

PSYC 206 Course Syllabus

PSYC 206: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY COURSE SYLLABUS

**Art and Design Building West 1104
Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:30pm – 1:45pm
Spring 2020**

Instructor: Elora Voyles

Office: Alumni Hall, Room 0122

e-mail: evoyles@siue.edu

Office hours: Tuesday 11:00AM – 12:30 PM & Thursday 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM.

Teaching Assistant: Trevor Brunner

e-mail: trbrunn@siue.edu

Teaching Assistant: Mackenzie Rogers

email: macroge@siue.edu

Course Information

Course description

Behavior in the context of social interaction, with emphasis on experimental findings. Study of such topics as interpersonal judgment and perception, social attraction, aggression, prejudice and social influence. Course concepts includes attitude formation, persuasion, conformity and social modeling.

Course objectives

Welcome to Social Psychology! The major objectives of the course are as follows:

- To provide a broad overview of the field of social psychology as a scientific discipline, from classic studies to cutting-edge research.
 - Limitations and generalizability of specific research findings
 - The principle of replication and triangulation
- To demonstrate why studying human social interaction is important and relevant to YOU.
- Ability to see principles of Social Psychology in your everyday life
 - For example: in which way advertisement or political campaigns try to influence you
- To enable students to develop multiple skills, including critical analysis, integration, writing, public speaking, team building, and group problem solving.

Textbook

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Kassin, S., Fein, S., & Markus, H. (2015). *Social Psychology* (10th Edition). Boston: Cengage Learning
ISBN: 9781305580220

Blackboard

This course will use the Blackboard web server as a repository for course material, and as a central location for announcements. Log-in using your ID and network password. only if you encounter a technical error with Blackboard that would cause you to miss a submission date, only then (and only within 5 minutes of the end of the deadline) should you email an assignment to me rather than submitting it on Blackboard.

Your responsibilities

- Get the textbook! You need it! Yes, you are expected to read, and read a lot, and read deeply.
- Attend class – we will cover some material not contained in the book and you will miss out on class activities and extra credit opportunities if you skip classes.
- Make sure you are receiving announcements sent through Blackboard and check announcements regularly. Any changes to the schedule, announcements of extra credit opportunities, and reminders (e.g. of the final exam schedule) will be posted in the announcement area.
- Read assigned material in textbook, read regularly – do not fall behind! Reading often and early will help you prepare for this class. Think about and apply what you are reading, make it personal! Think about when you have seen evidence of material in this class.
- Prepare and take exams – do not wait until the last minute to prepare! This is not a course where you can get away with cramming the material the night before the exam. If that is your style of work you should seriously consider either changing it or dropping this course.
- Complete writing assignments on time.

Exams:

Exams are about the material covered since the last exam (both textbook and class). They are multiple choice only. Exams are meant to take the full class time. If you arrive 15 minutes (or more) late to an exam you will not be allowed to participate in the exam. Such late arrivals will be treated as having missed the exam. Exams cannot be taken early.

Exam questions are not meant to be easy. They are meant to probe if you have learned the material and have learned it sufficiently well to distinguish it from related information. You will need both the material covered in class and the textbook to prepare for the exams.

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You can make up missed exams during the last week of classes during the university-assigned final exam period. The assigned final exam period will be the only time available when exams are made up. If you miss the make-up exam **no** further opportunity to take the exam will be provided. Make-ups for more than two missed exams will not be accepted.

Exams will not be reviewed in class. If you would like to review an exam, please set up an appointment with me.

Writing Assignments:

There will be four writing assignments during the semester. The purpose of those assignments is to make you think more deeply about the material covered in class and to practice your writing. Assignments will be graded on accuracy of information and fulfillment of assignment requirements. Also, be sure to use proper spelling and grammar.

Make sure you do not submit your first draft, instead REVISE the assignment before you submit anything on Blackboard.

Class Activities:

Throughout the semester, there will be activities during class which will contribute towards your grade. These activities are a substitute for taking attendance, so you must be in class to get credit for the activities. Each activity will relate to the topics being covered in the course.

Why should you come to class regularly?

If you do not come regularly you will miss out on the material covered and class activities for credit. You will also not have the opportunity to ask questions about the content as we cover material from the book – nor to material that is not covered in the book. Hearing the material in addition to reading/reviewing slides also provides you with another avenue to familiarize yourself with the content thus making it easier to prepare for exams.

Why should you keep up with the reading assignments?

Trying to cram before an exam will lead to low grades. It is simply too much material to think you can memorize it all in one night (and forget about it right after). You need to read regularly and read often. You need to think about the material, ask yourself questions about it, and connect it to your personal experiences!

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Grading

Final course grades will be based upon:

- 3 Exams (40 points each for a total of 120)
 - 1 Comprehensive Exam (worth 80 points for a total of 80)
 - 4 Writing Assignments (30 points each for a total of 120)
 - 10 Class Activities (3 points each for a total of 30 points)
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Total possible regular points (i.e. without extra credit): 350

Grading guidelines

- A = 315 and above
- B = 280 – 314
- C = 245– 279
- D = 210– 244
- F = 243 and below

There will be no last minute extra credit opportunities and no curving! This means that you are expected to keep track of your points throughout the semester. Make sure you are taking advantage of opportunities to earn extra credit. If you are a point short at the end of the semester then that is unfortunate, but no additional points will be made available.

Due Dates: Assignments are **due on the date and time posted on the course calendar or Blackboard**. Late assignments will have grades deducted 20% of possible points for each day it is late.

Academic Integrity

Any form of cheating (be that copying material from others during a test, plagiarism, helping someone else cheat, or anything else that is aimed at unfairly giving you an advantage in any assignment or test) will not be tolerated in this course. If you cheat, you will fail this course. Think about the consequences before you attempt anything that will have such severe consequences.

Attendance

I will not take attendance for credit. However, we will have class activities for credit. Only students in attendance that day will receive credit for the activities.

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Cell phone policy

Cell phones and other devices will sometimes be used as devices for answering questions in class. Please limit the use of phones for non-class related activities.

Policy on Children in Class

I never want a student to have to choose between their education and caring for their child; therefore, I have the following policy regarding children in the classroom:

All exclusively breastfeeding babies are welcome in class as often as is necessary to support the breastfeeding relationship. For older children and babies, I understand that minor illnesses and unforeseen disruptions in childcare often put parents in the position of having to choose between missing class to stay home with a child and leaving him or her with someone you or the child does not feel comfortable with. While this is not meant to be a long-term childcare solution, occasionally bringing a child to class in order to cover gaps in care is perfectly acceptable. I ask that all students work with me to create a welcoming environment that is respectful of all forms of diversity, including diversity in parenting status.

Accommodations for Students

Students needing accommodations because of medical diagnosis or major life impairment will need to register with Accessible Campus Community & Equitable Student Support (Access) and complete an intake process before accommodations will be given. Students who believe they have a diagnosis but do not have documentation should contact ACCESS for assistance and/or appropriate referral. The ACCESS office is located in the Student Success Center, Room 1270. You can also reach the office by e-mail at myaccess@siue.edu or by calling 618.650.3726. For more information on policies, procedures, or necessary forms, please visit the ACCESS website at www.siue.edu/access.

Syllabus revisions

You will be notified about any changes to the syllabus in class and on Blackboard. Please note that changes for Exam dates are highly unlikely.

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Schedule

Date	Chapters	Topics	Assignments
Tues Jan 14	1	Course Introduction and What is Social Psychology and In Class Pre-Test	
Thurs Jan 16	1	What is Social Psychology- Class Activity	
Tues Jan 21	2	Doing Social Psychology Research	
Thurs Jan 23	2	Doing Social Psychology Research	
Tues Jan 28	3	The Social Self	Writing Assignment 1 Due
Thurs Jan 30	3	The Social Self- Class Activity	
Tues Feb 4		Exam	Exam 1 (Chapter 1, 2, & 3)
Thurs Feb 6	4	Perceiving Persons	
Tues Feb 11	4	Perceiving Persons- Class Activity	
Thurs Feb 13	5	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination	
Tues Feb 18	5	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination- Class Activity	
Thurs Feb 20	6	Attitudes- Class Activity	Writing Assignment 2 Due
Tues Feb 25	6	Attitudes	
Thurs Feb 27	7	Conformity	
Tues March 3	7	Conformity- Class Activity	
Thurs March 5		Exam 2	Exam 2 (Chapters 4, 5, 6, & 7)
Tues March 10		Spring Break	

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Thurs March 12		Spring Break	
Tues March 17	8	Group Processes	
Thurs March 19	8	Group Processes- Class Activity	
Tues March 24	9	Attraction and Close Relationships	
Thurs March 26	9	Attraction and Close Relationships	
Tues March 31	9	Attraction and Close Relationships-Class Activity	
Thurs April 2		Aggression- Class Activity	Writing Assignment 3 Due
Tues April 7	11	Aggression	
Thurs April 9		Aggression	
Tues April 14	11	Helping Others	
Thurs April 16	11	Helping Others	Writing Assignment 4 Due
Tues April 21	10	Helping Others - Class Activity	
Thurs April 23	10	No Class – Review for Exam 3	
Tues April 28	10	Exam 3	Exam 3 (Chapters 8, 9, 10 & 11)
Thurs April 30		In-class review session	
Tues May 5 12:00pm– 1:40pm		Comprehensive Final Exam	Comprehensive final covering chapters 1 - 11 And Make-up Exams
Only opportunity for make-up exams will be during the Spring 2020 Final Exam			