

**Social Processes Lab – Psychology 3144-001**  
**Spring 2008**  
**Monday: 1:00 to 3:50**  
**LS 420**

**Course Prerequisites:** PSYC 2442 and PSYC 3315 or concurrent registration

**Instructor:** Theresa Moehrle

**Office:** LS 519

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, or by appointment.

**Email:** moehrle@uta.edu

**E-mail communication protocol:** E-mail communications regarding class-related issues are encouraged with the following exceptions: 1) If a class is missed, do not send a message inquiring about what was missed, 2) Do not send messages describing absence excuses.

**Text:** *APA Publication Manual*, (5<sup>th</sup> Edition).

**Course Description:** This course is designed to expose students to methods of social psychological research and to provide students with information and skills relevant to critical evaluation of the methodologies of social psychology. In addition, this course will give students further experience using APA format. Through a combination of lectures, discussions, activities, reading assignments, and projects, information regarding social psychological research and procedures will be introduced and reviewed. You will also be urged to explore areas of social psychological inquiry that are of particular interest to you in research projects and presentations. Your participation during class will likely facilitate learning of the material and make the class more stimulating for yourself and others.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** 1) Students will be able to identify different types of research methods used within social psychology and assess strengths and weaknesses of these methods, 2) students will also be able to address research questions by designing and implementing research methods. 3) Students will be able to report their research finding in the form of a scientific research paper.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance in class is vital to your academic success. There is no substitute for attending class. No make-up quizzes will be given as they are due via WebCT. Excessive absences will likely result in a poor grade and negative assessments from your project partners.

**Drop Policy:** UTA policies regarding dropped classes will be followed.

**Tentative Schedule of Course Content and Important dates. Subject to change with in-class notice.**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Topic or Important Date</b>
1- 14	How to Read a Research Article
1-21	Holiday
1-28	Review of Experimental Methods. Social Cognition- Theresa Moehrle  Class Presentation- Example by Theresa
2-4	Aggression- John  Class Presentation
2-11	Prejudice and Inter-group Relations- Lisa and Nitchy  Class Presentation
2-18	Group and Group Dynamics- Aaron and Rachael  Class Presentation
2-26	Attitudes and Consistency- Sally and Danielle  Class Presentation
3-3	The Self- Veronica and Brittany  Class Presentation
3-11	Designing a study  Brainstorming Activity
3-17	Spring Break
3-24	Basics of APA  Data collection
3-31	Work on Project
4-7	Work on Project
4-14	Finish Projects
4-22	Creating Poster Presentations
4-28	Poster Presentation

**Short Quizzes:** There will five random pop quizzes through the semester (10 points per quiz). Each quiz will be posted on Web-CT and remain up for one week. Pop quizzes will be announced at the beginning of class and are due by the beginning of the next class. No Late Quizzes Will Be accepted.

**In-Class Assignments:** There will be five in-class assignments give through the semester (5 points each). Assignments will be due by the end of class. It is vital that you attend class in order to be able to complete these assignments.

**Group Research Project:** A considerable portion of your grade this lab section will consist of conducting social psychological research and reporting the research you conducted in APA format. In a group 2 to 3 people, you will design, conduct and analyze a research project. Individual Papers will be due from each member on April 22. However, methods and results sections can be written as a group. From these projects Poster Presentations will be designed and graded. All members of the group will be required to attend a Poster Presentation and present their findings. (Date to follow) A large amount of class time will be devoted to this project, and it is vital to your success in this class that you are present when details regarding this project are discussed.

**Grading:**

A = 90%–100%

B = 80%-89.9%

C = 70%-79.9%

D = 60%-69.9%

F = 0%-59.9%

**Point Value of Assignments and Quizzes**

Assignments and Quizzes	Points Earned	Possible points
Quizzes		50
Class Presentation		25
In-class Assignments		25
Paper		100
Poster Presentation		50
<b>Total</b>		<b>250</b>

To calculate your grade at any point take your total points earned, divide by the possible points *up to that point*, and multiply by 100.

**Grade Grievance Policy:** If you have sufficient reason to believe you have not been given proper credit for any quiz responses or other work, please submit a written statement to your instructor outlining your reasoning. Your instructor will make a decision regarding the legitimacy of your claim.

**Cell phones and other noisemaking devices:** Please turn off or set to vibrate any cell phones or other devices that are potentially disturbing to others.

**Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA):** If you are a student who requires accommodations in compliance with the ADA, please consult with me at the beginning of the semester. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide “reasonable accommodation” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Your responsibility is to inform me of documentation authorizing the specific accommodation. Student services at UTA include the Office for Students with Disabilities (located in the lower level of the University Center) which is responsible for verifying and implementing accommodations to ensure equal opportunity in all programs and activities.

**Student Support Services:** The University supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. They include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817.272.6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form at The University of Texas at Arlington. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22). See the undergraduate catalog for information on policies regarding academic dishonesty.

**Drop for Non-payment of Tuition:** If you are dropped from this class for non-payment of tuition you may secure an Enrollment Loan through the Bursar’s Office. You may not continue to attend class until you Enrollment Loan has been applied to outstanding tuition fees.

**Bomb Threats:** If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA will attempt to trace the phone call and prosecute all responsible parties. Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentations/tests caused by the bomb threat. Unannounced alternate sites will be available for these classes. Your instructor will make you aware of alternate class sites in the event that your classroom is not available.

**Library Information:** Helen Hough is the Psychology Librarian. She can be reached at 817.272.7429, and by email at [hough@uta.edu](mailto:hough@uta.edu).