

Social Psychology (PSY 435 – 101)

TR 11-12:15, LSCB 42

Professor:

Dr. Joshua Foster (Ph.D., Social Psychology, University of Georgia, 2005)

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Office hours: TR 1-3pm and by appointment

Book:

Kenrick, D.K., Neuberg, S.L., & Cialdini, R.B. (2007). *Social psychology: Unraveling the mystery, 4th edition*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Course objectives:

This semester you are going to get a brief and general overview of social psychology's major themes. My hope is that by the end of the semester you will be familiar enough with social psychology to discuss it intelligently.

Grading policy:

You will take five exams during the semester, about one every two weeks. Each exam will cover two chapters of the book plus anything covered in lecture. All exams are in multiple-choice, true-false format (i.e., scantron). Each exam counts 20% toward your final grade in the class.

Grading scale: 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; 59% and below = F

Can I get extra-credit?

No.

Missed classes:

Although attendance is not mandatory, all research shows a clear link between class attendance and performance. It is to your benefit to come to class. If you do miss class, it is your responsibility to get the lecture material from your fellow students (do not ask me for help).

Missed exams:

If you miss an exam, you must present a valid and documented excuse to get a makeup. Unless you miss the exam because of an unforeseen emergency, you must give me your excuse at least 1 week before the date of the exam. If you miss an exam and do not follow these guidelines you will receive a grade of 0 for the exam. I reserve the right to administer makeup exams in different formats (e.g., oral exams) and to make them more difficult.

Can I get copies of the lectures?

I only use slides when I think it will help the class. In my experience, social psychology is a class that can be hurt more than helped by rigidly following lecture slides. Therefore, I tend not to use them very much. If I use lecture slides, I will post them at:

<http://www.joshuadfoster.com/slides435.html>

What is the policy on cheating?

It is not tolerated. Anyone caught cheating will (i) receive an F in the course and (ii) possibly be reported to the University. If you do not accept this policy then you should drop this course.

Disability statement:

Contact me if you have a documented disability. I will try to accommodate you as best I can.

SEMESTER CALENDAR

[THIS SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE—YOU WILL GET PLENTY OF NOTICE IF SOMETHING CHANGES.]

Week	Date	Topic (Chapter #)	Notes
1	8.18	Introduction to class	
	8.20	Introduction to social psychology (1)	
2	8.25		
	8.27		Movie: On becoming a social psychologist
3	9.1	The person and the situation (2)	
	9.3		
4	9.8		Exam #1
	9.10	Social cognition (3)	
5	9.15		
	9.17		
6	9.22	Presenting the self (4)	
	9.24		
7	9.29		Exam #2
	10.1	Attitudes and persuasion (5)	
8	10.6		
	10.8		
9	10.13	Social influence (6)	
	10.15		
10	10.20		Exam #3
	10.22	Love and romantic relationships (8)	
11	10.27		
	10.29		Special topic: Graduate school in psychology
12	11.3	Aggression (10)	
	11.5		
13	11.10		Exam #4
	11.12	Prejudice, stereotyping, discrimination (11)	
14	11.17		
	11.19		Movie: Human behavior experiments
15	11.24	Groups (12)	
	11.26		NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)
16	12.1		
	12.3	Final exam period	Exam #5