

Social Psychology
PSY 3331.001
Fall 2025

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Course Modality and Platform

This course is in-person and meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 4-5:15pm at JO 3.516. No remote participation. Asynchronous lecture videos will not be available.

Course Description and Objectives

This course aims to deepen students' understanding of a wide variety of social psychological research and related theoretical concepts. We will review various theories, research methods, and empirical findings in social psychology in regard to how people think about their social worlds. We will also develop skills in analyzing everyday social situations and events and apply social psychology theory to social problems. Specific learning outcomes include:

1. Students will be able to explain, analyze, and apply key concepts, principles, and theories in social psychology. Students will also demonstrate proficiency in interpreting social phenomena, applying social psychology theories.
2. Students will showcase scientific inquiry and critical thinking by classifying, interpreting, designing, and evaluating social psychological research and scientific claims. Students will be able to identify adequate research findings that can explain certain social phenomena, understand how to interpret the research findings, and suggest proper study designs to examine social psychology research questions.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of individual and cultural differences, integrating this knowledge into social psychological research, practice, academic endeavors, and professional interactions. Students will be able to use critical thinking to evaluate popular media, scholarly literature, and empirical reports.

The TA and I will communicate with you via emails, during scheduled office hours, and by appointment. **UT Dallas Email** (bokyung.park@utdallas.edu) is the best way to reach me to schedule an appointment. Please put the **course name and number** (PSY 3331.001: Social Psychology) in the subject of your email. I will respond to your email within 2 business days. I will answer brief questions by email, but **if you want to ask lengthy questions, please speak to me during office hours or after class**. Class announcements will be delivered during the class, posted on eLearning and/or sent as a general email to the class.

General Integration of Competency

The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) identifies eight core competencies in career readiness, detailed [HERE](#). Each competency is described using sample behaviors or skills you will practice when engaging with the course material, participating in class, and interacting with the professor and your fellow students. For example, the core competency of critical thinking is addressed through writing assignments that require students to analyze real-

life events by applying a social psychological lens. Career readiness competencies are linked to the learning objectives in this course. By enrolling in PSY 3331, you are not just taking a course, you are acquiring skills that will prepare you for your career.

Course Materials

Textbook: Aronson, Wilson & Sommers (2019) *Social Psychology*. (10th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, ISBN: 978-0134641287. (Available at the UTD bookstore & Online)

Course Requirements and Format

Class Attendance and Participation. Regular and punctual class attendance and participation are expected. Students who fail to attend/participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. Exams will focus on information from lectures; thus, it is essential that you come to class and participate in lectures.

Lecture slides will be posted for each lecture, no later than 3:00 pm before the lecture, on the course eLearning site (https://elearning.utdallas.edu/ultra/courses/_398048_1/cl/outline). These slides are intentionally incomplete, and it is your responsibility to take more extensive notes.

A discussion board on the eLearning blackboard platform is available for asking and answering questions. There is a "Discussion Board" link on the left panel of the class eLearning homepage. If you click it, there is a forum entitled "Ask Questions," where you can enter and create a new thread with your question. The TA will then answer it within 2 business days. If your questions are not about course content, do not post those on the discussion board; instead, please email the TA or me.

Unless the AccessAbility Resource Center (ARC) has approved the student to record the instruction, **students are prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings and class materials may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments** without an approval from ARC. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Course Evaluation

Your performance in this course will be evaluated via 4 exams and 4 assignments.

Exams will consist of multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer questions, and/or essay questions. Exams 1-4 will count for 100 points each toward your final grade. Again, exams will cover information provided in lectures. Thus, it is essential that you come to class and participate in lectures.

Assignments will be short papers and will be worth 25 points each. You may consult with your classmates, but each student must submit their own unique work. Assignments will be due no later than 5:00 pm on the Friday of the week for which they are assigned. Late assignments will **NOT** be accepted for any reason. Assignments should be submitted via eLearning.

Exam Process

Exams will be administered in person in the lecture room (JO 3.516) on **September 18th, October 14th, November 11th, and December 9th**. There will be no lectures on these days.

The exams will start at 4pm and end at 5:15pm, the same time as the usual lectures. **If ARC provided permission to you to receive extra time, please email me at least one week before the exam.**

No use of notes, books, computers, tablets, or phones are allowed during the exam. By beginning the exam, you are acknowledging that you agree with the following statement: "I acknowledge the department's policy on academic dishonesty." Suspicion that you violated this agreement will be referred to the Office of Community Standards and Conduct for review. Any cheating, plagiarizing, or any other violation of academic honesty (<https://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5003>, Section C) will never be tolerated in this class.

You will be able to **DROP** one exam that you scored the **LEAST** from your final grade. For example, if you scored 87 in Exam 1, 82 in Exam 2, 91 in Exam 3, and 93 in Exam 4, your lowest score—82 in Exam 2—will be dropped and your final grade will be calculated based on the other 3 exams. This process will be automatic, and you **DO NOT** need to make any separate request for it. However, your mid-term grade will include all scores from the exams and assignments up to that point of the semester.

Make-up exams are only given in the following circumstances: 1) an official, University sponsored event requires you to be unavailable during the scheduled examination time; 2) a medical emergency prevents you from completing the exam; 3) a family emergency prevents you from completing the exam. If you are going to miss an exam for any of the above reasons, you **MUST** contact me **BEFORE** the exam. Written documentation of the event or the emergency is required to schedule a make-up exam. Makeup exams will be scheduled at my discretion and will consist of long essay questions. If you miss an exam without my prior approval based on a legitimate reason listed above, you will receive a zero for that exam.

Assignment Process

Assignments will be posted on e-Learning by 5pm on Fridays, and will be due by the following Friday, 5:00pm. Please see the Course Outline in p.5 to find the weeks assignments are due. Late assignments will **NOT** be accepted for any reason.

Your assignment grades will **NOT** be dropped. Thus, your final grade will be calculated based on 4 assignments and 3 exams.

Grading

Final grades will be based on the total points accumulated from exams and assignments. No extra credit will be offered for this course.

Possible Points per Assignment			
	Points	Total number	Combined
Each Exam	100	3	300
Each Assignment	25	4	100
Total			400

Letter Grades			
Letter	Percentage	Letter	Percentage
A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	59 or lower

Please note that **grades will not be changed based upon requests**. You are welcome to review your exams and assignments at any time, but **any issues regarding a grade dispute must be raised within one week of the posting of the grades** for that exam or assignment. Outside of the one-week time window to address any grade dispute, grades will not be changed.

Research Exposure Credit Requirement (REC)

One requirement of all students enrolled in this class is completion of two research exposure credits (REC). 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 and/or posted on the course eLearning page.

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 December 1st at 11:59pm CST.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

Changes to Syllabus: The syllabus may change to accommodate the needs of the class and the instructor. You are responsible for all such changes announced online or in a lecture.

Grade Disputes: If you wish to dispute the grade assigned on an exam or writing assignment, your dispute must be presented to the instructor **IN WRITING** within one week after the grades for that exam or assignment have been posted. You must include a specific rationale for why you are disputing the grade.

Academic Integrity: Cheating and/or plagiarism will NEVER be tolerated in this course. **Academic dishonesty will result in an F for the course.** If you are unclear about this, please see the instructor immediately.

Course Access and Navigation: This course material can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning](#) website. Please see the course access and navigation section of the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage for more information. To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The [eLearning Support Center](#) includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties: The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online [eLearning Help Desk](#). The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Student Conduct

You are expected to listen to and interact with each other in a respectful manner. Malicious racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, ageism, and other forms of bigotry are inappropriate to express in class. You are expected to maintain an open mind to differences among yourselves. You may argue with others who hold opinions different from your own, but you must maintain respect for all students at all times.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	8/26	Course Introduction	
	8/28	What is Social Psychology/Research Methods 1	Ch. 1/Ch. 2
2	9/2	Research Methods 2	Ch. 2
	9/4	Social Cognition 1	Ch. 3
3	9/9	Social Cognition 2	Ch. 3
	9/11	Social Perception 1	Ch. 4
		<i>Assignment1 due by 9/12 Friday, 5:00 pm</i>	
4	9/16	Social Perception 2	Ch. 4
	9/18	Exam 1 – Thursday, 9/18	
5	9/23	The Self 1	Ch. 5
	9/25	The Self 2	Ch. 5
6	9/30	Cognitive Dissonance 1	Ch. 6
	10/2	Cognitive Dissonance 2	Ch. 6
		<i>Assignment2 due by 10/3 Friday, 5:00 pm</i>	
7	10/7	Attitudes and Attitude Change 1	Ch. 7
	10/9	Attitudes and Attitude Change 2	Ch. 7
8	10/14	Exam 2 – Tuesday, 10/14	
	10/16	Conformity and Obedience 1	Ch. 8
9	10/21	Conformity and Obedience 2	Ch. 8
	10/23	Group Processes 1	Ch. 9
		<i>Assignment3 due by 10/24 Friday, 5:00 pm</i>	
10	10/28	NO CLASS	
	10/30	Group Processes 2	Ch. 9
11	11/4	Prejudice 1	Ch. 13
	11/6	Prejudice 2	Ch. 13
12	11/11	Exam 3 – Tuesday, 11/11	
	11/13	Attraction and Relationships 1	Ch. 10
13	11/18	Attraction and Relationships 2	Ch. 10
	11/20	Prosocial Behavior 1	Ch. 11
		<i>Assignment4 due by 11/21 Friday, 5:00 pm</i>	
14	11/25	NO CLASS: FALL BREAK	
	11/27	NO CLASS: FALL BREAK	
15	12/2	Prosocial Behavior 2/Aggression 1	Ch. 11/12
	12/4	Aggression 2	Ch. 12
16	12/9	Exam 4 – Tuesday, 12/9	

Note: Weeks highlighted in green indicate assignments will be due that week. All assignments will be due the corresponding Friday at 5:00 pm. Late assignments will NOT be accepted.