



Shanghai Jiao Tong University

PS908 Social Psychology

Instructor:	Kipling D. Williams	Email:	kipw@purdue.edu
Home Institution:	Purdue University	Office:	505 Main Bldg
Office Hours:	TBD		
Term:	28 May - 28 June, 2018	Credits:	4 units
Classroom:	TBD	Teaching Assistant(s):	TBD
Class Hours:	Monday through Thursday, 1:10pm-3:10pm		
Discussion Session:	2 hours each week, conducted by teaching assistant(s)		
Total Contact Hours:	66 contact hours (1 contact hour = 45 mins, 3000 mins in total)		
Required Texts (w/ ISBN):	Myers, D. G. & Twenge, J. M. (2016). Social Psychology (12 th Edition). NY: McGraw-Hill.		
Prerequisite:	PS906 Introductory Psychology		



Course Overview:

Social Psychology is the exiting 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.

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 1		
Date	Topic	Reading
28-May	Introduction—Go over syllabus; answer questions What is Social Psychology? Comparing and contrasting with other related fields.	Chapter 1
29-May	Research Methods	Chapter 1
30-May	Critiquing a research article	
31-May	The Self	Chapter 2
WEEK 2		
4-Jun	...Cross cultural considerations regarding the self	Chapter 2



5-Jun	Social Beliefs & Judgments	Chapter 3
6-Jun	Behavior and Attitudes / Attitude Measurement	Chapter 4
7-Jun	Persuasion: Information Processing	Chapter 7
WEEK 3		
11-Jun	Persuasion: ELM	Chapter 7
12-Jun	EXAM 1	
13-Jun	Social Influence: Conformity and Social Inhibition	Chapter 6
14-Jun	Obedience & Compliance	Chapter 6
WEEK 4		
18-Jun	Group Influence; Ostracism	Chapter 8
19-Jun	Individual Performance and Motivation in Groups	Chapter 8
20-Jun	Prejudice	Chapter 9
21-Jun	Prejudice	Chapter 11
WEEK 5		
25-Jun	Aggression	Chapter 10
26-Jun	Prosocial Behavior, History and Bystander	Chapter 12
27-Jun	Prosocial Behavior: Current research on helping	Chapter 12
28-Jun	EXAM 2 (Thursday)	