



Social Psychology

PSY 152/SOC 152

Winter 2019

Instructor: Dr. Jacklyn Harrah Burkhard

Number of Credits: 3

Days Class Meets: MW 9:00-11:00 and Online

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Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 8:30-9:00 Monday 10:30-3:30; Wednesday 10:30-2:30

Course Description

Theoretical synthesis of social influences, including attitude formation, social and cognitive development, aggression, prosocial behavior, prejudice, conformity, culture and gender differences, influences, group processes and interpersonal attraction. This course is designed as a comprehensive survey course of theory and research in social psychology. The goal of this course is to explain how our thoughts, feelings, and behavior are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of other people. Topics to be studied include the self, social perception, social cognition and information processing, attitudes and persuasion, stereotyping and discrimination, social influence and group behavior, romantic relationships, aggressive behavior, helping behavior, and applied social psychology. Throughout the course, you will be encouraged to think about how research in social psychology can shed light on events going on around the world and in your own lives.

Prerequisite(s) PSY140 or SOC231

Textbook

Kenrick, D.T., Neuberg, S.L., & Cialdini, R.B. (2015). *Social Psychology: Goals in interaction* (6th ed). Boston: Prentice Hall. This text is available in an electronic version. <https://www.pearsonhighered.com/program/Kenrick-REVEL-for-SocialPsychology-Goals-in-Interaction-Access-Card-6th-Edition/PGM1226661.html>

Text Book Zero! This text is available in a digital format. Please see the links posted on our class Jet Net site. This text is available to rent or purchase in digital format through the JC Bookstore.

Course Objectives

The main objective of this course is to impart the skills to critically evaluate information about our social behavior and its impact on our daily lives. In this course, we discuss the current methodologies used to study social psychological principles, theories and constructs. The things that you learn in this course will allow you to start to address interesting and important questions like:

- How do we efficiently use our cognitive facilities for social interactions?
- How accurately can we understand other people?
- Does culture influence our understanding of the “self”?
- Can attitudes predict behavior?
- Are there any social influences on our “body images”?
- Does the presence of others energize us?
- What are the traits of a good leader?
- Can we define love?
- Why do we help/hurt people?
- What causes prejudice?
- Can the principles of social psychology improve our quality of life?

By the end of the course you should:

1. Be conversant (preferably fluent) with the main concepts, theories and issues in the field of social psychology,
2. Be able to describe the research methods used to collect information about our social behavior, the strength and weaknesses of each method and how to interpret the data collected using these methods.
3. Be able to use apply knowledge of social psychology to everyday life.
4. Be able to critically evaluate the claims concerning social behavior in news reports, commercials and daily conversation.
5. Be able to write summary of the research on a particular psychological aspect such as, peer pressure and drug addiction, using schemas in a new study aid, and draw conclusions as to the most valid interpretation of the data available.

General Education Outcome

Essential goals of the course include the achievement of several measurable general education outcomes defined by the college as vital to the educated individual at the Associate Degree Level. General education outcome #5 is embodied in this course, and will be assessed.

- Understand human behavior and social systems, and the principles which govern them.

Grading Procedure

1. Quizzes: There will be six tests for a total of 180 points. THE TESTS WILL BE TIMED (60 MINUTES).

They are on Jetnet and can be taken any day of the week they are scheduled. Please take note of the dates and times for the quizzes to close. Once the quiz is closed, you will not be able to take it. If you have not completed the quiz by the deadline, a score of zero will be entered. I encourage you to not wait until these deadlines to take the quiz in case of computer difficulties. Remember, problems with technology are not an excuse.

These objective tests consist of 30 multiple choice questions. You are allowed 3 attempts when taking the test. Once you open the quiz, the clock begins. If you attempt to close the exam once you have opened it, the clock DOES NOT stop. Please remember this very important point. Do not open the test until you are absolutely ready to take it. Also, I suggest that you save your responses frequently while taking the test. Pay attention to the clock because when the time is up your answers will be submitted whether you have saved them or not.

2. Class Participation: Most class meetings will include structured activities and discussions. Your active participation will make learning and remembering technical information much easier. Since it is impossible to participate without being in class, attendance is necessary to complete these assignments (75 points).

3. Online Forum Discussions: Participate in 6 online discussions. Each individual is required to create a post on the subject. Students will then react to the opinions of at least two fellow classmate Your comments to your colleagues' statements do not have to be as comprehensive as your first post but should certainly be more than "I agree", "I disagree"; "Good job!", or something similar. For maximum

points, you must bring arguments to support your position! It is expected that your replies be complete and thoughtful. Your answers should reflect our chapter readings or you must use a reference from outside readings (but make sure you include your sources). Just sighting a reference is not enough. Explain the references and your position on the topic. The postings should be in your own words, not copied from the textbook or other sources. (60 points)

4. Homework: There will be several short homework assignments. These are due in class the following week. (85 points)

Instructions will appear when you click on the assignment “submit here” link. IMPORTANT: ALL work MUST be submitted as a Rich Text File (save as RTF) which allows the JC computers to read your files. Please do not put your files in a zip drive or send me to google docs to view. If I can open the file, I will grade it within 2 days of the due date. If I can’t open the file, I will send you a message indicating that I can’t read the file. It is your responsibility to upload the file in a form that I can open it. Therefore, you should check your grades in jetnet frequently and make sure that I have been able to grade an assignment. You will only have 2 weeks to re-submit a file before that grade will convert to a zero.

5. “Social Psychology in the Real World” group presentation (100 points)

Grading Scale

GPA	GRADE RANGE
4.0	90-100%
3.5	85-89%
3.0	80-84%
2.5	75-79%
2.0	70-74%
1.5	65-69%
1.0	60-64%
0.5	55-59%

Academic Honesty Policy

Academic Honesty is defined as ethical behavior that includes student production of their own work and not representing others' work as their own, by cheating or by helping others to do so.

Plagiarism is defined as the failure to give credit for the use of material from outside sources.

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- Submitting other's work as your own
- Using data, illustrations, pictures, quotations, or paraphrases from other sources without adequate documentation
- Reusing significant, identical or nearly identical portions of one's own prior work without acknowledging that one is doing so or without citing this original work (self-plagiarism)

Cheating is defined as obtaining answers/material from an outside source without authorization.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Plagiarizing in any form
- Using notes/books/electronic material without authorization
- Copying
- Submitting others' work as your own or submitting your work for others
- Altering graded work
- Falsifying data
- Exhibiting other behaviors generally considered unethical
- Allowing your work to be submitted by others

Attendance Policy

In compliance with Federal Title IV funding requirements, as well as college initiatives, reporting of student participation in classes will occur at three designated times each semester. Instructors will assign one of three non-transcripted letter symbols to each student during each reporting period (see below). Students identified as no longer participating will be dropped or administratively withdrawn from the class, and students identified as needing academic assistance will be contacted.

Participation/Progress Symbols

- H – The student is not doing acceptable work and needs **H**elp to be successful.
- Q – The student has not participated and the instructor believes they have unofficially withdrawn (**Q**uit). These students will be dropped/withdrawn from the class.
- V – The instructor **V**erifies that the student is participating and doing acceptable work.

Help

Available learning services or opportunities for students seeking help with their course work. May include information about tutors, learning centers, reserved library materials, open labs, counseling services.

It is important to contact a Center for Student Success professional prior to the start of the semester in order to receive accommodations in a timely manner. While we will make every effort to coordinate accommodations in a timely manner, failure to self-identify prior to the start of the semester may delay notification to instructors and timeliness of acquiring accommodations. Accommodations do not automatically carry over to the next semester.

Calendar

Week	Topic/Reading	Quiz Closes
3/18 3/20	First Day of Class 3/18 Chapter 1: Introduction Chapter 2: The Person and Situation	
3/25 3/27	Chapter 5: Attitudes and Persuasion Chapter 6: Social Influence	Quiz 1: Chapters 1 & 2 Closes 3/20 at 9:00 am
4/1 4/3	Chapter 7: Friendship Chapter 8: Love and Romantic Relationships	Quiz 2: Chapters 5&6 Closes 3/27 at 9:00 am
4/ 8 4/10	Chapter 9: Prosocial Behavior Chapter 10: Aggression	Quiz 3: Chapters 7&8 Closes 4/3 at 9:00 am
4/15 4/17	Chapter 11: Prejudice, Stereotyping and Discrimination	Quiz 4: Chapters 9 & 10 Closes 4/10 at 9:00 am
4/22 4/24	Chapter 12: Groups	Quiz 5: Chapter 11 Closes 4/17 at 9:00 am
	Group Presentations 4/29 and 5/1	Quiz 6: Chapter 12 Closes 4/24 at 9:00 am