

Psychology B10, Fall 1995
Dr. John Bassili (Room S-550)
Office Hours Tuesday and Thursday 2-3 pm
Teaching Assistants: Angelika Mellema

Required Text: Social Psychology by David G. Myers (4th edition)

MARKING SCHEME: There will be two exams. The first counting for 40% and the second for 60% of the total grade. The exams will consist of multiple choice (MC) and short answer (SA) questions: 30 MC and 2 SA in the first exam and 45 MC and 3 SA in the final. The exams cover as representatively as possible the contents of lectures and of assigned readings in the textbook (You should not assume that the material covered in lectures is more important than that covered in the textbook -- the textbook actually contains much more information, a fact that will be reflected in exams). The exams are not cumulative. The names of specific researchers are not of critical importance since questions will provide sufficient information for the identification of research.

General Advice: Social psychology is deceptively simple. Because the phenomena covered in this course often seem familiar, it is all too easy to assume that intuition is a good guide to the material. This feeling has lulled many students into a false sense of security as they entered exams in this course. The "Just use your common sense" prescription doesn't work very well when it comes to knowing the contents of a complex scientific enterprise. Bear in mind that the course is not only about understanding human social behaviour, but also about learning how the science of social psychology yields such understanding. You would be asking your common sense too much if you expect it to tell you not only if people who are in love are happier, but also how this has been demonstrated scientifically.

Also beware of the false sense of security that comes from your understanding of the material covered in lectures. By necessity the scope of this material is quite limited, especially when compared to coverage in the textbook. The phenomena of social psychology often have substantial dramatic impact, and this can cause you to forget your role of budding scientific critic. Don't let the first exam act as your reminder. Pay attention to all details of the course, and read the textbook very carefully.

Lecture DatesReadings

September 15	Chapter 1:	Introducing Social Psychology.
September 22	Chapter 7:	Conformity.
September 29	Chapter 4: Chapter 11:	Behaviour and Attitudes Prejudice: Disliking Others (Pages 374 to 399)
October 6	Chapter 6: Chapter 11:	Cultural Influence Prejudice: Disliking Others (Pages 399 to 415)
October 13	Chapter 8:	Persuasion.
October 20	<u>FIRST EXAM</u>	(H216 and S319, 2pm to 3pm)
October 27	Chapter 9:	Group Influence.
November 3	Chapter 12:	Aggression: Hurting Others.
November 10	Chapter 14:	Altruism: Helping Others.
November 17	Chapter 3: Chapter 2:	Explaining Behavior. Social Beliefs. (Pages 33 to 52)
November 24	Chapter 13: Chapter 2:	Attraction: Liking & Loving Others Social Beliefs. (Pages 52 to 71)
December 1	Chapter 15: Chapter 5:	Application: Conflict & Peace. Application: Social Thinking in the Clinic. (Pages 135-147)
December 8	Chapter 10: Chapter 5:	Application: Social Psychology in Court. Application: Social Thinking in the Clinic. (Pages 147 to 163)

FINAL EXAM WILL BE SCHEDULED DURING THE FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD.