectives on social psychology		
2	Know, understand, and analyze 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 skills
6	Revise multiple drafts of a group presentation based on instructor/peer feedback
7	Work effectively in group-centered, intellectual exchanges and tasks

### Course Calendar with Assignment Due Dates

TOPICS	Assignment Due Dates
Introductions – Orientation to the Course	8/24
MyPsychLab set-up, Assignment Calendar	8/26
Introducing Social Psychology Reading: Aronson, Chapter 1	Ch 1 MPL Homework due 9/1 MPL Chapter 1 Exam due 9/4
Methodology: How Social Psychologists Do Research Reading: Aronson, Chapter 2	Ch 2 MPL Homework due 9/8 MPL Chapter 2 Exam due 9/11
Social Cognition Reading: Aronson, Chapter 3	Ch 3 MPL Homework due 9/15 MPL Chapter 3 Exam due 9/18
Social Perception Reading: Aronson, Chapter 4	Ch 4 MPL Homework due 9/22 MPL Chapter 4 Exam due 9/25
The Self: Understanding Ourselves in a Social Context Reading: Aronson, Chapter 5	Ch 5 MPL Homework due 9/29 MPL Chapter 5 Exam due 10/2 Writing Reflection #1 due 10/5
The Need to Justify our Actions: Dissonance and Reduction Reading: Aronson, Chapter 6	Ch 6 MPL Homework due 10/6 MPL Chapter 6 Exam due 10/9
Attitudes and Attitude Change: Influencing our Thoughts & Feelings Reading: Aronson, Chapter 7	Ch 7 MPL Homework due 10/13 MPL Chapter 7 Exam due 10/16 Writing Reflection #2 due 10/19
Conformity: Influencing Behavior Reading: Aronson, Chapter 8	Ch 8 MPL Homework due 10/20 MPL Chapter 8 Exam due 10/23
Group Processes: Influence in Social Groups Reading: Aronson, Chapter 9	Ch 9 MPL Homework due 10/27 MPL Chapter 9 Exam due 10/30 Writing Reflection #3 due 11/2
Interpersonal Attraction Reading: Aronson, Chapter 10	Ch 10 MPL Homework due 11/3 MPL Chapter 10 Exam due 11/6
Prosocial Behavior Reading: Aronson, Chapter 11	Ch 11 MPL Homework due 11/10 MPL Chapter 11 Exam due 11/13 Writing Reflection #4 due 11/16
Aggression Reading: Aronson, Chapter 12	Ch 12 MPL Homework due 11/17 MPL Chapter 12 Exam due 11/20
Prejudice: Causes, Consequences, and Cures Reading: Aronson, Chapter 13	Ch 13 MPL Homework due 12/1 MPL Chapter 13 Exam due 12/3
<b>Project Calendar</b>	
Social Justice Projects Presentation of Topics	10/26
Social Justice Projects Library Research Day	10/28
Social Justice Projects Project Outline Due	11/2
Social Justice Projects Collaborative Assessment/Feedback	11/4
Social Justice Projects Group work	11/9
Social Justice Projects Group work	11/11
Social Justice Projects Class Presentations	11/16
Social Justice Projects Class Presentations	11/18
Social Justice Projects Class Presentations	11/23
MVC Social Justice Week – Poster Presentations	11/30-12/4
Human Trafficking Event – Susan Peters	12/3
Final Exam	12/2 Social Justice Project

## EVALUATION (Determining Your Grade)

Class work, homework, activities and exams are designed to measure student progress toward the student learning objectives. NOTE: You can check your average at any point in the semester through the MY GRADES tab on our Blackboard course menu.

1. MyPsychLab Study Plans (homework)	20%
2. MPL Chapter Exams	20%
3. Attendance & in class work	20%
4. Writing Assignments	20%
5. Social Justice Project	<u>20%</u>
	100%

### Description of Required Assignments:

#### 1. MyPsychLab Study Plans (done in MyPsychLab)

For each chapter the homework is completed in MyPsychLab and consists of:

1. Review the Learning Objectives for the Chapter
2. Read the textbook chapter and/or listen to the eText audio book available on MyPsychLab which is also downloadable to your smart device.
3. Complete the Study Plan: The Study Plan is designed to help you focus on material that will improve your understanding, application of, and critical thought about the concepts and theories presented. The Study Plan for each chapter includes 1) a Pretest, 2) a personalized automatically generated Study Plan with activities to help your understanding (e.g., rereading specific sections of the chapter, watching relevant videos, completing an activity), and 3) a Post-test. You are not required to complete all of the available study elements in MPL. Use the elements that you find most helpful. **However, the pre-test and post-test in the Study Plan are required.**

**2. Chapter Exams (done in MyPsychLab)** After you have completed the study plan in MPL, take the chapter exam in MPL.

#### 3. Attendance and in-class assignments. (done in class)

Attendance and participation in class is the most dynamic opportunity for learning in this course. I encourage you to attend every class, arrive on time, and be fully present and ready to learn and willingly contribute to the class. You start out with 100 in this category. Five (5) points will be deducted for each absence, arriving late, leaving early, or being disengaged in the class.

#### 4. Writing Assignments

##### Reading/Writing Reflections (4 reflections 25 points each)

To facilitate discussion and understanding of the material, you will write 4 reflections over the course of the semester. Reflection papers should be 500 words identifying the author(s)' key points and provide critical reflection about the ideas in relation to other readings and discussions from class. In addition, each review/reflection should include at least 1 class discussion question that will be offered during class.

Reflection #1 The Self: Understanding Ourselves in a Social Context

Reflection #2 Attitudes and Attitude Change

Reflection #3 Group Processes: Influence in Social Groups

Reflection #4 Prosocial Behavior

## 5. Social Justice Project

### Social Justice Project (200 points)

We will examine a variety of social justice issues during the course of the semester. You will choose a partner or group to select a social justice topic to research, prepare a class presentation (100 pts), then create an exhibit to participate in MVC Social Justice Week. Your project will be a part of a poster session in the MVC Treetop Gallery and you and your team will be available to discuss your findings and engage in dialogue with the community at this event (100 pts). Total 200 points for this two part project.



Due dates are posted on the MPL Assignment Calendar and in this syllabus. Remember, assignments may be completed early but not after the due date. Technical problems are not an acceptable excuse for missing due dates.

## University Policies and Procedures

### **Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):**

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (i.e., ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

### **Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:**

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (i.e., SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. 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 the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

### **Assignment Policy:**

Assignments are due on the posted due dates.

### **Exam Policy:**

Exams should be taken 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 at [http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic\\_Integrity.pdf](http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf) for complete provisions of this code.

**Bad Weather Policy:**

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website [www.unt.edu/dallas](http://www.unt.edu/dallas). Students are encouraged to update their Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

**Classroom Policies**

1. Since discussion is an essential part of this course, please come to class prepared and on time.
2. Please turn off your cell phones and pagers.
3. Do not come into class late or leave early or leave and return during class.
4. You are responsible for tracking your own grade progress (see course requirements and grading scheme to help you keep track of available points). If you have questions about your grade come to office hours, make an appointment, or contact me via email.
5. No late work will be accepted unless you have a valid, documented excuse (documented illness or death in the family). If you miss an assignment and you have a valid, documented excuse, notify me as soon as possible via email so we can arrange a reasonable time for you to make up the missed assignment.

**Attendance and Participation Policy:**

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible for notifying the instructor if they will be missing class, and they must share their reason for missing class. Students are also responsible for making up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes if class is missed.

To get the most out of this class your attendance is required.

- An attendance sign in sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class. Sign your name in the sheet to document your attendance. Failure to sign the sheet will be considered an absence.
- Students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of this class. Students are also expected to be on time for all scheduled class meetings. If you have a documented excuse for your absence let me know as soon as possible and bring it to class. A valid, documented excuse consists of a doctor's note documenting your illness or death in the family.

**Diversity/Tolerance Policy:**

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & 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 Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.