

PSY 212 Social Psychology

College of Staten Island, CUNY
Department of Psychology
Section D001 (19076) - Spring 2020
Mon/Wed 12:20P - 2:15P RM 3S 103

Instructor: Di Yoong
Office Hours: Wed 2:15P - 3:15P; RM 4S-228



Course Description

Social psychology is the study of human social behavior viewed from an interpersonal perspective. The role of others in shaping self-concept will be explored as well as the formation of attitudes, attribution theory, the causes and methods of reducing prejudice, social influence and obedience, interpersonal attraction, aggression, altruism, and the development of gender roles and stereotypes, and nonverbal behavior. Research methods and results will serve as the context in which each topic will be discussed. (social science); Prerequisite: PSY 100 and ENG 151

Introduction

Social psychology is an increasingly vast and diverse field. The required text will introduce psychology from experimental and critical approaches, reflecting a sample of the field's diversity. As such, I hope that we can learn together through active engagement and analyses of the course contents, especially through understanding how they apply in our everyday lives.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the semester, students will develop:

- an understanding of the field of social psychology, particularly in the different schools of thoughts and approaches
- an understanding of the types of research methods used in social psychology
- an understanding of canonical social psychological theories as well as critical approaches towards them
- reflections on their own lives and experiences through a social psychological lens

Required Text

Rogers, W. S. (2011). *Social psychology*. (2nd Edition). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Education.

*The previous edition will work though it may not follow the page numbers listed in the course reading schedule.

Assignments and Grade Breakdown

In lieu of exams, there will be four assignments for this course:

1. Bi-weekly postings on Blackboard (15% of final grade).
2. One in-class group presentation (15% of final grade).
3. Two media response papers (Paper 1: 35% of final grade, Paper 2: 25% of final grade).
4. Attendance and class participation (10% of final grade).

1. Bi-weekly postings on Blackboard (6 x 2.5% = 15%)

Students should post **two (2) questions** about the readings by **Monday morning (11am)** to our class Blackboard. This will begin in week 3. Students with *last names* that begin with the letters “**A**” to “**M**” will begin posting on week 3 and students with *last names* that begin with the letters “**N**” to “**Z**” will post beginning week 5 (due to university closure). Students will alternate their posts according to the class schedule.

Your questions should reflect that you have done the readings, so it should not be questions for which the answers can be found in the readings. You can ask a clarification question, such as “Rogers mentioned the battle over ideology as one of the difference between experimental social psychology and critical social psychology; what does she mean by ideology here?”. At least one of the question has to connect with previous readings and/or your interests.

2. One (1) in-class group presentation (15%)

Students will form groups of 5 and pick a topic that they are interested in presenting on. You will be doing one (1) in-class presentation. Presentation should not be longer than **20 minutes** for each group.

Presentations should include (i) some background information on the theorists (eg. What disciplines are they from? What other research have they done?), (ii) a brief summary of the topic(s), (iii) 2 - 3 key points, (iv) an explanation of what the topic(s) are attempting to address in our real life, and (v) three (3) discussion questions related to the topic/chapter. Remember to practice before the presentation and to ensure that it does not exceed 20 minutes. You can prepare slides for the presentation but they are not necessary.

3. Two (2) media response papers (Paper 1: 35%; Paper 2: 25%)

These will be 4 page papers (double-spaced, Times New Roman, font size 12). This paper assignment is to take a *recent* media example (nothing earlier than Jan 1, 2019) of a social psychological construct and write about it. The goal for the paper is to understand how social psychology is at work.

You are welcome to submit rewrites for paper 1 until the due date of paper 2. Please follow the APA style guide. The Purdue Online Writing Lab: <https://tinyurl.com/y7tk3zt9> is a good resource for the style guide. Detailed paper guidelines will be provided.

Paper	Components	% Breakdown	Due date
1	Topic proposal	10	Feb 26, 2020
	Final draft	25	Mar 18, 2020

Paper	Components	% Breakdown	Due date
2	Final draft	25	May 18, 2020

4. Attendance and participation (10%)

Students will be expected to have read the assigned readings prior to class. In-class participation can include sharing in class through comments or questions relevant to the topic. Engagement with questions posted on Blackboard by fellow classmates for the class that week (e.g. responding to a question for the week) will also count towards participation. CSI's attendance policy establishes that: "Students are expected to attend all sessions. A student who is absent in excess of 15 percent of the class hours in one semester is assigned a grade of WU (withdrew unofficially), subject to the discretion of the instructor." For this session, 15% of classes is approximately 3 days. Chronic lateness for class will also result in a lower attendance grade. If you miss 3 or more days, please talk to me because you might receive WU as your grade.

Your final grade will be converted to a letter grade as follows:

A	>=93	A-	90-92	B+	87-89
B	83-86	B-	80-82	C+	77-79
C	70-76	D	60-69	F	<60

Class Policies

Respect and accountability are crucial to productive class discussions. As I value you all as co-producers of knowledge, I am also expecting that we will practice respectability and accountability to each other as we proceed with class. Understand that we all hold different perspectives and come from different background, and the classroom space is a learning space that can be, at times, uncomfortable. This can be a productive moment for ourselves as long as we strive to be respectful to each other and accountable to the opinions, comments, questions, and concerns we share.

I strongly believe that students are co-producers of knowledge, hence your presence and participation will be vital to the discussions and learning that takes place in class. As such attendance is mandatory and punctuality is expected for classes. If you are unable to make it to class as it is scheduled, please reconsider taking the class. If you have an unexpected emergency, please let me know as soon as you can.

Short paper assignments are due via email before class begins. Please note the dates in your calendars. Late submissions are not accepted.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. In essence, plagiarism is the quoting of and/or paraphrasing someone else's work and failing to credit the source. If you're in doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, please refer to this document for more information: <https://tinyurl.com/s3f9vf9>.

There are resources on campus that can be useful to you:

The Writing Center

They can be useful to you as you are planning and writing the short papers for class. You can find them at 2S-216. You can also find out more information on their webpage: <https://tinyurl.com/rhstjmx>

Center for Student Accessibility

Please contact the Center for Student Accessibility if you require formal accommodations for the course. The center is located in 1P-101 and their email is: CSA@csi.cuny.edu. Please also let me know if there are any informal/formal accommodations that can increase your accessibility to the course.

Counseling Center

The center provides personal and academic counseling services for CSI students. Students could make an appointment by calling 718-982-2391 or drop in to 1A-109. For more information, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/rmgv545>

Class Schedule

This is the tentative schedule for the class and is subject to change by the instructor. Note that the last day to add a class is **Feb 2, 2020**, the last day to drop without a "W" is **Feb 16, 2020** and the last day to withdraw without permission is **Apr 1, 2020**.

Date	Reading Due/Presentation	Assignment Due
01/27 (M)	Introduction and syllabus	
01/29 (W)	Ch 1: What is social psychology? (p.3-32)	
02/03 (M)	Ch 2: The foundations of experimental and critical social psychology (p.33-58)	
02/05 (W)		
02/10 (M)	Ch 3: An introduction to critical social psychology (p. 59-90)	Questions (A-M)
02/12 (W)	<i>No classes scheduled for today.</i>	
02/17 (M)	<i>No classes scheduled for today.</i>	
02/19 (W)		

Date	Reading Due/Presentation	Assignment Due
02/24 (M)	Ch 6: Communication and language in social psychology (p.169-200)	Questions (N-Z)
02/26 (W)		Paper 1 topic proposal due
03/02 (M)	Ch 7: Social cognition, social perception and attribution (p.201-228)	Questions (A-M)
03/04 (W)		
03/09 (M)	Ch 8: Attitudes and behavior (p.229-254)	Questions (N-Z)
03/11 (W)		
03/16 (M)	<i>Instructional pause</i>	
03/18 (W)	<i>Instructional pause</i>	Paper 1 due
03/23 (M)	Ch 9: Values (p.257-278)	Questions (A-M)
03/25 (W)		
03/30 (M)	Ch 10: Social selves and social identities (p. 279-308)	Questions (N-Z)
04/01 (W)		
04/06 (M)	Ch 11: The social psychology of relationships (p.309-342)	Questions (A-M)
04/07 (T)	<i>Class follows Wed schedule</i>	
04/13 (M)	<i>Spring break</i>	
04/15 (W)	<i>Spring break</i>	
04/20 (M)	Ch 4: Quantitative research in social psychology (p.93-118)	Questions (N-Z)
04/22 (W)		
04/27 (M)	Ch 5: Qualitative research in social psychology (p.119-141)	Questions (A-M)
04/29 (W)	Ch 5: Qualitative research in social psychology (p.141-165)	Questions (N-Z)
05/04 (M)	Ch 12: The social psychology of groups (p.345-476)	Questions (A-M)
05/06 (W)		
05/11 (M)	Ch13: The social psychology of prejudice (p. 377-402)	Questions (N-Z)
05/13 (W)		Last day for Paper 1 resubmit
05/18 (M)	Final exam week	Paper 2