

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK**



COURSE OUTLINE

PSYC 340 – SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

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**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT
APRIL, 2015**

PSYC 340 – SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

- A. **TITLE:** Social Psychology
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** PSYC 340
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, and ACTIVITY:** Three hours lecture per week.

H. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

A scientific examination of how thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are influenced by the perceived or real presence of other people (i.e., an examination of the nature and causes of individual behavior and thought in social situations). Core areas of examination include social cognition (e.g., heuristics, schemas, priming, and affect), social perception (e.g., emotion, attribution, and impression formation/management), social influence (e.g., conformity, compliance, obedience, and prosocial behavior), attitudes (including prejudice, discrimination, and stereotypes), and the self (e.g., self-concept, social comparison, stereotype threat, ego control, and ego depletion). Three hours lecture per week.

I. PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:

- A. Pre-requisite: Introductory Psychology (PSYC 101) AND Introduction to Sociology (SOCI 101) OR Permission of Instructor.
- B. Co-requisites: Research Methods (SSCI 370) recommended

J. GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES): By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

<i>Course Objective</i>	<i>Institutional SLO</i>
A. Describe the brief history of social psychology within a culturally relevant context.	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking
B. Explain and compare a variety of research methods used to examine social psychological phenomena.	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking 3. Prof. Competence
C. Demonstrate an understanding of Social Psychology through written and oral means in one (or more) the	1. Communication 2. Critical Thinking

following areas: a. Social Cognition b. Social Perception c. Social Influence d. Attitudes e. The Self f. Prosocial Behavior	
D. Apply one of the areas of Social Psychology (see item C) to a project in which a thorough understanding of the content is demonstrated.	1. Communication 2. Critical Thinking 3. Prof. Competence 4. Inter/Intrapersonal skills
E. Critically analyze and interpret research findings relevant to Social Psychology, and identify cultural, gender, and historical differences that influence thoughts, feelings, and behaviors.	2. Critical Thinking 3. Prof. Competence

K. TEXTS:

Myers, D. (2005). *Social Psychology, 8th Edition*, McGraw Hill.

Aronson, E., Wilson, T., and Akert, R. (2005). *Social Psychology, 5th Edition*, Prentice Hall.

Baron, R., Byrne, D., and Branscombe, N. (2012). *Social Psychology, 13th Edition*. Pearson.

L. **REFERENCES**: additional references to be determined by the instructor.

Baron, R. S., & Kerr, N. L. (2003). *Group process, group decision, group action*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole.

Baumeister, R. F., & Leary, M. R. (1995). The need to belong: Desire for interpersonal attachments as a fundamental human motive. *Psychological Bulletin, 117*, 497-529.

Bushman, B. J., & Anderson, C. A. (2001). Media violence and the American public: Scientific facts versus Media Misinformation. *American Psychologist, 56*, 477-489.

Cialdini, R. B. (2001). *Influence: Science and practice* (4th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Eagly, A. H. & Wood, W. (1999). The origins of sex differences in human behavior: Evolved dispositions versus social roles. *American Psychologist, 54*, 408-423.

Fraley, R. C., & Shaver, P. R. (2000). Adult romantic attachment: Theoretical developments, emerging controversies, and unanswered questions. *Review of General Psychology, 4*, 132-154.

Fredrickson, B. L. (1998). What good are positive emotions? *Review of General Psychology*, 2, 300-319.

Gilbert, D. T., Fiske, S. T., & Linzey, G. (Eds.). (1998). *The Handbook of Social Psychology*, 4th Edition (Vols. 1-2). Oxford University Press: New York.

Judd, C., & Reis, H. T. (Eds.). (2000). *Handbook of research methods in social and personality psychology*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Lieberman, M. D., Gaunt, R., Gilbert, D. T., Trope, Y. (2002). Reflexion and reflection: A social cognitive neuroscience approach to attributional inference, *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology*, 34, 199 – 249.

Lucas, R. E., Clark, A. E., Georgellis, Y., & Diener, E. (2003). Re-examining adaptation and the setpoint model of happiness: Reactions to changes in marital status. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 84, 527-539.

Miller, N., Pedersen, W.C., Earleywine, M., & Pollock, V.E. (2003). A theoretical model of triggered displaced aggression. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 7, 75-97.

Rusbult, C.E., Van Lange, P. A. M. (2003). Interdependence, interaction and relationships. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 54, 351-375.

Williams, K. D. (2001). *Ostracism: The power of silence*. Guilford Press: New York.

Wilson, T. D., Lindsay, S., & Schooler, T. Y. (2000). A model of dual attitudes. *Psychological Review*, 107, 101 – 126.

M. **EQUIPMENT**: Technology enhanced classroom

N. **GRADING METHOD**: A-F

O. **MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS**:

- Exams/quizzes
- Assignments
- Project(s)/paper(s)
- Discussion/participation

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE**:

- I. Introduction to Social Psychology
 - a. The scientific study of how the real or imagined presence of others influences peoples' thoughts, feelings, and behaviors

- II. Research Methods in Social Psychology
 - a. Research methods
 - b. Evaluation of research
 - i. Validity
 - ii. Reliability

- III. Social Cognition
 - a. Heuristics,
 - b. Schemas
 - c. Priming
 - d. affect

- IV. Attitudes
 - a. Evaluations of people, objects, and ideas
 - b. Explicit and implicit attitudes
 - c. Stereotypes and prejudice

- V. Social Perception
 - a. Impression formation/management
 - b. Emotion
 - c. Attribution
 - d. Fundamental Attribution Error

- VI. The Self
 - a. Self-concept
 - b. Social comparison
 - c. Stereotype threat
 - d. Ego control and depletion

- VII. Social Influence
 - a. Conformity
 - b. Compliance
 - c. Obedience
 - d. Persuasion

- VIII. Additional Topics May include:
 - a. Relationships
 - b. Groups
 - c. Aggression
 - d. Prosocial behavior
 - e. Diffusion of responsibility
 - f. Steps involved in helping others

C. **LABORATORY OUTLINE**: None.