Psychology 2319.W01 Social Psychology
Summer II 2018

Instructor: Yuliana Zaikman
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Email: Yuliana.Zaikman@tamucc.edu
Office hours: By appointment

Class Meetings: Online
Location: Blackboard

The Invitation
No person is an island. We are all social creatures. Join me this semester in exploring the topic of social psychology. 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.

By the end of the course, you will be able to:
1) Identify and apply social psychology concepts
2) Analyze social psychological situations
3) Discuss the ways in which human social behavior is influenced by errors in reasoning, attitudes, prejudices, misconceptions, and situational factors
4) Critically evaluate social psychological research
5) Reflect on the class material, relate it to the media and critique the media examples

Class Activities
How will you acquire the knowledge and skills related to social psychology?
1) Complete all assigned pre-class preparation activities
2) Demonstrate your readiness to participate in discussion posts by performing satisfactorily on daily quizzes
3) Participate actively and constructively in discussions posts
4) Complete two reflection papers
5) Complete four end of unit activities
6) Complete a final paper

Each of these tasks is described in more detail below.
1. Complete all assigned pre-class preparation activities
The majority of pre-class preparation assignments will involve reading excerpts from the required text and viewing short lecture video clips. The assigned readings can be found in the course calendar, while the lecture video links can be found on Blackboard under the appropriate date. There is a copy of the textbook at the library on reserve for you to check out for up to 3 hours (you cannot take the textbook outside of the library).

The required text is:

2. Demonstrate your readiness to participate in discussion posts by performing satisfactorily on daily quizzes
On most weekdays, you will need to complete an individual quiz (IQ) on Blackboard that will be due by noon. These IQs will be available on Blackboard and you will be able to complete them at any time prior to the due date. Each IQ consists of 10 questions, each IQ is worth 10 points, and you will have 10 minutes to complete it. These quizzes have to be completed independently, and any collaboration on them can result in disciplinary actions. At the end of the term, individual scores on the IQs will be added together to calculate an IQ total. The individual IQ total will be weighted in the final grade according to the grade weights specified below. Because daily quizzes hold students accountable for being prepared for daily discussions, no make-up quizzes will be given for any reason. It is your responsibility to complete the IQs before the deadline. Completion of the IQs after the deadline will result in a zero for that IQ.

3. Participate actively and constructively in discussion posts
When asked, employers report that the ability to work in teams is one of the two most important characteristics they look for in future employees (Hart Report, 2006). Unfortunately, you either have had no practice working with other people on a common task or have had negative experiences working with teams. You also may be far more comfortable texting than talking to people. All these experiences put you at a disadvantage on the job market.

Happily, working collaboratively and communicating with other people are both skills that can be improved with practice. To give you this practice, throughout the semester, you will be completing discussion posts. These posts include a few short questions. You will need to post your answers to these questions, as well as one comment to your classmates’ comments. The comment will be due 24 hours after the initial discussion post is due. All students are expected to participate and to treat other students with respect. Please remember that other students may have different opinions and experiences than you. Give others and their ideas the attention and respect you expect to receive. Your initial response will be worth 8 points, and the comment to other’s posts will be worth 3 points. There will be 16 discussions throughout the course of the semester. These activities cannot be “made up” as you have plenty of time to complete them ahead of time.

4. Complete reflection papers relating material about social psychology
Students will write two reflection papers based on various supplemental material (participation in social experiments online, excerpts from other books, videos etc.). Each reflection paper should be between 500-700 words long. Due dates are listed on the tentative schedule in the syllabus. Students are encouraged to consult the Purdue Online Writing Center (owl.english.purdue.edu) for help with these assignments. Please do not use google docs links as a submission format as I cannot open those. Word or pdf format is preferred. When submitting your paper, do NOT include your name inside the document. More detailed information and the evaluative criteria for these papers will be posted on Blackboard.
5. Complete end of unit activities

The course is divided into four units. At the end of each unit, there will be an end of unit activity. The purpose of these activities is to examine students’ understanding and ability to apply the psychological concepts to everyday life and areas outside of the course topics. Treat these end of unit activities as exams as they are meant to cover the whole material covered by the unit. These activities will require you to use information from the unit to answer a set of questions. Some questions will be multiple choice, while others open-ended. You will be given the opportunity to complete these end of units throughout the day they are assigned on. You will be given 90 minutes to complete each end of unit. Once you begin the end of unit, you will need to finish it.

6. Final Project

One of the main goals of this course is not only to develop an understanding of different psychological concepts, but to understand how these concepts are actually used in daily life. To demonstrate your mastery of this goal, you will be required to find advertisements/sections from movies or TV shows that implement different psychological concepts. You cannot use any media that was included in any lecture/discussion/end of unit/paper activity. The purpose of this assignment is to have you identify psychology in the real world media. You will need to find five different media segments using psychological concepts in one way or another. More information about this final paper will be provided on Blackboard.

The Five Star Review

I have very high standards for this course, because it is designed to help you learn skills and information that will make you more successful in life. Due to university policy, I am required to reduce my assessment of your learning to a letter grade. However, you will have the opportunity to determine the percentage of the grade that will be determined by scores in these performance areas. I will use the following procedure to do so at the beginning of the term. You will be provided with four options during the first quiz, and the option that the majority of the students choose will be the one that your final grade will be based on.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOURCE</th>
<th>% OF FINAL GRADE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily Quizzes (~16 DQs)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily Discussion Posts (~ 16 DDs)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflection Papers (2 Reflection papers)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>End of Unit Activities (4 End of Units)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project (1 Paper)</td>
<td>100 %</td>
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Final grades will be assigned based on the following percentages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage to be earned</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>89.5-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>79.5-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>69.5-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>59.5-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The Insurance Policy (AKA: Extra Credit Opportunities)

There might be one or two extra-credit opportunities throughout the term. Specific information about these extra-credit opportunities will be posted on Blackboard.
General Class Conduct

1) Discussions posts: interacting with people via technology can sometimes result in forgetting that there is an actual human being on the other side of the screen and can result in communicating styles that we wouldn’t typically use in real life. Thus, please be aware of it when you are posting your answers and commenting on other students’ discussion posts. Also, please use proper language in your discussion posts. In other words, refrain from using texting language (i.e., using “u” instead of “you”; “cause” instead of “because” etc.).

2) Email communication: Please view email correspondence as an extension of appropriate class conduct. Please do not start emails with “Hi there”, it is a personal pet peeve, so please do not do it. Always remember, if you want to ask someone a question or a favor, you are more likely to get a positive response if you are nice.

3) Very often, students come to me and tell me that if they do not receive a certain grade in my course, they are going to lose their scholarship, or they won’t graduate, or they will become ineligible for something or other. Let me be clear: I can relate. I understand how hard it is to succeed in education, to pay for school, etc. I in no way wish for anything bad to happen to anyone as a result of failing my course. But it is your responsibility to get a good grade in my course; it is not my responsibility to give you a good grade. I will never assign a student a grade that s/he did not earn, so please do not come to me saying “I need a grade bump or I will lose my scholarship”. It would be completely unfair to the rest of the class to grant anyone a grade they did not earn. If you are worried about something like this come to see me early, and we can discuss options.

The Fine Print

PREREQUISITES: PSYC2301

EMAIL: Official communication to you will often come through your TAMUCC e-mail box. Please access it regularly, or forward it to your current use address, as your success in college may depend on your ability to respond quickly.

BLACKBOARD: We will use Blackboard for our class. All the lecture videos and assignments will be on Blackboard. Other information will also be posted on Blackboard: important class documents including information about tests, supplemental readings, specific instructions for the various writing assignments, announcements, etc. In addition, homework and project assignments will be posted on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard regularly to ensure completion of all required coursework. If you do not know your login information for Blackboard, please contact the IT Help Desk, (361) 825-2692. If there are issues within your Blackboard course, please contact me first, as typically the instructor is the only one who can make changes/fix issues within a course. If you are having technical difficulties, please contact the IT Help Desk or your ISP.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS: 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 DISHONEST: Acknowledging that the vast majority of TAMUCC students do not engage in dishonest behavior, the university's policy regarding academic dishonesty and plagiarism will be upheld in this class. Plagiarism is using another person’s work without acknowledgment, making it appear to be one’s own. Any ideas, words, pictures, or other intellectual content taken from another source must be acknowledged in a citation that gives credit to the source. This is irrespective of the origin of the material, including the Internet, other students’ work, unpublished materials, or oral sources. Intentional and unintentional instances of plagiarism are considered instances of academic misconduct. It is the responsibility of the student submitting the work in question to know, understand, and comply with this policy.
Even with a citation, failure to put quotation marks around direct quotations also constitutes plagiarism, because it implies that the writing is your own. Material should either be paraphrased or clearly designated as a quotation. Note that replacing words with synonyms, changing verb tense or other minor alterations do not qualify as paraphrasing.

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 or log onto http://cla.tamucc.edu/advising/.

DROPPING THE CLASS: I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class; however, it is sometimes in a student’s best interest to do so. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Simply no longer attending and participating in the class will NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. July 23 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

GRADE APPEAL PROCESS: As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals, 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.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals. These documents are accessible online at: http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html.

ACADEMIC CONTINUITY: In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane, in which classes cannot be held on the TAMUCC campus, this course will continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., email, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer II 2018</th>
<th>DEADLINES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 3</td>
<td>Last day to register or add a class</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>Independence Day Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from the University</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 3</td>
<td>Last day of classes and Summer Session II final examinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 4</td>
<td>Summer Commencement</td>
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