

## Social Psychology Course Syllabus – Spring 2022



**Course** PSY 3331.001  
**Course Title** Social Psychology  
**Professor** Dr. Heidi Kane  
**Term** Spring 2022  
T/TH 11:30am-12:45pm  
**Meetings** Jan. 18 - Feb. 4 in Microsoft Teams  
Feb. 7- May 5 CRA 12.110

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### Professor's Contact Information

**Office Phone** 972-883-4469

**Office Location** JO 3.216/ Teams

**Email Address** Heidi.Kane@utdallas.edu

**Student Hours** Mondays 1-2pm or by appointment via Teams

**Other Information** Please allow up to two business days for responses to email/Teams messages. If you have not received a response from me by then, please send a follow-up email/Teams message. Email or Teams message is best way to communicate.

**TA Information** Kennedy Millward  
kennedy.millward@utdallas.edu  
*Student hours:* by appointment via Teams

### COVID-19 Guidelines and Resources

**Classroom Safety and COVID-19**<sup>[SEP]</sup>To help preserve the University's in-person learning environment, UT Dallas recommends the following:

Adhere to the University's [CDC Updated Guidelines](#) issued on July 30, 2021. All Comets are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings indoors regardless of vaccination status.

**Vaccinations** are widely available, free, and not billed to health insurance. The vaccine will help protect against the transmission of the virus to others and reduce serious symptoms in those who are vaccinated. You are encouraged to [get a COVID-19 vaccine](#) and register your vaccination status through the [voluntary vaccine report form](#). If you have received your COVID-19 booster, you may register your status through the [voluntary COVID-19 booster reporting form](#)

**Student Resources** Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 or may have been exposed should not attend class in person and should instead follow required disclosure notifications as posted on the university's website (see "[Student Safety](#)" protocols). Here is a link to the online form [online form](#).

### **COVID-19 Resources**

[Comets United webpage](#): check frequently

[FAQ](#): check out the FAQs and reach out to your instructor or academic advisor if answers are not included

[Student Resources](#): a variety of resources are available to help students to obtain counseling, health care, and academic support.

## **General Core Area 080 Social and Behavioral Sciences**

**Description:** Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

**Objectives:**

- Critical Thinking (CT)**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
- Communication (COM)**—to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)**—to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Social Responsibility (SR)**—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

## General Course Information

<b>Pre-requisites</b>	NONE
<b>Course Description</b>	This course will introduce you to the field of social psychology. Social psychology is the scientific study how people’s thoughts, feelings, motivations, and behaviors are influenced by social situations. We will learn about different perspectives, research methods, and empirical findings in social psychology regarding how people think about their social worlds and understand others and themselves in their social worlds. We will also cultivate skills in analyzing social situations and events that occur in everyday life and apply social psychological theory to social problems.
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<p>1.1 Describe and explain the nature of social psychology as a scientific discipline</p> <p>1.2 Describe and analyze major theoretical perspectives and overarching themes of social psychology and their historical development</p> <p>1.3 Describe, apply, and analyze five selected content areas within social psychology</p> <p>2.5 Use critical thinking to evaluate popular media, scholarly literature, and empirical reports</p>
<b>Required Texts &amp; Materials</b>	<p>Aronson, Wilson &amp; Sommers (2019) <i>Social Psychology</i>. (10<sup>th</sup> ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, ISBN: 978-0-13-470072-4.</p> <p><b>**You must purchase/rent this text through Perusall.</b> There will be a link on elearning to Perusall.</p> <p>Any additional required readings and materials will be posted on e-learning.</p>

### Suggested Readings

Several relevant books by prominent researchers are widely available. Here are a few for your benefit.

1. Cialdini, R. B. (2008). *Influence: Science and practice*, 5th ed. Allyn & Bacon.
2. Pennebaker, J.W. & Smyth, J.M. (2016) *Opening up by writing it down, third edition: How expressive writing improves health and eases emotional pain*. Guilford Press.
3. Eberhardt, J. L. (2019). *Biased: Uncovering the hidden prejudice that shapes what we see, think, and do*. New York: Viking.
4. Finkel, E.J. (2017). *The All-or-Nothing Marriage: How the best marriages work*. Dutton.
5. Perez, C. C. (2019). *Invisible women: Data bias in a world designed for men*. New York: Abrams Press.
6. Steele, C. M. (2011). *Whistling Vivaldi: How stereotypes affect us and what we can do*. W.W. Norton and Company.
7. Tavis, C., & Aronson, E. (2015). *Mistakes were made (but not by me): Why we justify foolish beliefs, bad decisions, and hurtful acts*. Mariner Books.

## Academic Calendar

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Major Assignment</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Jan. 18	What is social psychology?	Perusall Syllabus Test	Jan. 20 by <i>11:30 AM</i>
Jan. 20	What is social psychology?	Ch. 1	Jan. 23 by 11:59 PM
Jan. 25	Social Psychological Methods	Ch. 2	Jan. 30 by 11:59 PM
Jan. 27	Social Psychological Methods		
Feb. 1	Social Cognition	Ch 3 SPA 3 p.481-493	Feb. 6 by 11:59 PM
Feb. 3	Social Cognition		
Feb. 8	Social Perception	Ch 4	Feb. 13 by 11:59 PM
Feb. 10	Social Perception		
Feb. 15- 17	<b>EXAM 1</b> <i>Opens Feb. 15 by 11:30 AM</i>		Feb. 17 by <i>11:30 AM</i>
Feb. 17	The Self	Ch 5	Feb. 23 by 11:59 PM
Feb. 22	The Self		
Feb. 24	The Need to Justify Our Actions	Ch 6	Mar. 2 by 11:59 PM
Mar. 1	The Need to Justify Our Actions		
Mar. 3	Attitudes and Attitude Change	Ch 7	Mar. 9 by 11:59 PM
Mar. 8	Attitudes and Attitude Change		
Mar. 10- 12	<b>EXAM 2</b> <i>Opens Mar. 10 by 11:30 AM</i>		Mar.12 by <i>11:30 AM</i>
Mar. 15	Spring Break		
Mar. 17			
Mar. 22	Conformity and Obedience	Ch 8 SPA 1 p.447-453	Mar. 13 by 11:59 PM
Mar. 24	Conformity and Obedience	PSA Group Assignments PSA Check-In	Apr. 7 by 11:59 PM
Mar. 29	Group Processes	Ch 9 SPA 3 p.494-497	Apr. 3 by 11:59 PM
Mar. 31	Group Processes		

Apr. 5	Close Relationships	Ch 10	Apr. 10 by 11:59 PM
Apr. 7	Close Relationships		
Apr. 12-14	<b>EXAM 3</b> <i>Opens Apr. 12 by 11:30 AM</i>		Apr. 14 by 11:30 AM
Apr. 14	Aggression	Ch 11	Apr. 20 by 11:59 PM
Apr. 19	Aggression	Ch 11	
Apr. 21	Prejudice	Ch 13	Apr. 27 by 11:59 PM
Apr. 26	Prejudice	Ch 13	
Apr. 28	Prosocial Behavior	Ch 12	May 4 by 11:59 PM
May 3	Prosocial Behavior	Ch 12	
May 5	Wrap Up/Catch Up		PSA Projects Due by 11:59 PM
<b>TBD</b>	<b>EXAM 4</b>		

Note: Any changes to the course calendar will be discussed in class and posted on elearning.

#### **Exam Dates**

<b><i>Exam</i></b>	<b><i>Exam Window</i></b>	<b><i>Open Date/Time</i></b>	<b><i>Close Date/Time</i></b>
Exam 1	Feb. 15-17	2/15 at 11:30 AM	2/17 at 11:30 AM
Exam 2	Mar. 10-12	3/10 at 11:30 AM	3/12 at 11:30 AM
Exam 3	Apr. 12-14	4/12 at 11:30 AM	4/14 at 11:30 AM
Exam 4	TBD		

## Course Policies

<b>Class Materials</b>	<p>I will provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course. However, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the <a href="#">Student Code of Conduct</a>.</p>
<b>Classroom Conduct Requirements Related to Public Health Measures</b>	<p>UT Dallas will follow the public health and safety guidelines put forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), and local public health agencies that are in effect at that time during the Spring 2022 semester to the extent allowed by state governance. Texas Governor Greg Abbott's Executive Order <a href="#">GA-38</a> prohibits us from mandating vaccines and face coverings for UT Dallas employees, students, and members of the public on campus. However, we strongly encourage all Comets to get vaccinated and wear face coverings as recommended by the CDC. Check the <a href="#">Comets United: Latest Updates webpage</a> for the latest guidance on the University's public health measures. Comets are expected to carry out <a href="#">Student Safety</a> protocols in adherence to the Comet Commitment. Unvaccinated Comets will be expected to complete the <a href="#">Required Daily Health Screening</a>. Those students who do not comply will be referred to the Office of Community Standards and Conduct for disciplinary action under the <a href="#">Student Code of Conduct – UTSP5003</a>.</p>
<b>Class Attendance</b>	<p>You are required to attend all class meetings. During class sessions, I will present material not covered in your textbook or the readings, expand on important points in the text, and discuss new developments in the field. We will also complete various activities, discuss the readings, watch parts of videos, and so on. Thus, if you miss lecture, you will be missing valuable information, and this could affect your performance on exams and other assignments.</p>

<p><b>Class Participation</b></p>	<p>Regular class participation is expected. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class (i.e., Lecture Activities). It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures. Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the <a href="#">Student Code of Conduct</a>.</p>																																
<p><b>Class Recordings</b></p>	<p>Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the <a href="#">Student Code of Conduct</a>.</p> <p>The instructor may record meetings of this course. These recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law.</p>																																
<p><b>Grading Criteria</b></p>	<p>Letter grades will be assigned using the following scale:</p> <table data-bbox="548 1381 1112 1787"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"><i>Grade (percent)</i></th> <th colspan="2"><i>Grade (percent)</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A+</td> <td>100 - 97</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>96 - 93</td> <td>C</td> <td>76 - 73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A -</td> <td>92 - 90</td> <td>C -</td> <td>72 - 70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B+</td> <td>89 - 87</td> <td>D+</td> <td>69 - 67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>86 - 83</td> <td>D</td> <td>66 - 63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B -</td> <td>82 - 80</td> <td>D -</td> <td>62–60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C+</td> <td>79 - 77</td> <td>F</td> <td>less than 60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Grade (percent)</i>		<i>Grade (percent)</i>		A+	100 - 97			A	96 - 93	C	76 - 73	A -	92 - 90	C -	72 - 70	B+	89 - 87	D+	69 - 67	B	86 - 83	D	66 - 63	B -	82 - 80	D -	62–60	C+	79 - 77	F	less than 60
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Sources of points in the course

Source	Points per	Occurrences	Total per source
1. Exams	100	4*	<b>400</b>
2. Lecture Activities	5	24**	<b>100</b>
3. Perusall Readings	5	13***	<b>55</b>
4. Perusall Syllabus Test	3	1	<b>3</b>
5. Intro Survey	2	1	<b>2</b>
6. PSA Project	100	1	<b>100</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>660</b>

\* Your lowest exam grade out of the 4 will automatically be replaced by the average of all 4 exams.

\*\* Dr. Kane will automatically drop the 4 lowest lecture activities

\*\*\*Dr. Kane will automatically drop the 2 lowest Perusall grades

**Research Exposure Credit Requirement (REC):**

One requirement of all students enrolled in this class is completion of **two** research exposure credits. This requirement provides students practical and direct experiences with research and is an important means to understanding behavioral research. Details about this requirement appear on the separate Research Exposure Credit Requirement handout distributed on the first day of class or posted on the course eLearning page. A link to “Research Exposure Credit (REC) Requirement” is also posted on the BBS Information Center in eLearning.

Failure to complete the research exposure requirement will result in lowering your total grade in this class. For each Research Exposure Credit you fail to complete, your course grade will be reduced by 1/3 letter grade. For example, if you only complete one of the two required credits and your grade for all other course requirements is an A+, then your grade would be lowered from an A+ to an A. If you do not complete both credits, your grade would be lowered from an A+ to A-. The deadline for completion of these credits is found on the REC instruction sheet.

	<p><i>Please note: I want to help you be successful in this course in every way I can BEFORE the end of the semester. Aside from the requirements listed here, I simply cannot give you extra points or additional assignments. I can help you if you ask me “what can I do to improve my grade?” at the beginning of the semester, not at the end.</i></p>
<p><b>Detailed Assignments</b></p>	<p><b>Exams:</b> There will be four exams. Each of these exams will be completed online. The format of these exams will be multiple choice and short answer/essay questions. Material from lecture, videos, podcasts, and your textbook will appear on the exams. There will be a two-day testing window to take the exam. You will be able to use your readings, lecture materials, and notes to complete the exams. You should use materials from class to complete the exams. The exams will have questions asking you to synthesize and apply the material you have learned in class. I will be looking for material from class to be referenced and discussed in your answers. I highly discourage you from using outside sources because those sources may be incomplete, incorrect, or provide unrelated information on a topic. You will have class time to complete the test at home. I know things often come up at the last minute, so I recommend taking the exam on the first day of the testing window so that there is time to account for any unforeseen problems. The second day can be used as a backup day.</p> <p>Each exam will be worth <b>100 points</b>. The exams should be completed <b><i>independently</i></b> and with academic integrity (see <a href="#">UT Dallas Syllabus Policies</a>). For example, do not take the test with friends, do not discuss the test until the exam window is completed, <b><i>do not copy and paste information from online sources into your short answer questions</i></b>, or copy text from class materials (e.g., readings, lecture slides) verbatim.</p> <p><b>Public Service Announcement (PSA) Project:</b> One of the major assignments in this class will be for a public service announcement project. You will be assigned to a group of 3-4 students to put the project together. This project will involve creating a short PSA video using social psychological theory and concepts in its design. Your group will also turn in a written paper specifically outlining <b><i>how</i></b> the PSA utilizes social psychological theory and concepts. The purpose of this project is to incorporate theory and concepts across chapters and apply it to a real-world application. An additional component of this project will be to analyze how your group functioned together using social psychological theory and concepts.</p> <p>Projects are officially due on 5/5 by 11:59pm. Please submit them via Turnitin (for the paper) and your Group Teams channel for the</p>

	<p>PSA. Detailed information about this assignment will be provided in lecture and on elearning.</p> <p><b>Lecture Activities:</b> The purpose of the lecture activities is to promote active learning and facilitate engagement in the material. They will be administered throughout the semester. These activities may include worksheets to accompany lectures, demonstrations, learning check quizzes, and other activities. Each class activity is worth <b>5 points</b>. I will <b>drop the lowest 4</b> grades.</p> <p><b>Perusall:</b> I will be using Perusall to help you master readings and content faster, understand the content better, and get more out of this class. Throughout the course, you will have reading/podcast/video (content) assignments in Perusall. To successfully complete the assignment, you must read the reading/listen to the podcast/watch the video and add comments, annotations, and questions. Please do this early! Your grade on Perusall assignments can be improved by accessing the content multiple times, working in small chunks rather all at once, and by responding to the questions of others. Come back to the content and check the comments made by others, try to answer their questions, or respond to their posts. I will <b>drop the lowest 2</b> grades. Please do not access Perusall by going to the website directly. <b>ONLY</b> access Perusall assignments through the links in elearning. To help facilitate your use of Perusall, the first week of class you will be able to participate in a <i>Syllabus Perusall Test</i>. This “test” will be your opportunity to practice having a discussion using the Perusall platform. If you complete this assignment by participating in a discussion on the syllabus content (e.g., asking and answering questions) you will earn 3 points.</p>
<b>Make-up Exams</b>	<p>In general, there are not any make-up exams because you are able to drop an exam grade. You will have two days to complete each exam. Please make sure to plan accordingly. I recommend that you plan to take your exam on the first day it is available. If something goes wrong, and you are not available to take it at your planned time, you will still have an opportunity to take it the following day.</p>
<b>Extra Credit</b>	<p>Occasionally, extra credit questions may appear on exams, but this is at the discretion of the professor. No other extra credit assignments may be requested. If you are concerned about your grades, please talk to me early in the semester. I want to help you be successful in this class. Please do not wait until the end of the semester to come and see me.</p>
<b>Late Work</b>	<p>All assignments (except for the PSA project – see below) must be submitted <u>before</u> they are due. This includes the Perusall reading assignments and the lecture assignments that are completed outside of class time. These assignments will be due weekly according to the</p>

	<p>class calendar/deadlines for lectures activities announced in class. The specific due dates will be posted with each assignment on elearning.</p> <p>Please be sure to verify that every assignment you submit can be viewed in eLearning (or Forms on teams). If you can't see it, I can't see it. And if I can't see it, even if it shows as "in progress," I can't grade it. Notify eLearning tech support by email at <a href="mailto:assist@utdallas.edu">assist@utdallas.edu</a> or call the UT Dallas Computer Help Desk at 972-883-2911 if you have technical problems.</p> <p>The PSA project will be accepted up to 2 days late, but for every 24 hrs late 10% of the grade will be deducted.</p> <p>I recommend that you plan to complete each assignment <u>well in advance</u> of the day it is due. This is a valuable habit to develop. Planning to complete assignments <i>on time</i> does not give you flexibility if a crisis arises. Planning to complete assignments ahead of time allows you to adapt to unexpected circumstances and make it far more likely that you will be successful. For two points, please send me an email describing the main point of this paragraph and a picture of a cute animal/pet.</p>
<p><b>Classroom Citizenship</b></p>	<p>I understand that you often face multiple competing obligations that can be obstacles to your success. I also understand that you are not here to do only the bare minimum, but rather you want to make the most of the educational experiences available to you. I will always assume that you are doing everything you can to learn, and I will do everything I can to help make sure that happens.</p> <p>That being said, the best way to learn in this class is by active participation in the lectures and assignments. During the class and when working in your PSA project groups <b><i>you are expected to respect other students in the class and their comments, opinions, and points of view by discussing differing viewpoints in a constructive and respectful manner.</i></b></p>
<p><b>Comet Creed</b></p>	<p><i>This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:</i></p> <p><i>"As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do."</i></p>
<p><b>Academic Support Resources</b></p>	<p><i>The information contained in the following link lists the University's academic support resources for all students.</i></p> <p>Please go to <a href="http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources">http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources</a>.</p>

<b>UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures</b>	<p><i>The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the sections regarding the <a href="#">credit/no credit</a> grading option and withdrawal from class.</i></p> <p><i>Please go to <a href="http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies">http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies</a> for these policies.</i></p>
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*The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*