

379 (AU) / SO2410 (A3) Social Psychology
Mondays & Wednesdays 10:00-11:20
Winter 2002

Instructor: Dr. Connie Korpan
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Textbook: Meyers, D.G., & Spencer, S.J. (2000). Social Psychology: Canadian Edition. McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

Prerequisites: SO1000 or equivalent, or PY1040/PY1050, or ED2000

Course Objectives

This course will introduce you to the scientific field of Social Psychology, which is the study of the way individual and group behavior are affected by others.

Student Evaluation

4 Quizzes—5% each
 Midterm Exam—25%
 Final Exam—30%
 Class Participation—10%
 Paper—10%
 Bonus Media Assignment—5%

Quizzes, Midterm, & Final Exams. There will be four quizzes, worth a total of 20%, a midterm exam worth 30%, and a cumulative final exam worth 35%. For all quizzes and exams, you will be responsible for both classroom and textbook material.

The quizzes will consist 15 multiple choice questions per chapter. They will be held during the first 20-30 minutes of class on the dates outlined on the lecture schedule.

The midterm exam will consist of multiple choice questions (15 multiple choice questions for each of the chapters) and short-answer questions (1 short-answer question each of the chapters).

The final exam will also consist of multiple choice questions (5 multiple choice questions for each of the chapters covered on the midterm plus 15 multiple choice questions for each chapter covered after the midterm). There will also be one short-answer question for each chapter covered after the midterm.

Paper. For the paper, you will pick a research article in the area of Social Psychology. Choose any topic that is of interest to you. The article you pick must concern empirical research (that is, the authors collected and analyzed data collected from people). Theoretical papers and review articles are not appropriate for this assignment. I highly recommend that you clear the article with me before you write your paper. In your paper, you will briefly describe the topic of the article, evaluate the quality of the research in terms of criteria that I will provide, specify whether you think the conclusion drawn by the author(s) is valid, and specify why you do or do not think that the conclusion is valid. The paper is not to exceed 10 type-written, double-spaced pages. The paper must conform to APA style. I will provide the relevant APA information. The paper will be graded according to criteria outlined on the last page of the course outline (see Research Paper Grading Criteria). Your paper is due on **March 27th**. Late assignments are subject to a penalty of 1 stanine grade per day.

Class Participation. Class participation credit will be given for participation in class discussion, either by raising relevant questions, addressing questions raised in class (i.e., offering one's opinion or experiences related to the topics brought up in class), and/or by doing optional assignments that will be given throughout the term. Attendance will also be considered when grading class participation.

Bonus Media Assignment. The media assignment will involve locating two reports of psychological research reported in the media (TV, news papers, magazines, internet) and providing an evaluation of the research in terms of the methods used and conclusions drawn. Each assignment is worth 2.5%. I will provide sample news reports and evaluations.

Grading

Grade	Percentage	Comment
9		90 - 100%
8		80 - 89% Excellent
7		72 - 79%
6		65 - 71% Good
5		57 - 64%
4		50 - 56% Pass
3		45 - 49% Fail
2		26 - 44% Fail
1		0 - 25% Fail

Lecture Schedule

Dates	Topic	Material
	Introducing Social Psychology	Chapter 1
	Social Beliefs and Judgments	Chapter 3
	Behavior and Attitudes	Chapter 4
Jan 28	Quiz (Chapters 1, 3, 4)	
	Conformity	Chapter 6
	Persuasion	Chapter 7
Feb 13	Quiz (Chapters 6, 7)	
Feb 20	Midterm (Chapters 1, 3, 4, 6, 7)	
	Group Influence	Chapter 8
	Prejudice	Chapter 9
	Aggression	Chapter 10
March 27	Quiz (Chapters 8, 9, 10)	
	Attraction and Intimacy	Chapter 11
	Altruism	Chapter 12
	Quiz (Chapters 11, 12)	

Student Responsibilities

Independent learning is a valuable skill that instructors at Grande Prairie Regional College wish to foster in their students. For this reason, you are held accountable for all lecture materials and readings. It is your responsibility to keep up with class work. For example, you are expected to attend all lectures. When absent from class, missed material is to be obtained by approaching a fellow student (not the instructor). Also, you are expected to prepare for each lecture by reading the assigned chapters and handouts. Students who prepare for lectures learn and perform much better than students who do not prepare.

Although the instructor feels that all the material in the text book is important and interesting, limited class time prevents discussion of all the material. You are responsible for learning the material not discussed in class. Please feel free to approach me outside of class if you wish to get clarification on this material.

If you miss any of the exams due to illness, a physician's note must be provided. If a physician's note is provided, the weight of that exam will be transferred to the final exam. If a note is not provided, a grade of 0% will be assigned to that exam. You are expected to inform me that you will miss the exam before the exam (if possible). Voice mail is available 24 hours a day. If the final exam is missed due to illness, you will also be required to submit an application to the Registrar's office for permission to write a deferred exam (Please see the College Calendar, p 33). You may defer the final exam for up to 20 days of the end of the examination period.

If you wish to withdraw from this course, you must do so by **March 8, 2002**. Withdraw from the course after March 8th may result in an failing grade because a mark of 0% will be assigned to the incomplete portion of the course work.

Other Important Dates

Jan 7	Last day to add winter courses
Jan 11	Last day to drop courses without paying tuition for the dropped courses
Jan 18	Last day to write deferred final exams or repeat final exams for fall courses
Feb 18	Family Day--no classes
Feb 25-Mar 1	Winter Break--no classes
Mar 8	Last day to withdraw or change from credit to audit
Mar 29	Good Friday--no classes
April 12	Last day of classes