Course: PSYC4020 6.00D Seminar in Social Psychology

Term: F/W 2012-2013

Time and Location: Monday 8:30 to 11:30 in HNE B10

Prerequisites: PSYC1010 6.00 with a minimum of C; PSYC2120 3.00; 4000 level statistics and research methods requirements

Course Instructor
Dr. Noreen Stuckless
Office: Rm. 285 B.S.B.
e-mail: stuckles@yorku.ca
Office Hour: Wed., 12:30-13:30
Secretary: Rm 281 B.S.B. Telephone: 416-736-5125

Course Text / Readings

Expanded Course Description
Organization of the Course -
The course involves formal lectures including PowerPoint presentations by the instructor and possibly invited guests and PowerPoint presentations by the students. The lectures will be supplemented by handouts and videos. The required readings from the text, handouts and student presentations are central to the course. The lectures and videos will serve to enrich, clarify, and illustrate crucial issues from the assigned readings. The student presentations expose each student to a variety of subjects and issues presented by their fellow students.

Course Learning Objectives
(1) Brief statement of the purpose:
In this course we will be looking at Social Psychology from an applied perspective. That is, how what we learn about Social Psychology can be used to address many of the social-related issues that face our society. These social issues can include, but are not limited to, partner violence, gender discrimination, the environment, racism, attitude change, eating disorders, aggression and helping behaviours. Students will be able to learn more about specific areas of applied social psychology that they are interested in by doing literature searches in two areas of applied social psychology.

(2) Brief list of specific learning objectives of the course
By the end of the course you will
have a critical understanding of social psychological theories
• be able to critically examine research findings in social psychology
• understand how Social Psychology can be used to address many of the social-related issues that face our society case studies
• develop the ability to write about and present two subjects in the area of applied social psychology
• be able to describe an applied social psychological response to a social-related problem

Please turn over
**Turnitin**

Term papers are to be submitted to Turnitin. Papers can be submitted starting two weeks before the final submission date and the students will be able to receive feedback which they may use to revise their papers. On the final date for submission no further revisions may be made.

**Evaluation**

*The final grade for the course will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:*

1. **PAPER #1 AND POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**  
   **25%**

   **(1a)** Paper #1: (4-5 pages typed, double-spaced plus references) – a brief literature review of a topic in Social Psychology of your choice. This paper must demonstrate a knowledge of APA formatting (headings, referencing etc). (Late papers will be penalized 1 mark for each day late).
   *Can be submitted to Turnitin starting October 22. Final paper #1 due in Turnitin and a hard copy handed in in class on Nov. 5, 2012.*  
   
   **(1b)** Short 5 minute PowerPoint presentation and handout of Paper #1. See instructions and schedule  
   **(5)**

2. **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**  
   December 3, based on course lectures and readings  
   **20%**

3. **PAPER #2 AND POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**  
   **45%**

   **(3a)** Paper #2 (10-12 pages typed, double-spaced). This paper will deal with an area of Applied Social Psychology of your choice, including a literature review and a 1-2 description of an Applied Social Psychology program or study that you design (but do not carry out). This paper must demonstrate a knowledge of APA formatting (headings, referencing etc). (Late papers will be penalized 1 mark for each weekday late).
   *Can be submitted to Turnitin starting Mar 18. Final paper #2 due in Turnitin and a hard copy handed in in class on Apr 1, 2012.*  

   **(3b)** Approx 1 hour PowerPoint presentation (including discussion time) and handout based on Paper #2. See instructions and schedule  
   **(10)**

4. **PARTICIPATION**  
   **10%**

   **(4a)** Participation (i.e., attendance) at classmates’ presentations  
   *(5%)*

   **(4b)** Chapter quizzes (completed out of class) and participation in chapter quizzes and discussions in class. These quizzes are not marked (answers will be given during discussion) but a record will be kept of those that are completed.  
   *(5%)*
Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). (For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf)

Assignment Submission: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be submitted by the due date specified for the assignment. We will be using the Turnitin program for essay submission. That means that you will be able to get feedback on your essay re: plagiarism issues so that you can make changes before you make your final submission. For that reason it is in your interest to have your essays ready in enough time to submit it earlier.

Lateness Penalty: Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized. There will be a penalty of one mark for each weekday the paper is late. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter).

Guidelines for Missed Examination
1) The student must contact me by phone or email or the course secretary by telephone within 48 hours of the examination. You must clearly state the following:
   - your name (it helps to spell your last name)
   - your student number,
   - course and section
   - phone number at which you can be reached
   - best time to call you back

2) If you cannot contact me or the secretary during this 48 hour period, subsequent documentation accounting for the delay must be provided.

3) Appropriate documentation verifying the circumstances for the missed examination must be provided at the time specified by the instructor. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of F on the missed examination.

What is appropriate documentation?
a) medical circumstances – tests/exams missed due to medical circumstances must be supported by an attending physician’s statement or a statement by a psychologist or counselor. The physician’s statement must include the following:
   i) full name, mailing address, telephone number of the physician.
   ii) state the nature of the illness and its duration (i.e., specific dates covered), and
   iii) an indication of whether the illness and/or medication prescribed would have SERIOUSLY affected the student’s ability to write the exam.

There is a recommended on-line form at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/petitions/attending_physician_statement.pdf NOTE: the physician’s office may be contacted to verify that the forms were completed by the physician.
b) **non-medical circumstances** – tests/exams missed due to non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation, i.e., death certificates, obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/bus ticket/receipt for emergency travel (with date of booking on ticket), etc. Airline/train/bus ticket/receipts for emergency travel must indicate destination, departure, and return dates. Having to work at the time of a test is not considered a valid excuse for missing the test.

4) The manner in which the missed examination (which has been legitimately documented) is handled will be at the discretion of the course director.

   E.g., In the case of a make-up exam, you must be prepared to write the test at the make-up date. Although the content to be examined will be the same, the format may or may not follow that of the original test/exam. YOU must check with me for the date and time of the make-up. A conflict in another course during the time of the make-up is not an acceptable reason for missing the make-up (unless there is an examination in the other course at that time). You should be aware that if you miss the exam before the official drop date, you may not have the requisite feedback on your course work to determine if you need to drop the course or not. As a result, it is in your best interest to write the exam at the time it is scheduled.

**Cheating/Plagiarism/Impersonation**

The University does not look favorably on cheating of any kind and the penalties for doing so are very harsh. Become familiar with the rules and regulations regarding cheating/plagiarism. You can find them listed on pages 6-7 of the *Undergraduate Psychology Supplemental Calendar.*

In summary, you can avoid problems by following some simple rules.

   a) Do your own work and present your own ideas in your own words. Do not merely repeat or reword sections from other sources.
   b) Don’t copy from friends or neighbors and don’t let friends or neighbors copy from you.
   c) If you have any doubts about the appropriateness of what you are doing -- ASK.
   d) Remember, we will be using the Turnitin program. This will help you see if your work contains material that would be considered to be plagiarized so that it can be changed before you submit the final draft of your paper.

**IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) [http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cste_main_pages/ccas.htm](http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cste_main_pages/ccas.htm)

- York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation
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Sign up for Presentation dates for Paper # 2

Dec. 3
Midterm examination

Please turn over

Jan. 7  
13 Applying Social Psychology to the Community
14 Applying Social Psychology to the Environment

Jan. 14
10 Applying Social Psychology to Education
11 Applying Social Psychology to Organizations

Jan. 21
STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Jan. 28
STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Feb. 4
STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Feb. 11
STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Feb. 18
READING WEEK – NO CLASS

Feb. 25
STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Mar. 4
STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Mar. 11
STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Mar. 18
STUDENT PRESENTATIONS
You may start to enter your paper in Turnitin

Mar. 25
STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Apr. 1  
16 You can change the world
Class Wrap-up:
Final Paper due in Turnitin (Late papers will
be penalized 1 mark for every weekday late).
Hard copy to be handed in in class.

Feb. 15 LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY