

PSYCH 2120A Syllabus

2013/2014 Fall Term/ Section A

DATES: September 9-December 6, 2013

TIME: 8:30 am-11:30 am Tuesday

ROOM: CLH-E

Instructor

Ward Struthers

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Office Hour: 10:00 Thursday or by appointment

Teaching Assistants

Josh Guilfoyle

Office: 321C BSB

Office Hour: 12:00 pm Tuesdays or by appointment

Josh can be reached by e-mail: jawsh@yorku.ca (this is the best way to contact Josh)

Textbook

Sanderson, C. A. & Safdar, S. F. (2012). Social Psychology Canadian Edition. John Wiley & Sons Canada, Ltd.

Course Prerequisite

To enroll in this course, students must have earned a minimum final letter grade of C in PSYCH 1010.

Course Objectives and Overview

This is a course in social psychology or the study of how individuals think and feel about, relate to, and influence one another based on the actual, implied, or perceived presence of other individuals.

Generally, this course will provide students with a background in social psychology and an opportunity to learn about various theoretical, conceptual, practical, and empirical social psychological issues. I

expect that you will work hard, know the course material very well, and be able to integrate the material from different sections. Given that social psychology is related to many aspects of individuals' lives, I think that you will find the study of social psychology engaging.

Grading and Course Requirements

Course requirements

Your final grade in the course will be out of 100% and will be based on: (a) your two scores on two in-class exams (60% total) (b) your final exam (40% total); and (c) your bonus points (2% total). Thus, it is possible to get a grade of 102% out of 100%.

- a. **In-class exams:** There will be two 60-item multiple choice in-class exams in this course. Each exam is worth 30% for a total of 60% of your final grade. There will be no make-up exams, except under extraordinary circumstances. If you miss one in-class exam, you will receive a grade of zero. If you produce a valid medical document, signed by a physician, stating that you were medically unable to take the exam, you will be able to take a makeup exam. If you miss an exam for non-medical reasons, you still must produce supporting documentation (e.g., death certificate, obituary notice, automobile accident report, airline ticket for emergency travel, etc.). **Missing an exam for a vacations, etc., is not an acceptable reason. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN MUST BE WILLING TO STATE THAT YOU WERE MEDICALLY UNABLE TO TAKE THE EXAM, AND YOU MUST PRODUCE THE DOCUMENT WITHIN 48 HOURS OF THE MISSED EXAM AND TELEPHONE THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT IN ADVANCE OF THE EXAM IF YOU KNOW THAT YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO TAKE THE EXAM.** In order to avoid receiving a grade of 0, you must complete an Attending Physician's Statement Form from the Office of the Registrar and it must be clear that in the Physician's statement, that you were unable to take the examination on the scheduled date and time. If this happens to you and you are unable to produce such a document, you should seriously consider dropping this course. **If you miss an exam it is your responsibility to contact the TA (the TA is the preferred person) or course director within 48 hours of the exam.** The nature of the makeup exam will be at the discretion of the instructor. It is important that you show up for all exams on time as no late students will be allowed to write the exam following any student's departure from the exam room.
- b. **Final exam:** Your final exam is worth 40% of your final grade, 30% will focus on material covered since your second in-class exam and 10% will focus on an accumulation of the lectures from the whole course. You must take your final exam in order to receive a grade in this course.
- c. **Bonus points:** To reward you for attending lectures and to demonstrate how research is conducted in social psychology, 2 bonus points (2%) will be awarded to students who participate in two social psychological studies approved by the instructor.

Attendance

For several reasons, it is important that you attend all of the lectures. First, you will receive a great deal of important information in each lecture. Second, you will be tested on the material presented in each lecture and so if you miss them, you will also miss the opportunity to get the information. Finally, an opportunity to score bonus points will be provided during certain lectures, and therefore, if you are absent, you will not be awarded those bonus points. Bonus points are one time only opportunities, and therefore, there will be no opportunities to make up missed bonus points.

Important information for students regarding access/disability, academic honesty/integrity, student conduct, etc. is available on the CCAS webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents):-

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69> ,
<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>

Course Schedule

Date	Lecture Topic	Chapter
10/09/13	Introduction to PSYCH 2120.30 What is social psychology?	lecture
17/09/13	History and Research Methods of social psychology	1,2
24/09/13	SECTION I: SOCIAL THINKING Judging the Self and others perceiving people and events	3,4
01/10/13	Attitudes, Social Cognition, & person perception	5,6,11
08/10/13	IN-CLASS EXAM #1/video (Obedience)	1-6,11 + Lectures
15/10/13	SECTION II: SOCIAL INFLUENCE Sociobiology, culture, conformity (video Candid Camera)	8
22/10/13	persuasion	7
29/10/13	Group influence + video Devil's Playground	9
05/11/13	IN-CLASS EXAM #2/video (video 1st person shooter)	7-9+ Lectures
08/11/13	Last Day to Drop Course	NA
12/11/13	SECTION III: SOCIAL RELATIONS Disliking and hurting others	10, 12

19/11/13	Helping others	13
26/11/13	Interpersonal relationships, research	14
??/12/13	FINAL EXAM (see Exam Schedule)	10-13, 14 + all Lectures from the course