

Instructor: Dr. Jared Kenworthy (kenworthy@uta.edu)
Office & Hours: 525 LS, TUE 11:00 am – 12:00 pm; 3.30 pm – 4.00 pm, or by appointment
Telephone: 817-272-0746 (email is preferred; voicemail not answered)
Course location, time: LS 122, Tuesday and Thursday 12.30 – 1.50 pm

Course description: 3315. Social Psychology (3-0) 3 hours credit. General survey of topics in social psychology. The theories and research dealing with individual behavior in the social environment. Social influence processes, interpersonal attraction, group behavior, aggression, conformity, and attitude formation and change. PSYC 3144 is an optional laboratory which, when added to PSYC 3315, satisfies a portion of the laboratory requirement.

Text: Baumeister & Bushman, *Social Psychology & Human Nature*, Thomson.

Examinations and Grading:

EXAMS: There will be four multiple-choice + short answer examinations. Two of these will be shorter exams, and two will be longer exams. Exam content will be a mix of lecture material and text material. You are required to take all 4 exams. If you miss an exam, a grade of zero will be given for that exam. The total of the 4 exams will constitute 90% of the course grade.

Exam scores will be posted to webct (<http://webct.uta.edu/>). It is your responsibility to compute a percentage for each score and convert it to a letter grade (see below) as the course progresses.

PAPER: You will write a summary/reaction paper, based on your experience of ONE of the following four options:

(1) Visit the **Dallas Holocaust Museum**. Describe your reactions to your visit. Identify and discuss 5 social psychological principles contributing to this mass violence. Ticket stub required with paper. (<http://www.dallasholocaustmemorialcenter.org/>)

(2) Read chapters 4 & 5 (pp. 217-325) from: Litwack, L. F. (1998). *Trouble in mind: Black Southerners in the age of Jim Crow*. New York: Knopf. This book will be on print reserve at the central library. Summarize your chapters, and describe your reactions to the readings. Identify and discuss 5 social psychological principles contributing to this mass violence.

(3) Read Part 1 (Somalia), Part 2 (Sudan), OR Part 3 (Rwanda) from: Peterson, S. (2001). *Me against my brother: At war in Somalia, Sudan and Rwanda*. New York: Routledge. This book will be on print reserve at the central library, but is also available electronically via netLibrary. Summarize your chapters, and describe your reactions to the readings. Identify and discuss 5 social psychological principles contributing to this mass violence.

(4) *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*. A memoir by Art Spiegelman. This book will be on print reserve at the central library. Identify and discuss 5 social psychological principles at play in the narrative.

The paper will be evaluated on a PASS, POOR, or FAIL basis, and is worth 10% of the course grade. PASS will receive 10%; POOR will receive 5%, and FAIL will receive 0%. You must display evidence that you have visited (i.e., turn in museum ticket stub) or read the assigned works (e.g., quotes with page

numbers). The 5 social psychological principles identified must come from the text or the lectures, and must be used correctly.

The paper must be turned in physically – no electronic copies will be accepted. Turn in your paper personally, either during my office hours, or in class on or before the 29th of April. **The paper is due no later than 4:00 pm on Tuesday, the 29th of April, 2008.** Papers received after this deadline – under any and all circumstances – will receive a FAIL score. In other words, turn it in on time, or do not turn it in at all. No revisions will be allowed for POOR or FAIL papers. No make-up papers will be allowed.

THE FINAL COURSE GRADE will be determined by dividing the total number of earned points by the total number of possible points from all exams and the paper. Grades will be determined as follows:

A:>88%, B: 87.9 – 78%, C: 77.9 – 68%, D: 67.9 – 58%, and F:<57.9%.

If you are doing poorly in this course, do not wait until after the final exam to see me about doing better. It is your responsibility to verify with me that the percentages that you think you've earned are accurate. If you are near the border of a grade boundary (e.g., between a B and an A), this is especially important. I will not make grade changes based on your failure to verify percentages before the final grades are issued.

Note: **Make-up exams will only be given to those with University-approved excuses (see Catalog) or at the discretion of the instructor. Written documentation of a death in the family, personal illness, or accident will be required. Due to the large size of this class, individual make-up exam times will not be arranged. Rather, the class time on the final lecture day (May 1st) will be used to schedule all make-up exams. Make-up exams are typically all written, rather than multiple-choice, but the format is up to the professor.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to describe and discuss the major cognitive and motivational underpinnings of human social behavior. Students will be able to recognize (and, when appropriate, resist) social influence techniques; in addition, they will demonstrate comprehension of social influence tactics by identifying novel instances. Students will identify and explain theories of group behavior, group interaction, intergroup conflict, human aggression, helping behavior, and interpersonal relationships. Students will describe key terms and concepts from experimental methods used in social psychological research.

Scholastic Dishonesty: It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. 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.

“Scholastic 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)

Americans With Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference to Public Law 93112 – The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled

Americans with Disabilities Act – (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I will happily provide, as required by law, “reasonable accommodation” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty at the beginning of the semester, and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels.

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 your Enrollment Loan has been applied to outstanding tuition fees.

Please see departmental and university policies regarding other add/drop procedures.

Student Success Programs: The University of Texas at Arlington 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, admissions 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.

Bomb Threat Policy: If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA has the technology to trace such phone calls. Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentations/tests caused by bomb threats to the Business Building. Unannounced alternate sites will be available for these classes. If a student who has a class with a scheduled test or presentation arrives and the building has been closed due to a bomb threat, the student should immediately check for the alternate class site notice which will be posted on/near the main doors of the building. If the bomb threat is received while class is in session, your instructor will ask you to leave the building and reconvene at another location.

Social Psychology

Goals: The general course goal is to understand the scientific study of human behavior across social contexts, including intrapersonal, interpersonal, intragroup, and intergroup. The focus will be on experimental methods as the vehicle to drawing valid conclusions about social behavior.

Lecture Schedule:

date	session	topics	read ahead
15 jan	1	Course overview + syllabus	
17 jan	2	What is social psychology? + Research methods	Chapter 1
22 jan	3	Culture and Nature	Chapter 2
24 jan	4	The self	Chapter 3
29 jan	5	Self-esteem and self-presentation	Chapter 3
31 jan	6	Behavior control	Chapter 4
5 feb	7	Behavior control	Chapter 4
7 feb	8	Exam 1	Chapters 1-4
12 feb	9	Social cognition	Chapter 5
14 feb	10	Emotions	Chapter 6
19 feb	11	Emotions	Chapter 6
21 feb	12	Attitudes and consistency	Chapter 7
26 feb	13	Attitudes and consistency	Chapter 7
28 feb	14	Prosocial behavior	Chapter 8
4 mar	15	Prosocial behavior	Chapter 8
6 mar	16	Exam 2	Chapters 5-8
11 mar	17	Aggression	Chapter 9
13 mar	18	Aggression	Chapter 9
18 mar	19	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
20 mar	20	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
25 mar	21	Attraction and exclusion	Chapter 10
27 mar	22	Close relationships	Chapter 11
1 apr	23	Close relationships	Chapter 11
3 apr	24	Social categorization and stereotyping	lecture
8 apr	25	Prejudice and intergroup relations	Chapter 12
10 apr	26	Prejudice and intergroup relations	Chapter 12
15 apr	27	Exam 3	Chapters 9-12
17 apr	28	Social influence & persuasion	Chapter 13
22 apr	29	Social influence & persuasion	Chapter 13
24 apr	30	Groups and group dynamics	Chapter 14
29 apr	31	Groups and group dynamics Paper due: 4:00 pm	Chapter 14
1 may		Make-up exams only	NO CLASS Make-up exams only
08 MAY 2008	31	Exam 4 THURS 8 MAY 2008 – 11:00 am - 1.30 pm http://www3.uta.edu/registrar/FinalSpring2008.asp	Chapters 13 & 14

This schedule subject to change