

PSYC 231 Social Psychology Summer 2016

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Office hrs: T & F 2:30 – 3:15 and by appointment

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*Bring all questions about the course to Dr. Brimacombe

Required Text: Kassin, Fein, Markus, Burke. *Social Psychology* (2nd Canadian Edition)

Course Content: Social psychologists seek to understand many facets of people's thoughts, feelings, and behaviours. The key concept of this class is social influence – how do other people influence our beliefs and behaviours. Some of the specific topics we will cover in this class are: *person perception* (how we process thoughts about people and come to our conclusions about them); *self* (how we come to think about ourselves and how we try to influence others' impressions of us); *group processes* (what happens when people pool their ideas and efforts with others). Throughout the class, I expect you will readily see connections with everyday life. You will likely find your own life experiences coming to mind as we discuss social psychology theories and research. I hope this course will be a thought-provoking experience for you as you consider the underlying causes of behaviour you have either witnessed first-hand or experienced yourself. Welcome to the intriguing world of “real life” psychology!

Prerequisites: The pre-requisites for this course are PSYC 100A & 100B. Students who remain in courses for which they do not have the prerequisites do so at their own risk. Students who complete courses without prerequisites ARE NOT exempt from having to complete the prerequisite course(s) at some later time if such courses are required for the degree program.

Supporting an Effective Learning Environment:

Please help to create a space where everyone can comfortably listen and learn. To help achieve a prompt start to lectures and minimize disruptions during class, please arrive on time and turn off the sound on any electronic devices you have with you. Be mindful of the distraction conversations/laptop or cellphone activity can pose to your classmates. If you foresee a need to leave class early, please sit close to a door and exit quietly.

Course Website: The Coursespaces site will be used primarily as a communication tool and resource centre. The course outline will be posted at the site. You will be able to check your grades at the site. Bare bones notes of material covered at each class meeting will normally be posted the night before each class meeting. I recommend that you take notes when you are in class. You will want a good record of lecture material when you study for exams.

Examinations: This course includes **3 examinations, exam 1 is worth 28%; exams 2 and 3 are each worth 30%.** The exams will be written during scheduled class meetings and will consist of a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. The exams will NOT be cumulative in nature (i.e., each exam addresses a distinct “chunk” of course content). There is no cumulative final exam for this course. *All* course content is potential test material so make sure you review your lecture notes and your text book (there will definitely be test questions that address material in the text book that was not discussed in class). Exam dates are noted in the schedule of class meetings (below).

Missed Examinations: You are expected to write each examination at its regularly scheduled time. If you see an exam date that poses a conflict to your schedule, contact Dr. Brimacombe in person or via e-mail (ebrim@uvic.ca) to discuss your circumstances and request an alternate date for the exam you will miss. If illness or personal emergency prevents you from attending an exam, contact Dr. Brimacombe within 1 day of the missed exam (either in person or via e-mail) to request consideration for alternate scheduling of the exam. If you do not make contact within 1 day of the

missed exam, you will receive a score of 0 for the exam. In the event that illness or injury prevents you from contacting your instructor in a timely manner, you will be asked to provide supporting documentation from a health care professional. If a makeup exam option is provided to you, that makeup exam will not be the same exam that was written at the scheduled time in class. The makeup exam will address the same content as the regularly scheduled exam, but the format (e.g., number of multiple-choice versus short answer questions) may differ. Dr. Brimacombe will create all makeup exams and will individually deal with students who are granted permission to write a makeup.

Homework Assignments: Two homework assignments (each worth 6% of your final grade) are part of your course work. Details concerning the first homework assignment will be shared at the CourseSpaces site, May 9. Details re: the 2nd homework will be posted at Coursespaces, May 12.

Final Grades: Your final grade will be based on 3 exams (88%) and 2 homework assignments (12%).

Letter grades will be based on your final percentage score (per UVic grading system):

A+ 90 – 100	B 73 - 76	D 50 - 59
A 85 - 89	B- 70 - 72	F below 50
A- 80 - 84	C+ 65 - 69	
B+ 77 - 79	C 60 - 64	

In determining your final letter grade, grades that end with a decimal point of 0.5 or above will be rounded to the next higher whole number, and grades that end with a decimal point below 0.5 will be rounded to the next lower whole number. For example, if a final percentage grade is 89.5 – 89.9, the grade will be rounded to 90. An error in calculating the final grade is the only reason that a final grade will be changed.

Planned Schedule of Class Meetings - Exam dates are fixed. But it is possible that we will shift slightly in timing as we move through the set of topics below – pacing can be difficult to pin down precisely and sometimes unexpected circumstances (e.g., power outage) can cause a class cancellation.

*Note: Any changes to the schedule will be announced in class and posted at the Coursespaces site.

Date	Topic	Reading	Additional Information
May 9	Introduction to the Course, the Field of Social Psychology and Doing Social Psychology Research	Chapters 1,2	*no test questions from Chapter 1
May 10	Doing Social PSYC Research	Chapter 2	
May 11	The Social Self	Chapter 3	
May 12	The Social Self/Perceiving Persons	Chapters 3/4	
May 13	Perceiving Persons	Chapter 4	
May 16	Exam 1		Exam 1 28% Chapters 2, 3, 4;
May 17	Stereotypes, Prejudice, Discrimination	Chapter 5	
May 18	Attitudes Homework 1 is due (worth 6%)	Chapter 6	Homework 1 due 6%
May 19	Attitudes/Conformity	Chapters 6/7	
May 20	Conformity	Chapter 7	
May 23	VICTORIA DAY		NO CLASS MEETING
May 24	Exam 2		Exam 2 30% Chapters 5, 6, 7
May 25	Group Processes	Chapter 8	
May 26	Attraction & Close Relationships	Chapters 8/9	
May 27	Attraction & Close Relationships/Helping Others Homework 2 is due (worth 6%)	Chapter 9/10	Homework 2 due 6%
May 30	Helping Others	Chapter 10	
May 31	Aggression	Chapter 11	
June 1	Exam 3		Exam 3 30% Chapters 8, 9,10,11

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
Department of Psychology

Important Course Policy Information
Summer 2016

Prerequisites

Students who remain in courses for which they do not have the prerequisites do so at their own risk. Students who complete courses without prerequisites ARE NOT exempt from having to complete the prerequisite course(s) if such courses are required for the degree program.

Program Requirements

For more information see pages 378-382 of the UVic Calendar 2015-2016.

Registration Status

Students are responsible for verifying their registration status. Registration status may be verified using My Page, View Schedule. Course adds and drops will not be processed after the deadlines set out in the current UVic Calendar.

Commitment to Inclusivity and Diversity

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

In the Event of Illness, Accident or Family Affliction (See UVic Calendar, 2015-16, p. 59)

- ***What to do if you miss the final exam scheduled on the last day of classes***

Apply at Records Services for a "Request for Academic Concession", normally within 10 working days of the date of the exam. Records Services will forward the form to the instructor. If the concession is granted, the instructor will determine how to deal with the situation (for example, a deferred exam). Where a concession is not applied for or where such application is denied, an N grade will be entered on the student's academic record.

OR, you can download the Request for Academic Concession form here:

<http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf>

- ***What to do if you miss an exam other than one scheduled on the last day of classes***

Do not apply at Records Services for a "Request for Academic Concession". Instead submit documentation of the illness, accident or family affliction directly to your course instructor (or designated teaching assistant).

- ***What to do if you require additional time to complete course requirements***

Apply at Records Services for a "Request for Academic Concession", normally within 10 working days of the end of the course. Records Services will forward the form to the instructor. If the concession is granted, the instructor will determine how to deal with the situation. Where a concession is not applied for or where such application is denied, an N grade will be entered on the student's academic record.

OR, you can download the Request for Academic Concession form here:

<http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf>

Policy on Academic Integrity including Plagiarism and Cheating

The Department of Psychology fully endorses and intends to enforce rigorously the Senate Policy on Academic integrity (<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2016-01/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html> , p. 54-57, UVic Calendar 2015-16). It is of utmost importance that students who do their work honestly be protected from those who do not. Because this policy is in place to ensure that students carry out and benefit from the learning activities assigned in each course, it is expected that students will cooperate in its implementation.

The offences defined by the policy can be summarized briefly as follows:

1. **Plagiarism.** You must make sure that the work you submit is your work and not someone else's. There are proper procedures for citing the works of others. The student is responsible for being aware of and using these procedures.
2. **Multiple Submission.** Only under exceptional circumstances may a work submitted to fulfill an academic requirement be used to satisfy another similar requirement. The student is responsible for clarifying this with the instructor(s) involved.
3. **Falsifying Materials Subject to Academic Evaluation.** This includes falsification of data, use of commercially prepared essays, using information from the Internet without proper citation, citing sources from which material is not actually obtained, etc.
4. **Cheating on Assignments, Tests, and Examinations.** You may not copy the work of others in or out of class; you may not give your work to others for the purpose of copying; you may not use unauthorized material or equipment during examinations or tests; and you may not impersonate or allow yourself to be impersonated by another at an examination. The Department of Psychology has a policy of not making old examinations available for study purposes. Therefore, use of old exams without the express written permission of the instructor constitutes cheating by the user, and abetting of cheating by the person who provided the exam.
5. **Being an Accessory to Offences.** This means that helping another student to cheat (for instance, by showing or communicating to them answers to an assignment, or by allowing them to view answers on an exam) is an academic offence.

Instructors are expected to make every effort to prevent cheating and plagiarism. This may include the assignment of seating for examinations, asking students to move during examinations, requests to see student identification cards, and other measures as appropriate. Instructors also have available to them a variety of tools and procedures to check for Internet and electronic media-based cheating. In instances of suspected or actual plagiarism or cheating, instructors, following prescribed procedures, are authorized to take steps consistent with the degree of the offence. These measures will range from a zero on the test or assignment or a failing grade for the course, probation within a program to temporary or even permanent suspension from the University.

Rights of Appeal are described in the Policy on Academic Integrity in the University calendar (on p. 54-57 in 2015-2016).

The definitive source for information on Academic Integrity is the University Calendar (p. 54-57 in 2015-2016) (<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2016-01/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html>)

Other useful resources on Plagiarism and Cheating include:

1. The Study Solutions Office: <https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/success/study/index.php>
2. The Ombudsperson's office: <http://www.uvss.uvic.ca/ombudsperson/pubsguides/plagiarism.pdf>
3. The English Department: <http://web.uvic.ca/wguide/Pages/CitPlagiarism.html>