

Psychology B10, Fall 1999
Room S309 Fridays 2 pm -5 pm
Dr. John Bassili (Room S-550)
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Teaching Assistant: Michael Dodd
Required Text: Social Psychology by Charles G. Lord

MARKING SCHEME: There will be two exams, a Midterm counting for 40% and a Final counting for 60% of the total grade. The exams will consist of multiple choice (MC) and short answer (SA) questions: 30 MC and 2 SA on the Midterm, and 45 MC and 3 SA on 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 more information than lectures, 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. You must, however, familiarize yourself with the names of important theorists (e.g., Asch, Festinger, Milgram, etc.)

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.

<u>Lecture Dates</u>	<u>Readings and Lectures</u>
September 17	Chapter 1 : Introduction to Social Psychology Lecture 1 : Introduction
September 24	Chapter 14: Interpersonal Power Lecture 2 : Conformity and Obedience Video : Obedience (Milgram's research)
October 1	Chapter 8 : Stereotyping, Prejudice and Discrimination Lecture 3 : Prejudice Video : Prejudice: Causes and Consequences
October 8	Chapter 6 : Attitudes Lecture 4 : Reducing Prejudice Video : Eye of the Storm
October 15	Chapter 7 : Attitude Change Lecture 5 : Attitudes and Persuasion Video : Videotaped lecture
October 22	FIRST EXAM (40%) Chapter 13: Aggression Lecture 7 : Aggression

- October 29 Chapter 15: Groups
 Lecture 6 : Crowd Behaviour and Group Think
 Video : Group Dynamics: Group Think
- November 5 Chapter 12: Helping
 Lecture 8 : Helping, Cooperating, Competing
 Video : 1. Bystander Apathy
 2. Social Animal
- November 12 Chapter 2 : Social Cognition
 Lecture 9 : Nonverbal Behavior & Communication
 Video : Communication: Nonverbal Agenda
- November 19 Chapter 3 : Person Perception
 Lecture 10: Person Perception
 Video : Pitchman
- November 26 Chapter 9 : Interpersonal Attraction
 Lecture 11: Social Comparison
- December 3 Chapter 10: Close Relationships
 Lecture 12: Sexuality

Three interesting chapters in the book are not assigned in this list (Chapters 4, 5 and 11). Though we will cover topics from these chapters in lecture, you will not be tested on the contents of the chapters. Read them for your edification!

FINAL EXAM WILL BE SCHEDULED DURING THE FINAL EXAMINATION PERIOD

Psychology Handbook: <http://www.scar.utoronto.ca/acad/life-sciences/psych-handbook>