PSYC 5: Social Psychology (53023)

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Welcome to Class!

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on a systematic analysis of the social determinants of behavior and mental processes. Emphasis is placed on the perception of ourselves and others; attitudes; roles; compliance, conformity and obedience; attraction; aggression; altruism; behavior in groups; and applied social psychology.

ADVISORIES: English 1A or 1AH. (A, CSU-GE, UC, I) (C-ID PSY 170)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In the process of completing this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of social psychological research methods and related issues.
2. Demonstrate awareness of past and current social psychological theories and research.
3. Explain the ways in which one's self-concept is formed and influenced.
4. Describe impression management techniques.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the processes through which people form impressions of others.
6. Demonstrate awareness of theories related to attributing causes of behavior.
7. Describe processes related to attitude formation and attitude change.
8. Explain the relationship between attitudes, emotions, and behavior.
9. Demonstrate knowledge of theories and research related to compliance, conformity, and obedience to authority.
10. Demonstrate knowledge of the reciprocal relationship between the individual and the group.
11. Demonstrate awareness of types of leaders and leadership styles.
12. Identify and describe individual and social factors related to aggression.
13. Identify and describe individual and social factors related to altruism and other prosocial behavior.
14. Demonstrate knowledge of theories and research concerning prejudice and discrimination.
15. Identify and describe individual and social determinants of attraction.
16. Demonstrate awareness of theories and research regarding interpersonal relationships.
17. Describe the interaction between the physical environment, social environment, and behavior.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Apply basic methods of research in social psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.

2. Use creative thinking and skeptical inquiry to analyze behaviors related to individual and group
3. Dynamics within the complex interaction between the person and the situation.
4. Demonstrate familiarity with major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in social psychology.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Social Psychology (14th ed.) by David G. Myers and Jean M. Twenge (Connect AC) (CUSTOM) (ISBN 9781264885923)

*You MUST purchase this version of the textbook through the campus bookstore or directly through the McGraw-Hill Connect website in Canvas

TENTATIVE COURSE GRADING*

Assignment	My Points	Approx. % of Grade
Exams (4 @ 125 pts/each) Final exam	_____/500 _____/150	42.62%
Discussion boards (15 @ 15 pts/each)	_____/225	14.75%
Research Paper (1 @ 100 pts/each)	_____/100	6.56%
Writing Assignments (3 @ 50 pts/each)	_____/150	9.84%
SmartBook Connect (16 @ 20 pts/each)	_____/320	20.98%
Quizzes (16 @ 5 pts/each)	_____/80	5.25%
Total points	_____/1525	

* Note. Exams and assignments are subject to change.

CLASS ORGANIZATION

The class is organized into units of core concepts and broken down into weekly modules. Within each module, you will find what you need to complete for that week including lectures, readings, quizzes, videos, discussion boards, and/or other assignments. Students are expected to spend at least 6 hours per week working on the course (e.g., readings, watching lectures, completing assignments).

LECTURES

I tend to focus lectures on the most important or more difficult concepts of the textbook and social psychology. There are usually one or two lectures for each module. The lectures are not exhaustive of

the textbook content. You are responsible for reading any material in the textbook that was not covered in lectures.

VIDEOS

There are usually additional content videos throughout each module. These are intended to be interesting to you and to help reinforce the concepts from the textbook or lecture. Exam and quiz questions may also be based on these videos. Captioning for should be available for each video. Click on the CC button on the bottom right of the video to set up.

ASSIGNMENTS

There will be several different assignments in this course that are meant assess your understanding of social psychology. The points you earn from these assignments contribute to your final grade. Some points are easier to earn than others. I encourage students to get as most points from the easier assignments (e.g., SmartBooks, quizzes) to help buffer their grades when it comes to the harder work and assignments (e.g., exams, research paper).

EXAMS AND FINAL

There will be three regular exams and a final in this course. Each exam will be taken online through Connect. The exams are timed and may consist of multiple-choice, true/false, matching, and/or short-response questions. You will have a 4-day window to take the exams. If you miss the deadline, you may not make up the exam without a valid, documented excuse. The final exam will be cumulative.

CONNECT SMARTBOOKS

There will be concept activities to help make sure you are understanding the concepts from the textbook (e.g., CONNECT SmartBook assignments). You can work on the chapters for the modules leading up to each exam. After the associated exam, you will not be able to complete these SmartBook assignments for points, but you can still do the recharges for practice.

DISCUSSION BOARDS

There will be weekly discussion boards that require you to read/respond to an article or video, reflect on personal experiences related to content, or other topics. Your initial post for the discussion board is due by Thursday at 11:59 PM PST and your (2) peer responses are due by Saturday at 11:59 PM PST. Unless otherwise stated, the initial post must be at least 250 words and each peer response must be at least 100 words. There is a word counter in the bottom right of the textbox in Canvas.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

There are four written assignments in this course. More detailed instructions can be found in Canvas.

- Assignment 1: A review of a recent social psychology study from a peer-reviewed journal
- Assignment 2: A persuasion paper
- Assignment 3: A "journal" of three observations of social psychology interactions
- Research paper: Addressing a social psychology issue

All written assignments <u>must be submitted through Canvas and Turn It In</u> to check for plagiarism. Any assignments that students submit outside of Canvas (e.g., emailed to instructor, file uploaded as a comment) will <u>not</u> be accepted and graded as 0.

QUIZZES

There will be a short 5-points quiz at the end of each module meant to help check your understanding of the content. These are low-stakes quizzes that you can take as many times as you want up though each exam week. After the corresponding exam deadline has passed, the quizzes will be closed.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are due by 11:59 PM PST on the assigned due dates, unless otherwise noted. Most assignments can be turned in up to one week late and will be penalized 30% off your assignment score (e.g., a late assignment with a score of 100 points will now be 70 points). Once a week a has passed, assignments cannot be turned in, unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. Discussion boards cannot be completed late. The research paper must be turned in no later than week 14 to receive a grade on it.

EXTRA CREDIT

I generally do not provide extra credit opportunities. My belief is that the goal is for you to learn and complete what we are doing in class, not something beyond the scope of the normal content.

COURSE GRADES ARE NON-NEGOTIABLE

Students will earn their grade in the class, with their knowledge and understanding of social psychology demonstrated through exams and successfully completing the assignments and discussion boards. The instructor reserves the right to adjust individual exams and/or assignments should it be to the benefit to the entire class. Final grades may be adjusted to the benefit of the class, should there be a justifiable reason for doing so.

I do not round up grades to the next letter grade given that there are multiple opportunities to boost grades during the course from easier assignments. E.g., if your grade is 89.2%, then B is your final grade.

90-100% = A; 80-89.99% = B; 70-70.99% = C; 60-69.99% = D; < 59.99% = F

COURSE POLICIES AND CLASS EXPECTATIONS

ATTENDANCE AND ADD/DROP POLICY

Attendance is expected of all students every week in this class. Attendance online is counted by completing the attendance assignment for the week (typically a discussion). To avoid being dropped from this class, you must complete the **Check-In Activity by Wednesday, January 10 at 11:59 PM PST**, unless you contact me ahead of time to provide a legitimate excuse for your absence.

Beyond this, I reserve the right to drop students based on the following policy:

1. Student does not attend (i.e., complete assignments) the second and/or third weeks of class OR has missed the equivalent of two weeks' of class

2. Student does not respond to contact efforts from the instructor after missing the second week of class

DROPPING THE COURSE

It is the student's responsibility to drop this course by the drop deadline. Do not assume that I have dropped you from the course because you have not been regularly attending class. Failure to drop a class may result in a grade of "F." Excessive absences after the drop or withdrawal deadlines may result in the assignment of an "F" grade.

- Last day to drop without a "W" grade: January 28, 2024
- Last day to drop with a "W" grade: March 8, 2024

OFFICE HOURS

Office hours can be made by appointment with the instructor and are held over Zoom. Office hours are a great chance to meet one-on-one with your instructors, so you can get extra clarification on concepts that you have found difficult, advice on studying, additional context for completing assignments, etc.

COMMUNICATION POLICY

Please allow up to a 48hr response time on business days (Mon-Fri). I may sometimes reply on weekends, but do not assume that I will reply on non-business days. I try to be prompt with my responses, however, there are times when it may take me longer to respond. If I expect to not be able to respond for any significant length of time (e.g., Thanksgiving break), you will be notified in advance.

I prefer that students contact me through Canvas Inbox as messages to my email can become easily missed. If you do not receive a response from me after 48hrs then please double check that you have contacted me correctly (e.g., was it the correct email address?), and then try again with both Canvas Inbox and email. Canvas Inbox and email can be used 24/7.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

All students must have access to a device with internet access that allows students to retrieve and complete assignments and obtain learning materials through Canvas. If you need access to technology in order to complete the course, please make sure to contact the Reedley College Library to check out a laptop or other needed technology.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Students are expected to adhere to the Reedley College Student Conduct Standards, which includes cheating, plagiarizing, and misrepresenting someone else's work/effort as their own.

I treat plagiarism and cheating as a serious offense. If you cheat on an exam, including copying answers from the Internet, you will receive a "0" for that section of the exam. If you plagiarize your work and/or copy from another student's work, you will receive a "0" on the assignment. Any student who allows another student to copy their work will also receive a "0" on the assignment. What you submit in this

course must be your own original work. Serious or repeat offenders will be referred to the Dean of Student Life for further disciplinary action.

A NOTE ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)
There is a time and place to explore the exciting content artificial intelligence (AI) can offer, but it is not appropriate for this course.

Any work written, developed, created, or inspired by AI is considered plagiarism and will not be tolerated. Students who use AI to complete their assignments or exams will automatically receive a "0" for that assignment. Repeated offenses will result in an "F" in the entire course as having AI complete assignments for you defeats the purpose of you demonstrating to the instructor what you have learned in this course. Students will also be reported to the Dean of Student Life for further disciplinary action.

COLLEGE POLICIES

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES STATEMENT

Reedley College makes reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. If you have a disability and believe you may need accommodation or materials in alternate media (e.g., Braille, large print, electronic text) per the **Americans with Disabilities Act** or **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act**, please contact Disabled Students Programs and Services as soon as possible if you need testing or instruction accommodations.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT

You are entitled to an equitable learning environment that is free of unfair practices and a space that celebrates your voice, fosters your agency, and develops your capacity for self-advocacy. As your instructor, I am committed to equity and inclusion for you, our diverse Reedley College students, acknowledging and rejecting institutional racism and discrimination. Your classroom should be a safe place to express, to reflect, to guide, and to be guided. I commit to protecting students of color, dreamers, and students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, and asexual.

STARFISH EARLY ALERT SYSTEM
Reedley College is dedicated to supporting student success and retention. The Starfish Early Alert Program is a communication tool used to identify students who may benefit from additional support in their academic journey. Starfish enables instructors to communicate with students through kudos and flags about their progress in the course and connect them with other resources on campus. Please be sure to check your SCCCD student email regularly, as you may receive a notification from Starfish Early Alert. If a concern is raised about your academic performance, a counselor may reach out to you to offer support, so be sure to respond to the counselor and your instructor as soon as you can.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE*

Week	Dates	Lecture Topics	Readings and Assignments
Week 1	1/8—14	Introducing Social Psychology	Chapter 1
Week 2	1/15—21	The Self in a Social World	Chapter 2
Week 3	1/22—28	Social Beliefs and Judgments	Chapter 3 **Assignment 1 due 1/28**
Week 4	1/29 — 2/4	Behavior and Attitudes	Chapter 4 **Exam 1 (Chapters 1-3)** **SmartBooks (Ch 1-3) due 2/4**
Week 5	2/5—11	Genes, Culture, and Gender	Chapter 5
Week 6	2/12—18	Conformity and Obedience	Chapter 6
Week 7	2/19—25	Persuasion	Chapter 7 **Assignment 2 due 2/25**
Week 8	2/26 — 3/3	Group Influence	Chapter 8 **Exam 2 (Chapters 4-7)** **SmartBooks (Ch 4-7) due 3/3**
Week 9	3/4—10	Prejudice	Chapter 9
Week 10	3/11—17	Prejudice	Chapter 9 **Assignment 3 due 3/17**
Week 11	3/18—24	Aggression	Chapter 10
Week 12	3/25—31	**Spring Break (no class)**	
Week 13	4/1—7	Attraction and Intimacy	Chapter 11 **Exam 3 (Ch 8-10)** **SmartBooks (Ch 8-10) due 4/7**
Week 14	4/8—14	Helping	Chapter 12

Week	Dates	Lecture Topics	Readings and Assignments
Week 15	4/15—21	Conflict and Peacemaking	Chapter 13 **Research paper due 4/21**
Week 16	4/22—28	Social Psychology in the Clinic	Chapter 14 **Exam 4 (Ch 11-13)**
Week 17	4/29 — 5/5	Social Psychology in Court	Chapter 15
Week 18	5/6—12	Social Psychology and the Sustainable Future	Chapter 16
Week 19	5/13—17	**Finals Week due**	**Final Exam (Cumulative)** **SmartBooks (Ch 14-16) due 5/13**

* *Note.* Schedule, exams, assignments, and readings are subject to change. Any supplemental readings will be posted in Canvas.

FINAL NOTES

Every syllabus represents the intended roadmap and structure of the course, but due to unforeseen events and/or feedback during the semester, adjustments may be necessary. This is a reminder that some details described in this syllabus are potentially subject to change at the discretion of the instructor, but I will inform you as promptly and clearly as possible as to the reasoning for any changes.