



Shanghai Jiao Tong University

PS908 Social Psychology

Term: May 29 – June 23, 2017

Instructor: Kipling D. Williams

Home Institution: Purdue University

Email: kipw@purdue.edu

Class Hours: Monday through Friday, 120 minutes each day

Discussion session: 2.5 hours each week

Total Contact Hours: 66 contact hours (45 minutes each, 3000 minutes in total)

Credit: 4 units

Course Objective:

Social Psychology is the exciting subfield of psychology that examines how people perceive other people, and how people influence people. We take a close look at experimental research, guided by theory, that covers important topics like person perception, stereotyping, prejudice, attitudes and persuasion, intra- and inter-group processes, attraction, aggression, and helping. The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the field of social psychology, including the research methods—mostly field and laboratory experiments, to test our ideas and theories.

Course Goals:

There are three major sub-goals:

- ✧ To explain how social psychologists think about and study social behavior.
- ✧ To introduce you to the body of knowledge and underlying principles that currently exists in the field.
- ✧ To encourage reflection about the implications of social psychological research for everyday life.

Required Text

Myers, D. G. & Twenge, J. M. (2016). *Social Psychology* (12th Edition). NY: McGraw-Hill.

Additional Readings

Markus, H. R., & Conner, A. (2013). *Clash! 8 cultural conflicts that make us who we are*. NY: Hudson Street Press.

Cialdini, R. (2008). *Influence: Science and practice*. (5th ed.). NY: Prentice Hall.

Milgram, S. (1974). *Obedience to authority: An experimental view*. NY: HarperCollins.

Additional readings: Chapters from *The Oxford Handbook of Social Influence* (in press, Eds: S. G. Harkins, K. D. Williams, & J. M. Burger)



Grading Policy

Course grades will be based on your two exam scores (80 point each, = 160 points) and your attendance class participation (2 points per day = 40 points). So, a grand total of 200 points can be achieved.

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4.0
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3.0
70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2.0
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1.0
≤59	F (Failure)	0

Missed Exam Policy. If you are ill or you have a family emergency on the day of an exam, YOU MUST NOTIFY ME prior to the exam by email, telling me of the circumstance. If I grant you permission to take a make-up exam, you are required to bring a doctor's note (with your doctor's name, address, and telephone number) or proper verification of your family emergency to me before I can give you the make-up exam. The make-up exam date, time, and location will be given at the convenience of our Teaching Assistants. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE. IF YOU MISS AN EXAM WITHOUT NOTIFYING ME AHEAD OF TIME, YOU WILL GET A ZERO FOR THAT EXAM.

Academic Honesty: For your own sake, do your own work. Plagiarism is a serious offense, and is easily detectable with the advent of search engines. It does not matter if you plagiarized intentionally or unintentionally—either way it is plagiarism. During exams, keep your exam sheets covered and keep your eyes on your exams. No phones or other electronic devices are allowed during the exams.



Course Schedule:

This schedule is only an approximation. The instructor may extend, shorten, or even re-arrange the lectures. All students are responsible for any changes mentioned in class, including changes in test dates.

Week	Date	Topic	Reading
1	May 29, Mon	Introduction—Go over syllabus; answer questions What is Social Psychology? Comparing and contrasting with other related fields.	Chapter 1
	May 30, Tue	Research Methods	Chapter 1
	May 31, Wed	Critiquing a research article	
	June 1, Thur	The Self	Chapter 2
	June 2, Fri	...Cross cultural considerations regarding the self	Chapter 2
2	June 5, Mon	Social Beliefs & Judgments	Chapter 3
	June 6, Tue	Behavior and Attitudes / Attitude Measurement	Chapter 4
	June 7, Wed	Persuasion: Information Processing	Chapter 7
	June 8, Thur	Persuasion: ELM	Chapter 7
	June 9, Fri	EXAM 1	
	June 12, Mon	Social Influence: Conformity and Social Inhibition	Chapter 6
	June 13, Tue	Obedience & Compliance	Chapter 6
	June 14, Wed	Group Influence; Ostracism	Chapter 8
	June 15, Thur	Individual Performance and Motivation in Groups	Chapter 8
	June 16, Fri	Prejudice	Chapter 9
4	June 19, Mon	Prejudice	Chapter 11
	June 20, Tue	Aggression	Chapter 10
	June 21, Wed	Prosocial Behavior, History and Bystander	Chapter 12
	June 22, Thur	Prosocial Behavior: Current research on helping	Chapter 12
	June 23, Fri	EXAM 2	



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