

Syllabus

The Psychology of Prejudice (PSYC12H3)
Dr. Michael Inzlicht
Fall 2011

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Course Description

Martin Luther King jr. dreamed of a day when people of all colours and creeds would be judged as equals. Although we are closer to his dream, we have still not fulfilled it. This seminar will examine why that it by investigating the roots and effects of stereotypes and prejudice. Social categories, for example, are normal and helpful devices that allow perceivers to make quick inferences about group members; however, they also distort our judgment of individual people and lead us to overgeneralize. The course will examine discrimination from two distinct points of view: (1) From the people who hold prejudiced beliefs; and (2) From the people who are targets of prejudice. We begin the course by discussing how stereotypes form, why they persist, and why they often operate automatically. We then examine the impact of stereotypes on their targets, including how and when discrimination is perceived, how it affects performance and attributions of blame, and how people cope with it.

Required Text

- Nelson, T. D. (2006). The psychology of prejudice. Second Edition. Boston, MA: Pearson. Available at bookstore.
- Course Reader. The reader will contain five articles and chapters. Available online through Blackboard (under Course Documents)

Evaluation:	Date	Content	Weight
Midterm	TBD	All material through Oct 13	40%
Final (non-cumulative)	TBD	All material Oct 27 to Nov 24	60%

Blackboard

I will use Blackboard to communicate with you (i.e. to make announcements) and so that you can each communicate with one another. Anything I hand-out in class will also be posted on the Blackboard; so the syllabus, class notes, class schedule, and reading list are all there. Blackboard is also the place you go to log-on to and participate in the discussion board. I recommend getting quickly acquainted with Blackboard and checking it on a regular basis throughout the semester for announcements and messages. Also, please make sure to update your Blackboard account so that your correct email address is noted. You do not need to apply for Blackboard access. If you are registered, you will automatically see this class when you log-on to the intranet. To access Blackboard, log onto <http://www.utoronto.ca/>, scroll to the bottom of the screen and click on the "Portal Login," on this next page, again, click on to the "Portal Login," and here enter your UTORid and password, and voila you have access!

Discussion Forum

To help foster communication between each of you, I've created a discussion forum on the intranet. The forum should also be the first place you go when you have questions about course material. Please feel free to use this space as our virtual classroom. So, post clarification questions! These posts are valuable because they may echo many people's concerns. Remember, however, to respond to questions as well as this will enhance the classroom experience and create a self-sustaining internet community.

Some important points to consider when posting:

- Discussions of prejudice can generate strong feelings and I ask that you to always be respectful of others even when you disagree with them. This holds both for those who may express views that may appear prejudicial, and to those who react to them.
- Excellent posts go beyond the information in the book or readings by relating what is learned in this class to other classes, to authoritative sources found in other books or the internet.
- Many folks will post clarification questions. Although these posts are valuable because they may echo many people's concerns, having someone from the class respond to the question is even more valuable and creates a self-sustaining internet community.

Lectures

The lecture slides will be posted on the web site along with each class. The amount of overlap between lectures and required readings will vary across topics, so you should read and watch the lectures.

Weboption

The Weboption offers flexibility and control in the learning process. Lectures were given in the Winter of 2011 and were videotaped for the WebOption Lectures have been digitized and uploaded to the Web where you can access them by streaming video. PowerPoint slides shown in class are presented side-by-side with the video of the lecture. You can access the lectures at <https://lecturecast.uts.utoronto.ca/login.php>

Important Note: Because lectures were recorded in Winter 2011, **all dates mentioned in class are not valid.** These were dates for the Winter 2011 semester. If you have any questions about dates, consult this syllabus or Blackboard, which will be regularly updated.

Bonus paper

In the live section of the class, we used i-clicker remote polling technology to have students interact with me, live, in class. As an incentive for students in the live section, I gave students an extra 2% if they bought and used their i-clickers in class. However, since all of you will be taking this class as a weboption, you will not be able to use i-clickers from home. Instead, if you want to get the 2 bonus points, I am giving you the option of writing a short (2-4 pages) paper on a topic that I will assign within the first few weeks of class. I will clarify this later in the semester. The paper is due on the date of the last class, Thursday November 24th at 5pm.

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site

Course Readings

The number of readings will vary per week and will sometimes include assigned chapters in the text plus additional articles that you can find on Blackboard under "Course Documents." Other weeks will focus solely on additional articles from the course reader.

Exams

Both midterm and final will consist of multiple-choice questions (50% lectures, 50% readings). The mid-term is worth 40% of your grade and the final, 60%. PLEASE NOTE there will not be a deferred mid-term exam. If you provide valid medical documentation on a UTSC Student Medical certificate that documents your absence from the mid-term, your final exam will be re-weighted and worth 100% instead of 60%.

The midterm will cover lectures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and Bodenhausen & Macrae (1996) and Greenwald, McGhee, & Schwartz (1998) from the course reader.

The final will be non-cumulative and will cover lectures 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and Brewer (1991), Steele (1997), and Glick & Fiske (2001) from the course reader.

Email Policy

My policy is to respond to emails within 2 *working* days of receipt. I am available to all my students and encourage you all to visit me during office hours (Mondays 1:00-2:00) even if it's to have a casual chat. However, given the size of the class and my already overflowing inbox, I am less encouraging of email. If you have questions or concerns, always check the course syllabus and Blackboard site first. If you don't find your answer there, consult the FAQ on Blackboard. You could also try posting a question in the discussion forum. If that doesn't work, contact your TA. If issues remain, come to my office hours.

FAQ

Please note there is a lengthy FAQ document on Blackboard. This contains a collection of common questions I am asked by students

Grading Summary

Midterm—40%

Final—60%

i-clicker **OR** bonus paper—extra 2%

Course Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Lecture 1: Sept 8	Introduction, Definitions, & Concepts	Ch 1
Lecture 2: Sept 15	Development & Maintenance of Stereotypes	Ch 2
Sept 22	NO CLASS	
Lecture 3: Sept 29	Cognitive, Affective, & Motivational Approaches	Ch 3; Bodenhausen & Macrae (1996)
Lecture 4: Ocr 6	Modern Prejudice	Ch 5; Greenwald, McGhee, Schwartz, 1998
Lecture 5: Oct 13	Prejudiced Personality; Review for Midterm;	Ch 4;
Date TBD	Midterm—no class	Lectures 1-5 (inclusive); Chapters 1-5 (inclusive); Readings: Bodenhausen, 1996; Greenwald, 1998
Lecture 6- Oct 27	Intergroup Relations	Brewer (1991)
Lecture 7: Nov 3	Experiencing Prejudice I: Stigma	Ch 6
Lecture 8: Nov 10	Experiencing Prejudice II: Stereotype Threat	Ch 6; Steele (1997)
Lecture 9: Nov 17	Ageism & Sexism	Ch 7 & 8; Glick & Fiske (2001)
Lecture 10: Nov 24	Reducing Prejudice; Review for Final	Ch 9 & 10; Last day to submit bonus paper