

PSYCO 241 (A1)

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Fall 2004

Professor: Kimberly Noels, Ph.D.
Office: P349 Biological Sciences Building
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 14:00 - 16:30 or by appointment
: (780) 492-4717
: psyclass@ualberta.ca
Website: <http://web.psych.ualberta.ca/~knoels/P241/p241.html>

Teaching Assistant: Lily Tsui
Office: P359 Biological Sciences Building
Office Hours: Mondays, 10:00 - 12:00 or by appointment
: (780) 492-1355
: ltsui@ualberta.ca

Date and Time: September 9 to December 7, 2004
Tuesdays: 14:00-15:20
Thursdays: 14:00 - 15:20

Location: ESB 3 27

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

As described by the U of A calendar, this course involves a survey of theories and research on the individual in a social context. We will discuss topics such as the self-concept, impression formation and management, communication, attitudes and persuasion, interpersonal attraction, altruism, aggression, conformity, group dynamics, and prejudice and discrimination. By the end of the course, the student will be able to demonstrate

1. an understanding of the fundamental concepts and theories of social psychology;
2. knowledge of research methods common in social psychology,
3. familiarity with the results of classic and contemporary empirical studies
4. the ability to apply social psychological concepts and theories to everyday life, and
5. a critical understanding of social scientific information.

PREREQUISITES

PSYCO 104 Basic Biological Processes
PSYCO 105 Individual and Social Behaviour

TEXTBOOK (mandatory)

Alcock, J.E., Carment, D.W., & Sadava, S.W. (2005). *A textbook of social psychology*. 6th Edition. Toronto, ON: Prentice Hall.

EVALUATION

- 2 mid-term exams made up of multiple choice questions, based on the textbook, readings, films, lecture notes, and guest lecturers presentations.

Mid-term exam (30%): October 12, 2004
Mid-term exam (30%): November 18, 2004

- 1 final exam made up of multiple choice questions, based on the textbook, readings, films, lecture notes, and guest lecturers presentations. This exam is cumulative.

Final exam (40%): During winter exam period (December 13-21, 2004); tentatively Monday, December 20, 2004

If you miss a midterm examination, you must provide documented evidence that you experienced an incapacitating illness by providing a physician's note (sealed) from the University Health Services within 48 hours of the midterm. A note from the University Health Services does not automatically mean that you are excused from the exam -- the final decision is up to the instructor. **If you are excused from an exam, the weight of the midterm will be transferred to the final exam.** If you are absent from the final exam, you must make a formal application to the Office of the Registrar to write a deferred final exam.

You will be assigned a percentage grade for your performance on exams and assignments. The final grade will be transformed to the University's 4-point grading system based on your relative standing in the class, following the University's expectations for an average class. Note: This scheme is tentative and may be adjusted.

Letter Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
Grade	4	4	3.7	3.3	3	2.7	2.3	2	1.7	1.3	1	0
Rating	Excellent			Good			Satisfactory			Poor	Min.Pass	Fail
% of Class	5	7	12	15	16	14	11	8	5	3	2	2

ACADEMIC OFFENCES

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.ualberta.ca/secretariat/appeals.htm) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and /or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University. (GFC 29 SEP 2003)

COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Sept. 9	Introduction to Social Psychology What is social psychology? History of social psychology	Introduction
Sept. 14 & 16	Research Methods in Social Psychology	Chapter 1
Sept. 21 & 23	Social Perception and Cognition Impression formation Attributions	Chapter 2
Sept. 28 & 30	The Self Self-concept Self-esteem Self-presentation	Chapter 3
Oct. 5 & 7	Attitudes and Attitude Change Values and attitudes Cognitive consistency Persuasion	Chapter 4 & 5
October 12	FIRST MID-TERM EXAM	
Oct. 14 & 19	Social Influence Conformity and compliance Obedience	Chapter 6
Oct. 21, 26, 28	Language and Communication Nonverbal communication Speech styles	Chapter 7
Nov. 2 & 4	Interpersonal Attraction and Relationships Principles of attraction Love Relationship problems	Chapter 8
Nov. 9 & 16	Altruism and prosocial behaviour Bystander intervention Volunteerism	Chapter 9
November 18	SECOND MID-TERM EXAM	
Nov. 23 & 25	Aggression Theories of aggression Violence and the mass media	Chapter 11
Nov. 30, Dec. 2 & 7	Group Behaviour & Intergroup Relations Social categorization Prejudice & discrimination	Chapter 12 & 13