

Syllabus

PSYC 2040, version 2.0

Updated: December 19, 2016

PSYC 2040—Social Psychology

Course Description: Cultural forces affecting attitudes, social learning, perception and communication of individuals and groups.

Textbooks and Other Materials

Students enrolling in ODL courses are *required* to follow the textbook ordering information provided in the syllabus and Getting Started module of the course.

ODL is *not responsible* for student purchases that result in *the receipt of the wrong materials*. It is the responsibility of the student to order the correct textbook materials. Courses are written to specific textbook editions; edition substitutions *are not allowed*.

Textbook: (available from Amazon and other online vendors)

Elliot Aronson, Timothy D. Wilson, Robin M. Akert, & Samuel R. Sommers. *Social Psychology*. Ninth edition. Pearson, 2016.

ISBN-10: 0-13-393654-6

ISBN-13: 978-0-13-393654-4

Ordering Information

Please review the following tips for ordering your course materials:

1. Do not purchase your textbooks until your enrollment is approved. During the processing period, a new section may be opened that could require a different textbook or edition.
2. Courses that require special access codes *require* that students use the direct links to the publisher microsites. (See the information in the syllabus and Getting Started Module for additional ordering instructions.)

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3. *Always order by the ISBN.* Publishers and vendors often offer the same textbook title under different ISBNs. You must have the correct ISBN to access your online website.
4. If you are having problems locating a textbook, contact us at Answers@outreach.lsu.edu for assistance.

Other Materials and Resources

Software: MS Word, Excel, Web Browser, Adobe Acrobat Reader

Written assignments will be uploaded to Moodle. These must be in Microsoft word format – other file types will not be accepted.

It is recommended that you use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome as your web browser. Internet Explorer is not compatible with your Moodle course site.

Adobe Acrobat Reader is required to view PDF document files.

Hardware: *Web cam with a microphone (built-in or external), headphones or working speakers, and high speed internet*

Exams are completed online and require the hardware listed above. Students are encouraged to review the technical requirements provided on the ProctorU website and to perform a test on their equipment prior to enrolling in this course to make sure they have the necessary resources available.

Technical Requirements: <http://www.proctoru.com/tech.php>

Equipment Test: <http://www.proctoru.com/testitout/>

Nature and Purpose of the Course

Course Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Identify and describe a range of topics studied by social psychologists
2. Describe the scientific methodology underpinning psychological research.
3. Explain the concepts and theories that frame our understanding of social psychology.
4. Apply social psychological principals to everyday phenomena.

PSYC 2040 Social Psychology is largely defined as the scientific study of the way that a peoples' behavior is influenced by the real or imagined presence of other people. This course is designed to provide an introduction to the major theories, issues, questions, and research methods that have shaped the study of this discipline.

Your book will provide you with a narrative of the classic research that has guided this field and present you with an overview of future directions in social psychology. Throughout this course, you will come to understand the techniques involved in conducting psychological research and be able to see how social psychology relates to other psychological disciplines, such as cognition and perception. You will learn the ways in which your self-identity is influenced by social pressures and the unique ways that people function within interpersonal and group relationships. Lastly, you will learn how to apply social psychological theory and concepts to real world situations.

Working with the Course Materials

Remember, this course covers an entire semester of work or the equivalent of a classroom course lasting 15 weeks. That means that each module in this course equals nearly a week of course work and will require the same time and effort on your part. *Do not expect to complete each module in a single study session. Understand, too, that if you choose to submit assignments at a very high pace, your instructor may not be able to grade your work at the same rate.*

Each module contains information, activities, and assignments organized under a consistent series of headings. Get familiar with how the module is organized. Each module in this course is organized into the following sections: the Module Learning Objectives, the Reading Assignment, a graded Quiz, and a short Written Assignment. You should work through these parts of the module in order. Specific recommendations are provided in a link to the course module instructions, which you should review before beginning the first module.

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Your book is designed to help draw your attention to the key terms that are important and relevant within each chapter. Take special note of these terms as you are reading and studying. For all assignments, it is not enough to simply be able to recite a definition of these terms. Rather, you should be able to compare and contrast these concepts or note when a particular term can be used to describe an applied situation, as well as be able to provide relevant examples. Use the tests at the end of each chapter to test your knowledge and get a feel for how exam questions will be presented.

After completing the required reading for each module, you will be required to complete both a quiz and a short written assignment. Specific instructions for these assignments will be given within each module as they pertain to each task.

While quizzes and assignments are an important graded component of this course, you are reminded to complete the reading assignments in full before attempting to begin the graded material. Cherry-picking the correct answers from your text without fully grasping the content will not be to your benefit at the time of the exams.

Suggested Study Techniques

1. Carefully review the module objectives to help you focus on the information that will be covered on the exams.
2. Concentrate on the reading assignments, the module lecture material, and any additional resources provided. This review should include a detailed examination of any illustrative problems and examples. After an assignment has been completed, a rapid re-reading of the related text and other materials is strongly recommended.
3. Put yourself on a definite schedule. Set aside a certain block of hours per day or week for this course and work in a place where distractions are minimal.
4. Try to submit one assignment each week or at least every two weeks. Delays in submitting assignments usually result in lagging interest and the inability to complete the course.
5. Review your module assignments after they have been, paying special attention to any instructor feedback provided. (We suggest that you wait for assignment feedback before you submit subsequent assignments.)
6. Regardless of how you complete your graded assignments, keep in mind that module completion should not be your sole preparation for your exams. As with any college course, you should study for your exams.

Reading Assignments

To do well in this course, it is essential that you read and study all the course materials that precede the module assignment. Do not begin the module assignment until you have done so. For each type of document you prepare for this course, follow carefully the guidelines provided on the course website.

You will read an average of 30-40 pages per module. Specific information on reading assignments—such as additional texts or references—will be given in each module.

Topic Outline

This course covers the following specific topics:

| Module | Topic |
|---------------|--|
| 01 | Introduction and methodology |
| 02 | Social cognition: How we think about the social world |
| 03 | Social perception: How we come to understand other people |
| 04 | The self: Understanding ourselves in a social context |
| 05 | The need to justify our actions |
| 06 | Attitudes and attitude change: Influencing thoughts and feelings |
| 07 | Conformity: Influencing behavior |
| | Mid-Course Examination |
| 08 | Group processes: Influence in social groups |
| 09 | Interpersonal attraction: From first impressions to close relationships |
| 10 | Prosocial behavior: Why do people help? |
| 11 | Aggression: Why do we hurt other people? Can we prevent it? |
| 12 | Prejudice: Causes and cures |
| 13 | Making a difference with social psychology: Attaining a sustainable future |
| 14 | Social psychology and health |
| 15 | Social psychology and the law |
| | Final Examination |

Module Assignments

You will complete an assignment for each course module, totaling 15 assignments by the end of the course. Each assignment will be worth 5 points each and graded on the quality and completeness of your response. The maximum number of points to be earned from assignments is 75 points.

Assignments will generally require you to provide a brief written response to a prompt; specific instructions and word length requirements will be given with the individual assignment. You will be permitted to use your book in aiding your response, and any other outside sources that you consult should be *appropriately cited*. You will only have one opportunity to submit module assignments.

You are required to prepare solutions in Microsoft Word, to selected questions, exercises, and problems located at the end of each chapter. Your work should be neat and arranged in a logical order. You may place several answers to these exercises on one page; however, each exercise should be clearly and distinctly identified and separated.

Carefully study the textbook material before you begin to prepare the module assignments. This study should include a detailed examination of the illustrative problems and examples, as well as the assigned reading. When uploading assignments to Moodle, please use the following naming convention when saving your files: **PSYC2040_2.0.1_LastName_FirstName_ModuleNumber**

You should submit each module assignment as soon as it is completed. Some courses have restrictions that require that a grade be received before you can submit additional assignments. Specific information on assignment submission is included in the Module Instructions. Please be sure to follow these instructions.

You must have a *grade posted in the Moodle grade book for the Module 15 Assignment in order to unlock access to the Final Exam*. Please allow at least 7 days for the final assignment grade to be posted in the gradebook. Once you *submit* an assignment, you cannot revise it, so be sure to check your work. Your instructor will normally post a grade for your assignment within *seven calendar days*. Understand that occasional delays will occur, such as during holidays and semester breaks or if you submit several module assignments within the same week. You must have been enrolled in the course for *at least three weeks*, regardless of when the modules and other exams are completed.

Do not rely too heavily on your textbook or other resource material when preparing your assignments. If you do, you may not realize until exam time that

the perfect response you prepared for an assignment was only possible because you referred to resource material without really learning or understanding the material and concepts. Therefore, *you should attempt each assignment without referring to the resource material*, and if you find it necessary to look up an answer, be sure you have actually learned the concept and material rather than merely reflecting it in the answer.

Module Quizzes

You will complete a quiz for each course module, totaling 15 quizzes by the end of the class. The quiz for each module will consist of 10 multiple-choice questions with each question being worth half a point. Each quiz will be worth 5 points total. The maximum number of points to be earned from quizzes is 75 points.

While you are permitted to use your book, quizzes must be completed in 15 minutes or less. You will be granted two chances to take each quiz and the highest grade will be counted toward your course total.

Academic Integrity

Students in Online Distance Learning (ODL) courses must comply with the *LSU Code of Student Conduct*. Suspected violations of the academic integrity policy may be referred to LSU Student Advocacy & Accountability (SAA), a unit of the Dean of Students. If found responsible of a violation, you will then be subject to whatever penalty SAA determines and will forfeit all course tuition and fees.

Plagiarism

Students are responsible for completing and submitting their own course work and preparing their own modules. All work submitted in the course modules must be the student's own work unless outside work is appropriate to the assignment; all outside material must be properly acknowledged. It is also unacceptable to copy directly from your textbook or to use published answer keys or the teacher's edition of a textbook.

Collaboration

Unauthorized collaboration constitutes plagiarism. Collaborative efforts that extend beyond the limits approved by the instructor are violations of the academic integrity policy. Students who study together are expected to prepare and write their own individual work for submission and grading.

For more information and links to the *LSU Code of Student Conduct* and the SAA website, go to the [ODL Academic Integrity policy](#) on our website.

Examinations and Grading Policy

There will be two examinations made up of multiple choice and short-answer questions. The mid-course exam follows Module 07, and the cumulative final exam follows Module 15.

You will have a maximum of *three* hours to complete the exam.

GRADING POLICY

- Module assignments count 5 points each.
- Module quizzes count 5 points each.
- Exams are 100 points each.
- Course grade = total points earned out of 350 points

The following grading scale applies:

| | | |
|----------|---|----|
| 97%–100% | = | A+ |
| 93%–96% | = | A |
| 90%–92% | = | A- |
| 87%–89% | = | B+ |
| 83%–86% | = | B |
| 80%–82% | = | B- |
| 77%–79% | = | C+ |
| 73%–76% | = | C |
| 70%–72% | = | C- |
| 67%–69% | = | D+ |
| 63%–66% | = | D |
| 60%–62% | = | D- |
| 0%–59% | = | F |

YOU MUST PASS THE FINAL EXAMINATION IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.

IMPORTANT: The final exam cannot be taken until you meet the following requirements. Under no circumstances may the final exam be taken earlier.

1. You must have been enrolled in the course for *at least three weeks*, regardless of when the modules and other exams are completed.
2. You must have a *grade posted in the Moodle grade book for the Module 15 Assignment in order to unlock access to the Final Exam*. Please allow at least 7 days for the final assignment grade to be posted in the gradebook.

To read the full exam policy and other policy statements, visit <http://www.outreach.lsu.edu/Extended-Campus/Online-Distance-Learning/Guidelines-Policies/Policies>. Go to Continuing Education's homepage. Click on *Extended Campus*, select *Online Distance Learning*, and then click the link for *Guidelines and Policies*.

Taking Your Examinations

You are *required* to create an Louisiana State University ODL ProctorU account and to take your examinations through ProctorU, a remote proctoring service that allows you to take exams anywhere with internet access. Information on creating your ProctorU account can be found in the *Getting Started* module. You cannot use an account created through another university, so if you already have an account, you will still need to create an account associated with LSU Online Distance Learning (ODL).

The ProctorU website provides links you can use to find out how ProctorU works and to check your computer to see that it meets the technical requirements. In addition, to test using ProctorU, you need *access to a web cam with a microphone (built-in or external), headphones or working speakers, and high speed internet* to use this service. A complete list of technical requirements is available from the ProcturU website.

You should schedule your exams about a week before you are ready to take them in order to avoid any additional charges.

Transcript Information

After you have completed this course, your grade will be filed with the Office of the University Registrar. If a transcript is needed, it is your responsibility to make a request to the registrar. If you would like to order a transcript, visit the Office of the University Registrar Transcript Requests page to view your options (<http://sites01.lsu.edu/wp/registraroffice/student-services/transcript-request/>).

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PSYC 2040 SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
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Syllabus

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