

Administrative Master Syllabus

Course Information

Course Title	Social Psychology
Course Prefix, Num. and Title	PSYC 2319
Division	Social & Behavioral Science
Department	Psychology
Course Type	Academic General Education Course (from ACGM, but not WCJC Core)
Course Catalog Description	Study of individual behavior within the social environment. Topics may include socio-psychological processes, attitude formation and change, interpersonal relations, and group processes, self, social cognition, and research methods.
Pre-Requisites	PSYC 2301 (General Psychology) Required SOCI 1301 Recommended
Co-Requisites	None

Semester Credit Hours

Total Semester Credit Hours (SCH): Lecture Hours:	3:3:0
Lab/Other Hours	
Equated Pay Hours	3
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Lab Hours	0
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Clinical Hours	0
Lab/Other Hours Breakdown: Practicum Hours	0
Other Hours Breakdown	0

Approval Signatures

Title	Signature	Date
Department Head:		
Division Chair:		
VPI:		

Additional Course Information

Topical Outline: Each offering of this course must include the following topics (be sure to include information regarding lab, practicum, and clinical or other non-lecture instruction).

Any introductory course in social psychology should include minimally the following topics and/or material:

- A comparative overview of the major theoretical perspectives and classical statements within the realm of social psychology.
- A review of the basic research methods and design for collecting data and conducting data analysis in social psychology.
- An understanding of the significance of symbolic communication and language between individuals and groups including body language, signs, symbols, and gestures.
- The development of an understanding of social cognition schemas, attribution theory, stereotypes, prejudices, and racist/sexist attitudes.
- The development of an understanding of the symbolic interactionist perspective on the development of the self, identity, dramaturgy, impression management, perception, and generally, the social construction of reality
- An overview of the development of attitudes and attitudinal change.
- An overview of the social-psychological perspectives on altruistic and pro-social behavior, apathy, helping/hurting behavior, anger and frustration, compassion/aggression, catharsis, reciprocity, and communication/miscommunication.
- The development of an understanding of group cohesion and conformity, group structure and interaction, inter-group conflict, and social control.
- The development of a practical understanding of collective behavior and social movements, peer pressure and conformity, the phenomena of social contagion, and the role of power, authority and group leadership in guiding individual behavior.
- A critical examination of the role of the mass media (including celebrities and other persons of influence) in influencing individual and group beliefs and behaviors.
- A critical examination of the concepts of belonging, loneliness, detachment, and grief as it applies to individual needs.
- The study of territoriality and group boundaries, gender roles and identities, individual and group attractions.
- The examination of practical applications and analyses using social psychological principles including such situations as jury selection, environmental concerns, health-related phenomena, and dynamic situations (and their perceptions) involving fear and risk-taking behavior.
- A cross-cultural comparison of social-psychological phenomena and the probable causes of differences in such phenomena across cultural divides.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Learning Outcomes – Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Define Social Psychology and related terminology.
2. Discuss the relationship between the person and the situation and its influence on attitudes, prejudice, aggression, prosocial behavior, and interpersonal relationships.
3. Describe the dynamics of group behavior in areas of social influence, such as altruism, conformity, obedience, deindividuation, leadership, intergroup relations, and conflict and cooperation.
4. Identify and evaluate the current and historical research, and research methods of social psychology, including ethical considerations.



5. Apply social psychological principles to real-world issues.

Methods of Assessment:

1. Section exam and/or research topic
2. Section exam and/or research topic
3. Section exam and/or research topic
4. Section exam and/or research topic
5. Section exam and/or research topic

Required text(s), optional text(s) and/or materials to be supplied by the student:

Gilovich, T., Keltner, D., Chen, S., & Nisbett, R., Social Psychology; most current edition.

Suggested Course Maximum:

35

List any specific or physical requirements beyond a typical classroom required to teach the course.

None

Course Requirements/Grading System: Describe any course specific requirements such as research papers or reading assignments and the generalized grading format for the course.

Class discussion of theory and its practical application is necessary in order for students to enhance their understanding of the terms used in social-psychology, and to fully comprehend the relevance and utility of the material. Discussion is fostered by the use of practical examples, readings, video, and the students own research.

Reading assignments are mandatory and include the text, outside readings, and research as assigned. Students may be required to complete a research paper or other written assignment, using online technology, the text, and/or recent research which will encourage the use of related, relevant, and current material. Written work may also be required in the form of essay questions on tests and written exercises in class. These requirements are to be designed to challenge the student to analyze, apply, and/or critique the material presented in class.

Minimum requirements must include the following:

- Class attendance in accordance with college policy and as stipulated by the instructor
- Completion of reading assignments made by the instructor
- Understanding of basic research methodology in social psychology
- Encouragement and opportunity to participate in class discussion
- Completion of assigned tests and departmental final assessment

A typical grading composition for this course might look like this:

3-5 exams—50% of final grade

1 term paper or another substantial critical written assignment—25%

1 comprehensive end-of-course exam—25%

Grading system for individual instructors may vary slightly, but all instructors will meet established general reading and writing requirements (and related learning assessments thereof) during the course.



The general grading rubric for tests, papers, and projects will approximate as follows:

90% - 100%=A

80% - 89% =B

70% - 79% =C

60% - 69% =D

Below 60%= F

Curriculum Checklist:

- Administrative General Education Course** (from ACGM, but not in WCJC Core) – No additional documents needed.
- Administrative WCJC Core Course.** Attach the Core Curriculum Review Forms
 - Critical Thinking
 - Communication
 - Empirical & Quantitative Skills
 - Teamwork
 - Social Responsibility
 - Personal Responsibility
- WECM Course** -If needed, revise the Program SCANS Matrix and Competencies Checklist