

Social Psychology

(PSY 381 Sec. 02)

3 Credit Hours

Spring 2008

MWF 12 – 1 p.m.

LDB 208

Instructor: Drew Curtis, MA

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Office Hours: MWF 11-12 or by appointment

Required Text: Social Psychology (6th ed.) by Aronson, Wilson, & Akert.

Course Description: This course will examine human behavior as it is influenced by cultural and social stimuli.

Course Objectives: The course objectives include:

- Learning factual knowledge regarding social behavior
- Learning fundamental principles and theories related to social behavior
- Learning how course material might be applied

Instructional Format: The class format will include lectures and group discussions.

Grading: There are a possible 400 points available in the course (3 exams, final, cumulative quiz score). Four exams will be worth 100 points each. There will also be 11 in-class quizzes, each counting 10 points, for a total of 100 points possible (lowest quiz score will be dropped). Thus, the grading scheme allows for one missed or dropped exam (or cumulative quiz score). Because of this grading scheme, there will be **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS and NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES**. So, if you have taken all the exams, all or most of the quizzes, and are satisfied with your grade, you do not have to take the final.

Exams: There will be four exams (including the comprehensive final) worth 100 points each. **Make-up exams will NOT be given.** Exams will be comprised of multiple choice, true/false, and essay/short answer questions. The exams will be based on class lectures and material from the textbook. The final exam is comprehensive and must be taken at the time designated by the University or prior arrangements must be made with the instructor.

Your grade will be based upon the following schema:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = 0-59%

Attendance Policy: Attendance is expected and will be recorded. Attending class is important to pass the course and to keep up with the course material. Attendance will be considered in cases of borderline grades. The university's full attendance policy can be

found at the following website:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#attend>

Syllabus Guidelines: You may find online a more detailed of the following policies. These guidelines will also provide you with a link to the specific university policy or procedure: <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus>

Academic Dishonesty: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Classroom rules of conduct: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Please do not talk, send, or receive messages on cell phones or other electronic devices when in the classroom. Respect your classmates by muting your cell phone. It is inappropriate to speak while others are speaking. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

Disabilities: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

Religious holidays: Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under

Section 11.20...” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Visitors in the classroom: Generally visitors are not allowed in the classroom. Exceptions may be made on a case by case basis.

Tentative Schedule:

DATE	ASSIGNMENT	CHAPTER
16-Jan	Introduction	1
18-Jan	Methods	2
21-Jan	No class- Martin Luther King Day	
23-Jan	Quiz/Methods	2
25-Jan	Social Cognition	3
28-Jan	Quiz/Social Cognition	3
30-Jan	Social Cognition	3
1-Feb	Quiz/Social Perception	4
4-Feb	Social Perception	4
6-Feb	Social Perception	4
8-Feb	Self-Knowledge	5
11-Feb	Self-Knowledge	5
13-Feb	Self-Knowledge	5
15-Feb	EXAM 1	
18-Feb	Cognitive Dissonance	6
20-Feb	Cognitive Dissonance	6
22-Feb	Quiz/Attitudes	7
25-Feb	Attitudes	7
27-Feb	Conformity	8
29-Feb	Quiz/Conformity	8
3-Mar	Conformity	8
5-Mar	Conformity	8
7-Mar	Group Processes	9
10-Mar	No class- Spring Break (3/10- 3/15)	
17-Mar	Quiz/Group Processes	9
19-Mar	Group Processes	9

21-Mar	No class- Good Friday	
24-Mar	EXAM 2	
26-Mar	Interpersonal Attraction	10
28-Mar	Interpersonal Attraction	10
31-Mar	Quiz/Interpersonal Attraction	10
2-Apr	Altruism	11
4-Apr	Altruism	11
7-Apr	Altruism	11
9-Apr	Quiz/Aggression	12
11-Apr	Aggression	12
14-Apr	Aggression	12
16-Apr	Stereotypes & Prejudices	13
18-Apr	Stereotypes & Prejudices	13
21-Apr	Quiz/Stereotypes & Prejudices	13
23-Apr	Social Psychology and the Law	16
25-Apr	Quiz/Social Psychology and the Law	16
2-May	Social Psychology and the Law	16
5-May	EXAM 3	
7-May	Quiz/ Review for Final Exam	
9-May	No class- Study Day	
12-May	FINAL EXAM (see scheduled time)	