

Social Psychology (PSYB10) Syllabus

Fall 2017

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Professor

Dr. Yoel Inbar

Office Hours:

Mondays 3-4 PM, SW 569

TA

Steph Schwartz

Introduction

Social psychology is the study of social processes—how the presence of others affects the way we think, feel, and behave. This course will provide a high-level introduction to the field. Social psychologists use scientific methods to discover how social animals (humans and non-human) are affected by groups, collectives, and affiliative bonds. You will be presented with many research studies that have changed what we know about humans and other social animals. These studies will use self-report, behavioral, cognitive, psychophysiological, and neuroscientific methods. In this course, you will not only learn findings and theories, but also how to critically evaluate the methods and implications of these studies.

Textbook

Social Psychology (Fourth Edition). Thomas Gilovich, Dacher Keltner, Serena Chen, Richard E. Nisbett. W. W. Norton & Co. 2015, ISBN 978-0-393-93896-8.

The book is written using everyday language and is intended to be accessible to beginning students of psychology. Nonetheless, each chapter contains a lot of information. In order to help you study, each chapter section has a brief summary (marked “Looking Back”) at the end. New and important terms are also noted and defined in the margin where they first occur. I encourage you to pay special attention to these study aids as you read. You will be responsible for knowing all the content of assigned chapters (not just the content I go over in lectures).

Note: the Fourth Edition is new. You may be able to get away with a used copy of the 3rd Edition, but this is AT YOUR OWN RISK—content that is only in the 4th edition may be on the exams!

Marking

Your mark will be based on two exams:

1. A midterm exam (worth 50% of your mark). The midterm will cover lectures 1-5 (that is, up to and including the “Emotion and Morality” lecture) and all associated readings. The exam will be 80% multiple choice and 20% matching.
2. A cumulative final exam (worth 50% of your mark). Though it is cumulative, it will emphasize material from lectures 6-10 (and associated readings). You can expect approximately 25% of the questions to come from lectures 1-5 (including readings) and 75% to come from lectures 6-10 (including readings). The exam will be 80% multiple choice and 20% matching.

You will also be able to earn a bonus 2% based on in-class participation. I will ask you to participate during lectures using an iClicker. There will be participation

opportunities in every lecture. If you participate during any 7 lectures, you will receive a bonus 2% on your mark (so, if your mark was originally 80%, it would be 82% with the bonus).

Note: participation credit is intended to reflect participation during the ENTIRE lecture. Therefore, in order to get participation credit for a lecture, you must “click in” for at least 75% of the questions for that lecture. If you just participate for the first question and then leave, you will NOT get participation credit for the lecture.

If you CANNOT make it to lecture on a regular basis, you may arrange to do a short (2-3 page) written assignment and peer assessment for the 2% bonus, instead of in-class participation. This assignment will use UTSC’s PeerScholar system. To receive credit, you will need to turn in an assignment AND evaluate four of your classmates’ assignments. The assignment topic and evaluation rubric will be announced on Blackboard.

NOTE: If you are in the L60 (online-only) section, you will automatically be opted into the PeerScholar assignment (so, no need to email). Again, this assignment is entirely optional.

Exam Scheduling and Review

The exams will be scheduled by the UTSC Registrar. The midterm exam will most likely be scheduled for October. The final exam will be held sometime between December 7-20.

We will provide a number of study aids to make sure your exam performance reflects your true knowledge and ability:

Example questions. Example exam questions will be posted in the “Course Documents” section of the Blackboard site prior to each exam. These materials are provided to help you study, but you can certainly begin studying before the example questions are posted (as you do for all your other classes that don’t provide review sheets), and you are advised to do so.

Exam Review Sessions. I will hold an optional review session about a week before the midterm exam. The date, time, and location will be announced to the class on Blackboard. The format of the review session will be question- and-answer about course material, such that you must come with questions about the material in order to get something out of the Q&A review. Nonetheless, it may be worth it to you to drop by simply to hear answers to *other* people’s questions. If there are no questions, then there will be no review. These Q&A review session is purely optional; attendance will not factor into your grade. As a consequence, although we will try to choose a convenient time period for the review session, we cannot reschedule the session once the date has been set.

Additionally, I will be holding a final exam review session during the last lecture (November 29). There will be iClicker participation opportunities during this review session.

Blackboard

The course Blackboard website will be your one-stop resource for all course documents, lectures, announcements, and supplementary information. Lecture notes (PDF copies of the slides) will be available on the Blackboard site the evening before each lecture. You are highly advised to regularly check the “Announcements” and “FAQ” sections of the Blackboard site because you are solely responsible for staying on top of all course announcements made through Blackboard.

Office Hours

Office hours are a great way to get answers to specific questions you may have. I will hold office hours each week except for the Fall Reading Week, beginning the week of September 11. (I may have to cancel certain office hours due to travel, but if this is the case there will be an announcement posted on Blackboard.) The location and time of office hours will be announced on Blackboard.

If you arrive early to scheduled office hours, then please wait outside until office hours begin. During office hours, please come inside the office, even if other students are already in there (i.e., please do not form a line or wait outside the office during office hours). If you wait, then you may not have a chance to ask your question. If you come inside, then you will have the additional benefit of hearing answers to other students' questions.

Lectures (Wednesdays 2-5, AC 223)

The course consists of 11 lectures. When you attend lecture you will be expected to be quiet (so that others can hear) and to be prepared to participate in discussion, both using the iClicker and orally. I will ask questions for discussion during the lecture and expect you to think about the lecture and reading. For this reason, I recommend that you do the reading corresponding to the lecture before attending (readings are listed in the lecture schedule). Please note that the lectures and readings will not necessarily have a 1-to-1 relationship (that is, the lecture will not simply go over the readings). Rather, the two will complement each other. Below, you will find a table outlining the lecture topics for each date, and the readings related to that lecture. I recommend reading these chapters before attending that lecture.

The evening before each lecture, I will post the slides to Blackboard as PDF files.

For your convenience, lecture videos will be available online (WebOption) within 48 hours of the original lecture. To view the WebOption Lectures, click on the “Lecturecasts” menu item from the PSYB10 course menu once you have logged into Blackboard. If you have *any* trouble with accessing or viewing the WebOption lectures, please email the WebOption office for technical help at: webopt@utsc.utoronto.ca. All lectures will remain available until the final exam.

IMPORTANT: There will be no lecture on November 8.

Lecture #	Date	Topic	Reading
1	Sept. 6	General introduction; methods & paradigms	Chapter 1, 2
2	Sept. 13	Understanding the self and others	Chapter 3, 5
3	Sept. 20	Heuristics and biases in judgment	Chapter 4
4	Sept. 27	Attitudes and behavior; automaticity	Chapter 7
5	Oct. 4	Emotion and morality	Chapter 6
	Oct. 11	No lecture (Fall break)	
6	Oct. 18	Persuasion and social influence	Chapter 8, 9
7	Oct. 25	Attraction and relationships	Chapter 10
8	Nov. 1	Group behavior; stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination	Chapter 11, 12
	Nov. 8	No lecture	
9	Nov. 15	Aggression, altruism, and cooperation	Chapter 13, 14
10	Nov. 22	Applied social psychology	
11	Nov. 29	Final exam review	

Other useful information about course policies and procedures

Missed Term Work due to Medical Illness or Other Emergency:

All students citing a documented reason for missed term work must bring their documentation to the Psychology Course Coordinator in SW427C **within three (3) business days** of the assignment due date. You must bring the following:

1. A completed [Request for Missed Term Work form](http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW) (<http://uoft.me/PSY-MTW>), and
2. Appropriate documentation to verify your illness or emergency, as described below.

Appropriate Documentation:

In the case of missed term work due to **illness**, only an **original copy** of the official [UTSC Verification of Illness Form](http://uoft.me/UTSC-Verification-Of-Illness-Form) will be accepted (<http://uoft.me/UTSC-Verification-Of-Illness-Form>). Forms are to be **completed in full**, clearly indicating the start date, anticipated end date, and severity of illness. The physician's registration number and business stamp are required.

In the case of **medical emergency**, an original copy of the record of visitation to a hospital emergency room should be provided.

In the case of a **death of a family member**, a copy of a death certificate should be provided.

In the case of a **disability-related** concern, an email communication should be sent directly to the Course Coordinator (psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca) from your Disability Consultant at AccessAbility Services, detailing the accommodations required. The Course Instructor should also be copied on this email.

For U of T **Varsity athletic commitments**, an email communication should be sent directly to the Course Coordinator (psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca) from a coach or varsity administrator, detailing the dates and nature of the commitment. The email should be sent **well in advance** of the missed work.

Documents covering the following situations are **NOT acceptable**: medical prescriptions, anything related to personal travel, weddings/personal/work commitments.

Procedure:

Submit your [request form](#) and [medical](#)/other documents in person **within 3 business days** of the missed test or assignment. Forms should be submitted to **SW427C between 9 AM - 4 PM**, Monday through Friday. If you are unable to meet this deadline for some reason, you must contact the Course Coordinator via email (psychology-undergraduate@utsc.utoronto.ca) within the three business day window. Exceptions to the documentation deadline will only be made under exceptional circumstances.

Within approximately one week, you will receive an email response from the Course Instructor / Course Coordinator detailing the accommodations to be made (if any). You are responsible for checking your official U of T email and Blackboard course announcements daily, as accommodations may be time-critical. The Course Instructor reserves the right to decide what accommodations (if any) will be made for the missed work.

Failure to adhere to any aspect of this policy may result in a denial of your request for accommodation.

Note that this policy applies only to missed term work (assignments and midterms). Missed final exams are handled by the Registrar's Office (<http://www.utoronto.ca/registrar/missing-examination>)

AccessAbility:

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services as soon as possible.

AccessAbility Services staff (located in Rm SW302, Science Wing) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations [416-287-7560](tel:416-287-7560) or email ability@utoronto.ca. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011995.pdf>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement;
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor;
- Making up sources or facts;
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams:

- Using or possessing unauthorized aids;
- Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test;
- Misrepresenting your identity; and
- When you knew or ought to have known you were doing it.

In academic work:

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades;
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes; and
- When you knew or ought to have known you were doing so.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If students have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, they are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from their instructors or from other institutional resources.

Note:

You may see advertisements for services offering grammar help, essay editing and proof-reading. Be very careful. If these services take a draft of your work and significantly change the content and/or language, you may be committing an academic offence (unauthorized assistance) under the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*.

It is much better and safer to take your draft to the Writing Centre as early as you can. They will give you guidance you can trust. Students for whom English is not their first language should go to the English Language Development Centre.

If you decide to use these services in spite of this caution, you must keep a draft of your work and any notes you made before you got help and be prepared to give it to your instructor on request.

TurnItIn

Normally, students are 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.

Accessibility

Everyone with a love of learning is welcome in this class, and I strive to provide an equal playing field for students with diverse learning styles and needs. Please contact the AccessAbility office (SW302, ability@utsc.utoronto.ca) as soon as possible if you need an accommodation.

Academic Integrity

This classroom is built on mutual respect, and I know that you take great pride in your academic integrity. In the rare cases of substantial evidence that the University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (Section B) has been compromised, I will enact the procedures outlined in Section C of the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. First, I will email you an invitation to discuss the possible offence. If our discussion leads me to believe that you have not compromised the code, then the matter will be dropped. If either you fail to respond to two requests for this discussion or new evidence comes to light, then a formal investigation will be initiated. Under absolutely no circumstances will I change a mark without merit. Only the Registrar can approve accommodations for special circumstances, so I will not respond to any requests for mark changes.

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