

Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 2120 3.0 O: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY (ONLINE)
Online via Zoom
Winter 2021

Course Directors:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Joshua Quinlan | Alisha Salerno |
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Teaching Assistants:

| Surname | A - L | M - Z |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------|
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| Office Hours | By appointment | By appointment |

Email Protocol: When you email the course directors or teaching assistants please include your Student ID and full name in the body of your email, with "PSYC 2120 Social Psychology" in the subject line. Please read the syllabus before contacting the course instructors or teaching assistants. Please allow *two business days* for a reply. Emails regarding issues covered in the syllabus will not be answered.

Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced

- HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology), with a minimum grade of C.

Course Credit Exclusions

Please refer to [York Courses Website](#) for a listing of any course credit exclusions.

Course website: [E-class](#)

Course Format

This is an online course. This course will be delivered asynchronously, meaning that all of the lectures will be pre-recorded. Lectures will be posted every Monday by noon to e-class.

Office Hours:

Email your TA(s) in advance to schedule a Zoom meeting during their posted office hours (or by appointment). They will respond by email with a Zoom URL and specific timeslot. Click on the link and you will be brought to a face-to-face online meeting with your TA (ensure your computer microphone is functional). Meetings are 15-minutes.

Course Description

This course is designed to provide you with a detailed introduction to major theories, research, and trends in the field of social psychology. Social psychology can be defined as “the scientific study of people’s thoughts, feelings, and behaviours regarding themselves and the actual, imagined, or implied presence of others”. Throughout this course, we will cover a wide range of topics of interest to social psychologists (and hopefully yourself!) including social cognition (how we think about ourselves and others), obedience and conformity, persuasion, intimacy and close relationships, and physical attraction.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of social determinants of behaviour.
2. Describe and evaluate current theory and research in social psychology.
3. Understand and interpret principles of social psychology in everyday life.
4. Define causes of social behaviour from different perspectives.

Specific Learning Objectives

In this course, we hope to provide you with a basic knowledge of social psychological research methods and findings. More importantly, we hope that you are able to flexibly and fluently apply the concepts learned in this course to novel scenarios or studies. Due to the wide range of topics that constitute social psychology, we cannot cover all of its major areas, but we hope to provide you with a basis of knowledge that will allow you to seek out and comprehend additional information on your own. We also hope to provide you information that is timely and current, by using popular media as reference points and by inviting social psychological researchers as guest speakers.

Required Text

- Social Psychology The Science of Everyday Life (2nd Edition) by Greenberg, J, Schmader, T., Arndt, J., & Landau, M. (2018). Worth Publishers.

Please note that this is the second edition of this textbook. We do not know whether the first version of the textbook is comparable or adequate for this course. If you choose to use that version of the textbook, you do so at your own risk. Please do not contact the TAs or the course instructors to ask whether the first version of this textbook is adequate.

Course Requirements and Assessment:

Technical Requirements: This course depends on remote teaching and learning. There will be no in-person interactions or activities on campus. As such, there are technical requirements for taking the course. First, a computer equipped with a webcam and microphone, as well as high speed internet access are required. If you do not have access to any of these technological requirements, let us know within the first week of classes so that we can find a reasonable solution to help you complete the course. Several platforms will be used to support this course (Moodle, Zoom, Turnitin). These platforms will allow you to interact with the course materials, the course director/teaching assistant, as well as with one another.

E-class: All course materials will be available on the course e-class site, unless otherwise indicated by the course directors. This site will be your central access point for course information and materials.

Turnitin: To promote academic integrity in this course, you will be required to submit your written work (i.e., mini-assignment, exam answers) through Turnitin (within the course Moodle). Turnitin reviews textual similarity and helps in the detection of possible plagiarism (see below). By using this software, you are allowing your submitted material to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used only for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. Terms applying to the University's use of the Turnitin service are described on Turnitin.com.

| Assessment | Date of Evaluation (if known) | Weighting |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Midterm 1 | February 7, 2021 | 30% |
| Midterm 2 | March 21, 2021 | 30% |
| Assignment | Due February 28, 2021 by 11:59 pm | 15% |
| Participation | Due on a weekly basis | 5% |
| Final Exam | April 11th, 2021 | 20% |
| Total | | 100% |

Course Evaluations:

Exams: Exams will be based on course material associated with the section of the course that is being tested. This includes the lectures and associated content (e.g., podcasts, videos etc.) as well as the assigned chapters in the textbook. There will be three exams. The first two midterms are worth 30% of your final grade, and the final exam is worth 20%.

Written Assignment: You will have one written assignment for this course. This paper is worth 15% of your final grade. The deadline for the ONLINE submission will be February 28th, 11:59 pm (online submission to TurnItIn). More information regarding the paper will be provided later in the term.

Participation: Every week, a discussion question or discussion point will be posted to the forum on e-class the day the lecture is made available. You can earn participation marks through responding to the forum or through engaging with one of your classmates' responses in a brief, 250 word response. In order to earn participation marks, you must participate in the forum discussion before the following lecture is made available. This means that if the lectures are posted on Monday, you must post your response by Sunday evening. At the end of the semester, five of the ten forums will be randomly selected for evaluation. This means that you are expected to participate every week.

Reviewing Exams and Assignments: Requests to review exams or assignments should be made within two weeks of the grade posting. Note that grade changes will be made only in exceptional circumstances. After the two-week period, there will be no opportunity for revisions to grades.

Class Format and Attendance Policy

Students are expected to watch all lectures in full. In place of attendance, students will be graded on their weekly participation in class discussion, as detailed above.

Grading as per Senate Policy

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.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - [Grading Scheme for 2020-21](#)

Missed Tests/Midterm Exams/Late Assignment:

Late Assignments: Assignments received after the deadline will be given a grade of 0.

Missed Tests: Students who miss a test due to illness or severe distress must email the instructor and TA within 24 hours, and follow the Faculty of Health guidelines for missed tests or examinations. If this missed test is prior to the drop date, regardless of reason, the student has waived the right to have a specific percentage of graded feedback available to them prior to the drop date.

Students who miss an exam will have their final exam re-weighted, with the missed test's value added on to the final exam (e.g., a student who misses one midterm exam will write a final exam worth 50%). Please note that students who miss one or both midterms may write a different final exam, in order to reflect the material missed.

N.B. This means that there will be no makeup exams offered in this course.

For any missed quiz or late assignment, students MUST complete the following online form which will be received and reviewed in the Psychology undergraduate office. At this time, due to COVID-19 an Attending Physician's Statement (APS) is not required, however, a reason for missing an evaluated component in the course must be provided.

[HH PSYC: Missed Tests/Exams Form](#). Failure to complete the form within 48 hours of the original deadline will result in a grade of zero for the missed quiz or late assignment.

Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Fall/Winter 2020-21 Important Dates](#)

| | Fall (F) | Year (Y) | Winter (W) |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines) | Sept 22. | Sept 22. | Jan. 25 |
| Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines) | Oct. 6 | Oct. 27 | Feb. 8 |
| Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines) | Nov. 6 | Feb. 5 | March 12 |
| Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript – see note below) | Nov. 7- Dec. 8 | Feb. 6 – April 12 | March 13- April 12 |

Add and Drop Deadline Information

There are deadlines for adding and dropping courses, both academic and financial. Since, for the most part, the dates are **different**, be sure to read the information carefully so that you understand the differences between the sessional dates below and the [Refund Tables](#).

You are strongly advised to pay close attention to the "Last date to enrol without permission of course instructor" deadlines. These deadlines represent the last date students have unrestricted access to the registration and enrolment system.

After that date, you must contact the professor/department offering the course to arrange permission.

You can drop courses using the registration and enrolment system up until the last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (drop deadline).

You may [withdraw from a course](#) using the registration and enrolment system after the drop deadline until the last day of class for the term associated with the course. When you withdraw from a course, the course remains on your transcript without a grade and is notated as 'W'. The withdrawal will not affect your grade point average or count towards the credits required for your degree.

Information on Plagiarism Detection

Turnitin and other software may be used to detect plagiarism. Any student found to be engaging in plagiarism or other academically-dishonest behaviour will be reprimanded in accordance with university policy.

Electronic Device Policy

This course will be delivered in an online format and therefore electronic devices (e.g., tablets, laptops) are permitted during class time for course-related purposes. **No exam in this course is open-book** and so you are expected to complete the exams without the use of any external aid.

Academic Integrity for Students

York University takes academic integrity very seriously; please familiarize yourself with [Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

It is recommended that you review Academic Integrity by completing the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) and [Academic Honesty Quiz](#)

Test Banks

The offering for sale of, buying of, and attempting to sell or buy test banks (banks of test questions and/or answers), or any course specific test questions/answers is not permitted in the Faculty of Health. Any student found to be doing this may be considered to have breached the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. In particular, buying and attempting to sell banks of test questions and/or answers may be considered as “Cheating in an attempt to gain an improper advantage in an academic evaluation” (article 2.1.1 from the Senate Policy) and/or “encouraging, enabling or causing others” (article 2.1.10 from the Senate Policy) to cheat.

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

While all individuals are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to do so at a level of excellence, the university recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to do so. The university encourages students with disabilities to register with ***Student Accessibility Services (SAS)*** to discuss their accommodation needs as early as possible in the term to establish the recommended academic accommodations that will be communicated to Course Directors as necessary. **Please let me know as early as possible in the term if you anticipate requiring academic accommodation so that we can discuss how to consider your accommodation needs within the context of this course.**

<https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/>

Excerpt from Senate Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

1. Pursuant to its commitment to sustaining an inclusive, equitable community in which all members are treated with respect and dignity, and consistent with applicable accessibility legislation, York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs. This policy aims to eliminate systemic barriers to participation in academic activities by students with disabilities.

All students are expected to satisfy the essential learning outcomes of courses. Accommodations shall be consistent with, support and preserve the academic integrity of the curriculum and the academic standards of courses and programs. For further information please refer to: [York University Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy](#).

Course Materials Copyright Information

These course materials are designed for use as part of the PSYC 2120 course at York University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law.

Copying this material for distribution (e.g. uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law. [Intellectual Property Rights Statement](#).

Course Schedule

| Week | Date | Lecture Topic | Readings |
|------|------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | January 11-17 | The Fundamentals of Social Psychology | Chapters 1&2 |
| 2 | January 18-24 | Social Cognition | Chapters 3&4 |
| 3 | January 25-31 | The Self | Chapter 5 |
| | February 7 | Midterm 1 *SUNDAY* | |
| 4 | February 8-14 | The Self and Social Influence | Chapter 6&7 |
| | February 15-21 | Reading Week | |
| 5 | February 22-28 | Persuasion | Chapter 8 |
| | February 28 | Assignment Due | |
| 6 | March 1-7 | Group Processes | Chapter 9 |
| 7 | March 8-14 | Prejudice & Discrimination | Chapter 10 |
| | March 21 | Midterm 2 *SUNDAY* | |
| 8 | March 22-28 | Helping and Hurting Others | Chapters 12&13 |
| 9 | March 29-April 4 | Attraction & Close Relationships | Chapters 14&15 |
| 10 | April 5-10 | Exam Preparation (no lecture) | |
| | April 11 | Final Exam *SUNDAY* | |