PSYC 320: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Spring Semester 2017

PROFESSOR COURSE

Name: Mark A. Ferguson, Ph.D. Section 1: TR 11am-12:15pm

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by appointment Credits: 3

TEXTBOOK AND WEBSITE

Crisp, R. J., & Turner, R. N. (2014). *Essential social psychology* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. https://edge.sagepub.com/crispandturner3e

The Desire2Learn (D2L) website will be to used to distribute documents and post grades: http://www.uwsp.edu/d2l/Pages/default.aspx. You will need your UWSP login and password to access the system. For assistance, contact the IT Service Desk (see http://www.uwsp.edu/infotech/Pages/ServiceDesk/default.aspx for more information).

DESCRIPTION

This course provides an overview of theory and research in social psychology. Social psychology refers to the *systematic study of social group membership*—its causes and effects in everyday life. The course begins by discussing the history and perspectives in social psychology. It next focuses on three clusters of social-psychological processes: *intrapersonal processes* (how our mental processes are shaped by group membership), *intragroup processes* (how social groups develop, remain stable, or change over time), and *intergroup processes* (the sources and outcomes of conflict between groups). The course will conclude with a summary of core themes, challenges, and opportunities in social psychology.

A core objective of this course is to raise your awareness of the important role of social groups in everyday life. Since individualism emerged in the Western world, many people have started to believe that groups play a limited and/or generally negative role in their lives. Regrettably, these beliefs are even found in social psychology when groups are portrayed unfavorably compared to individuals (as mindless, unruly, cruel, unjust, and oppressive by default). The problem is that these beliefs are false, which leaves people uninformed about social-psychological processes that influence their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. This course will help you to recognize and understand these processes, so that you can play an active role in the groups you encounter in everyday life. Given this objective, there is a strong emphasis on applying concepts and principles to real world examples.

CALENDAR

Section	Unit	Date	Readings
Introduction	1 : Introduction	T 1/24, R 1/26	Chapter 1
	2 : Biology	T 1/31, R 2/2	Supplement 1
Intrapersonal Processes	3 : Motivation	T 2/7, R 2/9	Chapter 4
	4 : Cognition	T 2/21, R 2/23	Chapter 3
	5 : Identity	T 2/28, R 3/2	Chapter 7
Intragroup Processes	6 : Influence	T 3/7, R 3/9	Chapter 5
	7 : Power	T 3/28, R 3/30	Chapter 6
	8 : Prosocial	T 4/4, R 4/6	Chapter 11
Intergroup Processes	9 : Conflict	T 4/11, R 4/13	Chapter 9
	10 : Prejudice	T 4/25, R 4/27	Chapter 8
	11 : Violence	T 5/2, R 5/4	Chapter 10
Conclusion	12 : Conclusion	T 5/9, R 5/11	Chapter 14

Regular Exams	Final Exams	
1 : R 2/16, Units 1-3	Sec. 1: W 5/17, 8-10am, Units 10-12	
2 : R 3/16, Units 4-6	Sec. 3: T 5/16, 1230-230pm, Units 10-12	
3 : R 4/20, Units 7-9	Bonus Days	
	T 2/14, T 3/14, T 4/18	

Supplement 1 is available on D2L. This calendar is subject to revision. Any changes will be announced in class.

REQUIREMENTS

Exams. There will be four exams in this course. The exams will consist of 60 multiple-choice questions covering three units of material. You will be allowed to choose the 54 questions that you prefer to answer. Each of the exams will be worth 100 points for a total of 400 points.

Activities. There will be a number of in-class activities in this course. Five of them will count toward your final grade. The activities and their specific content will be announced in class. Each of the five class activities will be worth 20 points for a total of 100 points.

Grading Scale. Final grades will be determined as follows: A = 465-500 points, A = 450-464 points, B + = 435-449 points, B = 415-438 points, B = 400-414 points, C = 385-399 points, C = 365-384 points, C = 350-384 points, D = 300-334 points, C = 365-384 points.

POLICIES

Assessment. To maintain the integrity of in-class exams, bathroom breaks and the use of electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, etc.) will not be permitted during exam times without prior documented approval from Disability Services or other pertinent units on campus. Students who wish to use the bathroom should do so <u>before</u> beginning their exam and they will need to turn in their work <u>before</u> leaving the classroom. Students found using electronic devices will be dismissed and receive a zero for their exams. Other penalties will be considered under the misconduct policy.

Attendance. The professor will not take formal attendance in this course. Nonetheless, regular attendance is important for earning a respectable grade. There are participation activities that will be completed in class and count toward your final grade. In addition, lectures and readings will only partly overlap, but material from both will be needed for exams. Students with poorer attendance typically receive lower grades in this course.

Communication. Please contact the professor with your questions or concerns related to this course, as well as other academic and career-related issues. Office hours are the most reliable means of contact. Three office hours will be held per week. If you cannot attend office hours, schedule an appointment. Keep in mind that office hours are not times for lecture recaps after unexcused absences. You will need to obtain the missed material from other students. Email is the next most reliable means of contact. Emails are typically responded to within two business days (this does not include evenings or weekends). To avoid email filters, type PSYC 320 in the subject line. Emails requiring considerable discussion will be referred to office hours. Other means of contact (such as calling on the phone or stopping by outside of office hours) are typically unreliable.

Disabilities. UWSP is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you have a disability and need classroom, exam, or other assistance, please register with Disability Services (LRC 609, 715-346-3365) and then contact the

professor as soon as possible (early in the semester is best). If you are concerned that you might have a disability, contact Disability Services. They can discuss your concerns and offer suggestions on what to do next. To learn more about Disability Services, go to: http://www.uwsp.edu/disability/Pages/default.aspx. To learn more about the university's policies/procedures, go to: http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/ADA/rightsADAPolicyInfo.pdf.

Emergencies. In the event of a medical emergency, please call 911 or use the Red Emergency Phone (located outside of SCI D230). Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide all emergency responders to the individual in need. In the event of a tornado warning, proceed to the lowest level interior room without window exposure. See http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans.aspx for floor plans of severe weather shelters on campus. Avoid wide-span rooms and buildings. In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the building in a calm manner and meet on the north side of SCI (by the HEC). Notify the professor or emergency personnel of any missing individuals. In the event of an active shooter, Run/Escape, Hide, Fight. If trapped in a room, you should hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out, and remain quiet. Follow instructions of Emergency Responders. See the Emergency Management Plan at http://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt for details on all emergency response procedures.

Incompletes. Incompletes are only available to students in exceptional situations, such as medical emergencies or similar circumstances. They are not available for those who feel overwhelmed by routine academic or personal activities. Requests for incompletes must be accompanied by documentation. Except in extraordinary cases, incompletes must be finished within one semester or a grade of F will be entered for the course.

Illegalities. Under several federal and state laws, and according to several university guidelines, professors are required to report acts of an offensive or criminal nature that occur within and outside of class. This includes acts of sexual harassment and assault, bias and hate crimes, illicit drug use, and acts of violence. Any disclosure or description of these incidents—past and current—may be reported to the Dean of Students office (http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/) or local authorities.

Makeups. Makeups are only available to students who cannot complete an assessment on time due to academic, athletic, or religious obligations, major illnesses, or other valid reasons. Requests for makeups must accompanied by documentation, such as letters from coaches, doctors, or spiritual leaders. Except in extraordinary cases, makeups must be completed within a week of the deadline to receive credit for the assessment.

Misconduct. The professor takes academic misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, etcetera) seriously. The minimum penalty for any instance of misconduct in this course will be an automatic zero on the assessment. Stronger penalties will be considered based on the university policy. To learn more about this policy, go to: http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/documents/rightsrespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf.

Professionalism. Respectful behavior in the classroom is necessary for creating an environment conducive to learning and intellectual exchange. Although the professor minimizes the formality of class sessions, there are limits that he asks you to respect. Students who—answer cell phones, text message, use their laptop or handheld devices inappropriately (for email, games, internet surfing, listening to music, instant messaging, completing homework for another class, and so on), carry on conversations with others, habitually arrive late and disturb others as they take their seats, pack belongings before the end of class, habitually leave early and disturb others as they exist doors, sleep or snore, and read newspapers, magazines, or other materials during class—distract the professor and other students in the classroom (even when students think that they are being subtle or polite). Such disruptions are disrespectful and hinder the experience of everyone in the class. Students who are unable to respect these limits will be asked to leave the room until they can demonstrate that they are able to give the class their full attention. If you find that one or more students in the class are hindering your learning, please contact the professor privately as soon as possible.