Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi, Psychology/Sociology Department  
PSYC 2319.001: Social Psychology  
Spring 2017

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Amaka Okeke-Agiriga, Ph.D  
E-mail: amaka.agiriga@tamucc.edu  
Phone: 361.825.5994  
Office Bldg.: Bay Hall 3.16  
Office Hours: MW (1-3pm), F (1-2pm) *By appointment only  
Class Meeting: MWF 9:00-9:50 a.m.  
Classroom: CI 109

ISBN: 9780077413101

Course Objective  
This course provides an introduction to the study of human thought and behavior within social contexts. In this course, we will explore how aspects of the individual (e.g. personality, attitudes, goals) interacts with aspects of the situation (e.g. social norms, group characteristics, external rewards) to influence behavior. Topics to be covered include (but are not limited to) altruism, stereotypes and prejudice, attraction and close relationships, aggression, and attitudes and persuasion. We will focus on the science of social psychology by discussing research methodologies and theoretical perspectives in relation to various course topics.

Student Learning Objectives  
• Critically evaluate information and research  
• Understand and describe classic and current social psychological theories  
• Consider the ways in which human social behavior is influenced by errors in reasoning, attitudes, prejudices, misconceptions, and situational factors  
• Analyze human social thought and behavior by reconsidering your own natural tendency to assume that people’s behavior reflects internal characteristics  
• Recognize social psychological principles in your own life outside of the classroom  
• Understand how social psychological phenomena influence health

Course Format  
Teaching technique for this course will be a combination of lectures to introduce topics, class reading, question and answers, class discussions, group interactions, note taking, and presentations to enhance learning. It is important that students keep up with the assigned reading.

Course Requirements  
Basically, BE HERE, BE PREPARED!  
Students are expected to have read all assigned material prior to class and be prepared to discuss topics in each chapter, either in a group setting or individually during class.
Students are responsible also for material presented in lectures. Not everything discussed in class will be found in the text, so it is your responsibility to get the notes for any class missed. The student is responsible for any material missed due to an absence of any nature. No late assignments will be accepted except with valid, documented, official university excused absences. Students are expected to check Blackboard at least twice a week for class assignments and announcements.

**Contacting me**
Please contact me with any question or/and concern that you may have. I am available to help you as much as I can to succeed in this course. I check my email regularly and most of the time will respond within 48 hours.

**Tardiness**
Excessive tardiness will not be tolerated. It is disruptive and shows lack of respect for the instructor and your fellow classmates. You must be present 10 minutes after the class begins to be counted as present. And, if you leave before class is dismissed, you will not be counted present unless there is a reasonable explanation and you have spoken to me prior to the beginning of class.

**Absence Policy**
Attendance is strongly encouraged. TAMUCC has attendance policy which states that students are expected to attend class regularly and may be dropped from a course for nonattendance if they are absent without acceptable excuses. The ONLY absences that will be excused are those due to confining illness, serious illness or death in the immediate family, and participation in sanctioned intercollegiate competition or officially approved class activity. If you are absent for any of these reasons, you MUST PROVIDE written documentation if the absence is to be excused -- on the day you return to class, not days or weeks later. If you are to be absent for an event sanctioned by the university, please provide documentation prior to the date(s) you will be gone. REMEMBER: NO WRITTEN OR OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION = NO EXCUSED ABSENCE!!

**Use of cell phones, iPods, laptops, ipads etc.**
Note taking devices will be accepted but strictly for note taking purposes only. Please I ask you do not abuse your privileges by doing such things as updating statues on Facebook or doing other class work during my class time. Texting is prohibited however phones are allowed to be on vibrate for emergency purposes only. So that means if you are expecting a phone call please let me know beforehand or if you receive an important phone call please step outside and answer it as quiet and discrete as possible.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**
All forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class. This includes, but is not limited to: handing in another’s work as your own, using unauthorized notes on an exam, copying another’s answers for an exam, turning in the same papers for two different classes, purchasing or otherwise obtaining papers written by another and turning that work in as your own. You are expected to avoid plagiarism (whether intentional or unintentional) by carefully
citing your sources in your research paper. Any information used in your research paper that is
not your own idea should be appropriately referenced using APA style (seek help if you do not
know how to reference your sources; I can help you, and there are other resources available on
campus). If academic dishonesty is suspected, I will follow the disciplinary guidelines in the
TAMUCC student code of conduct.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides
comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this
legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that
provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability
requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus
Christi Hall, Room #116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the
classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-
5816.

ACADEMIC ADVISING
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as
they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising
Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved
by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in
the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA
Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-
825-3466.

Grade Appeal Process
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who
believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus,
equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The
burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a
complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details,
including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for
completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal
Procedures (available at
http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C2.01_student_grade_appeal_procedure .pdf). For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of
Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html. For assistance and/or guidance in
the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.

Course evaluation tools
Your final grade for this course will be based on five exams. All five exams are each weighted
19 percent and will be averaged for the final grade in this course. All exams may take the form of
a combination of essay, class presentation, and multiple choice questions. Exams must be taken
at the scheduled times and place. Make-up exams are allowed only for validly supported medical
and/or personal emergencies. The instructor reserves the right to determine the merits of each
request for a make-up examination. The remaining 5% of your grade count towards class
attendance.
**Grading System for this Course**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam 1</th>
<th>Chapters 1 to 4</th>
<th>19%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>Chapters 5 to 8</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>Chapters 9 to 13</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 4</td>
<td>Group Presentation/Research paper</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Cumulative</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Attendance</td>
<td>Calculated 0-2 absences</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Calculated in %**

A = 90 – 100
B = 80 - 89
C = 70 - 79
D = 60 - 69
F = < 60

**Course Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/18/2017</td>
<td>Introduction and Syllabus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/20-01/23</td>
<td>Introducing Social Psychology</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/25-01/27</td>
<td>The self in Social World</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/30-02/03</td>
<td>Social Beliefs and Judgements</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/06-02/08</td>
<td>Behavior and Attitudes</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/10/2017</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/13/2017</td>
<td>Mandated Group Presentation Meeting Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/15-02/17</td>
<td>Genes Culture and Gender</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/20-02/22</td>
<td>Conformity and Obedience</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/24-02/27</td>
<td>Persuasion</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/01-03/03</td>
<td>Group Influence</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/06/2017</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/08/2017</td>
<td>Mandated Group Presentation Meeting Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/10-03/20</td>
<td>Prejudice: Disliking Others</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/22-03/24</td>
<td>Aggression: Hurting Others</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/27-03/29</td>
<td>Attraction and Intimacy: Liking and Loving Others</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/31-04/03</td>
<td>Helping</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/05-04/07</td>
<td>Conflict and Peacemaking</td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/10/2017</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/12/2017</td>
<td>Mandated Group Presentation Meeting Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/14-04/21</td>
<td>Social Psychology in the Clinic</td>
<td>Chapter 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Psychology in Court</td>
<td>Chapter 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Psychology and the Sustainable Future</td>
<td>Chapter 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/24-05/01</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*** This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate students' and/or instructional needs ***