**Social Psychology**

**Spring, 2015**

**What:** Psychology 5 (online)

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**Why:** Course description: This class will offer an introduction and survey of the science of Social Psychology. Successful completion of class requirements should enable students to recognize and understand the influence that the actual, implied or imagined presence of others has on our behavior and cognitive processes.

Emphasis is placed upon objective observation and scientific investigation in the study of social interaction. Course objectives are:

A) to help students learn basic theoretical foundations, empirical findings, research methods, and applications of social psychology;

B) to increase insight into students' own behavior and that of others;

C) to develop an appreciation of the scientific method and a critical attitude toward social psychological research.

**Text:** Myers, D. (2013). *Social Psychology (*11th Ed.; loose-leaf). New York: McGraw-Hill.

ISBN: 9781308375236

McGraw-Hill Online Learning System: *Connect*

*Note: McGraw-Hill’s Connect is a web-based assignment and assessment solution required for this course. Connect is designed to assist you with your coursework based on your needs. As outlined in this syllabus, assignments on Connect will make up a significant portion of your overall course grade.*

**Access Code for BlackBoard:** In order to access Connect and use the BlackBoard classroom, you will need to purchase an access code. You can either purchase that at the Reedley Bookstore or online through the publisher on Blackboard. If you purchase Connect online, you will have the option of purchasing Connect or Connect Plus, which includes an interactive eBook version of the required textbook for this course. Also, you can register in Connect and have access without a code for a limited time period (typically three weeks). There is a "First Day of Class" .pdf file that explains Connect and the registration process under the Information button (which you can access now).

**What, again:**

Course Requirements: There will be three midterms and a final. All exams will be worth 100 points, and will be a combination of multiple choice and fill-in questions. Additionally, 200 points will be available in the form of online quizzes and assignments.

**LearnSmart Assignments**

Every week (except for the exam weeks) students will complete the practice exams at the end of the chapters. They fulfill two functions: they give you an estimate of your level of understanding of the material and send you back to the topic in the text if you're not sure about it, and also prepare you for the quizzes and exams. You'll receive 10 points for successfully completing the assignment, for a total of 150 points through the semester (one week's practice test will be randomly deleted in the final score.) You can take them at any time, but they need to be **completed by 11:59 PM on the Saturday of the week.** (For example, Chapter 1 has been assigned for the week of 1/19, so the work is due by 11:59 on 1/24.)

**Quizzes**

Before each exam, there will be a short quiz to further prepare you for it. It will include multiple choice and short answer questions, and will also be worth 10 points. There will be no time limit on the quizzes, though they will have to be completed before the actual exam.

**Exams**

There will be three midterms and a final. All exams will be worth 100 points, and will be a combination of 50 multiple choice and fill-in questions. **The lowest of your midterm exam scores will be dropped, but all students must take the final exam and that score will not be dropped in the final point total.** Students will have 1 hour to complete the test on the date below. Before the test, I ask all students for their "best time" to administer it, and then inform everyone of that time. Of course, NO ONE TIME IS GOING TO WORK FOR EVERYONE! You'll have to be flexible if the scheduled time is inconvenient for you. Because of the nature of an online course, no make-up exams will be allowed.

Class Etiquette:

**IMPORTANT WARNING!** Online learning is not for everyone. You need to be a very self-directed and personally responsible student to be successful in online courses. Online you do not see your instructor twice a week, reminding you of what’s due next class, or discussing other projects. Therefore, you need to seriously consider your motivation and skills before you embark on this course.

Computer problems, electrical shortages, and other malfunctions do occur and it is your

responsibility to complete work by the deadline *regardless of* any of these problems. Please do not write to me to ask for extensions because your computer crashed or you were unable to ‘get online’ to complete the work. You are given several days to complete an assignment, therefore, if your technology fails on the last day the assignment is due, you will not be excused from the deadline.

*To clarify: Under no circumstance will late work be accepted at any time in the term!*

I recommend you always complete your work before the deadline to prevent any type of

problem of this sort. It is recommended for students to have a DSL hookup for this

class because wireless connections can fail at any given time. Wireless users are

responsible for any individual problems that occur related to class deadlines.

**The “P” Word**

Please note that plagiarism is a violation of Reedley College policy. Anyone deemed to have submitted plagiarized work will automatically receive a failing grade. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different classes without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights. Again, all assignments, tests, and quizzes are to be completed on an individual basis; collaboration with other classmates or anyone else is **not allowed** unless instructed otherwise.

**Grades**: The following scale will decide final grades. There will be a total of 500 points possible from the three 100-point midterms, the 100-point final, and 200 points available from the other activities (remember, your lowest midterm test score will be dropped):

500-465 A (93%) 384-365 C (73%)

464-450 A- (90%) 364-350 C- (70%)

449-435 B+ (87%) 349-335 D+ (67%)

434-415 B (83%) 334-315 D (63%)

414-400 B- (80%) 314-300 D- (60%)

399-385 C+ (77%) Below 300 Don’t go here!

**When, Topic Readings**

Week 1 (1/12) Sample Quiz

Week 2 (1/19) Introduction Chapter 1

Week 3 (1/26) The Self in a Social World Chapter 2

Week 4 (2/2) Social Beliefs and Judgments Chapter 3

Week 5 (2/9) Behavior and Attitudes Chapter 4

Week 6 (2/16) **Exam 1 (2/19- Chaps. 1-4)**

Week 7 (2/23) Genes, Culture, and Gender Chapter 5

Week 8 (3/2) Conformity and Obedience Chapter 6

Week 9 (3/9) Persuasion Chapter 7

Week 10 (3/16) Group Influence Chapter 8

Week 11 (3/23) **Exam 2- (3/26- Chaps. 5-8)**

Week 12 (3/30) Have a great Spring Break!

Week 13 (4/6) Prejudice: Disliking others Chapter 9

Week 14 (4/13) Aggression: Hurting Others Chapter 10

Week 15 (4/20) Attraction and Intimacy Chapters 11,12

Helping

Week 16 (4/27) **Exam 2- (4/28- Chaps. 9-12)**

Week 17 (5/4) Conflict and Peacemaking Chapter 13

Week 18 (5/11)Social Psychology in the Clinic Chapter 14

Week 19 (5/18) **Final Exam (All Chapters)**

**Note: the final exam will be comprehensive, but will focus on the "big picture" topics. More on this as the time for the final approaches.**

***This syllabus is subject to (very probable) change and/or revision during the academic term.***

**Have a GREAT SEMESTER-If you have any questions, just ask!**