

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2016: DROP DATE: MARCH 4, 2016

Course: Psychology 2120.03 (Section N) - Social Psychology
Instructor: Dr. James V.P. Check EMAIL: check@yorku.ca
Office: 266 Behavioural Sciences Building (B.S.B.)
Hours: By Appointment
Telephone: 736-2100, ext 66136 (but email is best)

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

Kristen Maki 309 BSB OFFICE HOURS: Tue 2:30-3:30 EMAIL: klmaki@yorku.ca
Amy Shannon 072J BSB OFFICE HOURS: Tue 2:30-3:30 EMAIL: ashannon@yorku.ca

**NOTE: Kristen Maki IS YOUR TA IF YOUR LAST NAME STARTS WITH A-K,
and Amy Shannon IS YOUR TA IF YOUR LAST NAME STARTS WITH L-Z.**

Lectures: Tuesdays 11:30-2:30 in Rm. Vari Hall C

Text: Myers, D., Spencer, S., & Jordan, C. (2015). Social Psychology (6th Canadian Edition). McGraw-Hill Ryerson. (**NOTE: DO NOT GET THE 5TH EDITION!**)

Prerequisite: Psychology 1010 6.0 with a minimum grade of C

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to provide a social issues perspective on Social Psychology, consistent with the widespread applied emphasis in the field. The traditional topics of attitudes, conformity social judgement, interpersonal attraction, aggression, helping, and groups will be covered. In addition, however, these topics will be applied to various contemporary issues such as rape and pornography, loneliness, the control and prevention of violence, human sexuality, and marriage and divorce.

LECTURE SCHEDULE AND TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

Preamble. In general, I will not be simply repeating the textbook material in lectures. Rather, I will be elaborating, presenting new material, and applying the topics listed below to various real-world social problems. As well, a series of in-class demonstrations and experiences has been planned for this course, in order to help you “experience” Social Psychology in action

Grading: The course grade will be calculated as follows. 40% will be based upon Test #1, 30% will be based upon Test #2, and 30% will be based upon Test #3. For each test, you will only be responsible for the material covered since the last test, i.e., the tests are NOT cumulative. The tests will be composed of multiple choice, true-false, short answer, and medium-length essay-type questions. The final grade in the course will be determined according to the regulations governing examinations and academic standards, as listed in the 2015-2016 York University Calendar.

Cheating.

The penalties for cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty are severe. Don't risk your academic career. For more details, see the 2015-2016 York University Calendar under "Academic Dishonesty". Note that you cannot escape the penalty for cheating by dropping the course.

Missed tests

There have been increasing problems with missed tests in the past (particularly with respect to the misuse of the right to write makeup tests), so please read this section carefully. Normally, a student who misses a test or assignment will be scored 0 unless the student produces valid medical documentation that she or he was medically unable to write the test. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN MUST BE WILLING TO STATE THAT THE STUDENT WAS MEDICALLY UNABLE TO WRITE THE TEST, AND THE STUDENT MUST PRODUCE THE STATEMENT WITHIN 48 HOURS OF THE MISSED TEST AND TELEPHONE US AHEAD OF TIME IF HE/SHE KNOWS IN ADVANCE THAT THEY WILL BE TOO SICK TO WRITE. A simple note indicating that the student was in to see the doctor is not acceptable, and physician's statements that are produced weeks later will not be accepted.

In order to avoid being scored 0 on a test, the student must complete an "Attending Physician's Statement" form from the Office of Registrar and it must be clearly stated by the doctor that in the doctor's opinion you were unable to write the examination on the scheduled date. All Physicians' Statements will be followed up and verified for authenticity.

| <u>Topic:</u> | <u>Text Chapters:</u> | <u>APPROXIMATE Week of:</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Introduction, Research Methods | 1 | Jan. 4-8 |
| Behaviour & Attitudes | 4 | Jan. 11-15 |
| Persuasion & Attitude Change | 5 | Jan. 18-22 |
| Changing Behaviour (Conformity) | 6 | Jan. 25-29 |
| TEST #1 (40%) | | Feb. 2 |
| Attraction & Intimacy | 10 | Feb. 8-12 |
| READING WEEK - NO CLASSES | | Feb. 15-19 |
| Human Sexuality | Assigned Readings | Feb. 22-26 |
| Social Beliefs & Judgements | 3 | Feb. 29 – Mar. 4 |
| TEST #2 (30%) | | Mar. 8 |
| Aggression & Violence | 9 | Mar. 14-18 |
| Altruism (Prosocial Behaviour) | 8 | Mar. 21-25 |
| Groups Influence | 7 | Mar. 28 – Apr. 1 |
| TEST # 3 (30%) | | SCHEDULED FINAL EXAM PERIOD |