

**Social Processes Lab – Psychology 3144-003**  
**Spring Semester 2009**  
**Wednesday 1:00-3:50 p.m.**  
**LS 420**

**Course Prerequisites:** PSYC 2444 and PSYC 3315 or concurrent registration

**Instructor:** Ronen Cuperman

**Office:** 409 Life Sciences

**Email:** rcuperman@uta.edu

**Office Hours:** Wednesday 4:00p.m. – 5:30p.m. or by appointment

### **Course Objectives**

This course is designed to expose students to laboratory studies and field research of social processes and behaviors and to provide students with information and skills relevant to critical evaluation of the social processes. Through a combination of lectures, class discussions, experiments, activities, and assignments, I will introduce or reinforce experimental social psychological research and procedures.

### **Attendance Policy**

Class attendance and participation are vital to grasping the course content. Students who miss class are required to find out what they missed and to acquire class notes, assignments, and missed material from another student before the next class period.

### **Class Participation**

Research has clearly demonstrated that students who are involved in the learning process are more likely to retain information and have greater success than those who are not involved. Students earn participation points based on the exhibition of critical thinking skills regarding assigned readings and topics discussed in class and the degree to which they respect other students' opinions and contributions, regardless of whether these beliefs are contrary to their own beliefs. Students will be evaluated on participation pertaining to the quality of their contribution to class, not simply the quantity of their participation.

Twenty points of your final grade will be based on your attendance and participation in class.

You are expected to be ON TIME for all class meetings. If you are late, you run the risk of missing important announcements, directions, and discussions. If you are more than 5 minutes late, you will not be counted in attendance, and FIVE points will be deducted from your attendance grade.

### **Assignments**

All assignments are expected to be turned in within the first 5 minutes of class. In the event that you must miss class, assignment(s) due should be turned in **prior** to the class meeting time; assignments will be accepted via e-mail if you are unable to attend the class meeting.

Assignments received after class will receive a grade of zero.

In addition, all work submitted will reflect individual effort and should not duplicate the work of anyone else. Copying another person's work, failing to acknowledge someone else's work, i.e.,

plagiarism, and duplicating any work done for other classes is not tolerated. If a student violates UTA policies regarding academic honesty (see the Section titled, “Academic Honesty” below), that student will receive a zero for the work, and I will pursue formal judicial recourse.

**In-class experiment**

All students will be required to design and run an experiment during the semester. A number of assignments will be given throughout the semester that will serve as a guide for conducting this experiment (i.e., introduction, method, results, discussion).

**Poster Presentation**

All students will be required to present the findings from the experiment they conducted at the end of the semester. Each poster will be judged and one winner will be chosen in EACH lab. Depending on how they are ranked, ALL winners will receive gift certificates. Showing up for the poster presentation itself will earn you 25 points that will contribute to your final grade.

**Grading**

Grades will be based on number of points earned. The final grade distribution will be based on a 300-point distribution and will be strictly enforced:

- A = 270 - 300 pts (90% or higher)
- B = 240 – 269 pts (80% - 89.9%)
- C = 210 – 239 pts (70% - 79.9%)
- D = 180 – 209 pts (60% - 69.9%)
- F = under 179 pts

**Point Allocation**

Attendance & Participation	20 points
Quiz #1	35 points
Quiz #2	35 points
Quiz #3	35 points
Media Presentation	50 points
Poster	100 points
Poster Presentation	25 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>300 points</b>

**Tentative Outline for Spring 2009**

<b>Class Period</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Week 1 1/21/09	Overview of Syllabus Experimental Issues and Methods
Week 2 1/28/09	Interpretation of Interactions (in preparation for poster) <b>Assignment: Experiment idea + hypotheses</b>
Week 3 2/4/09	NO CLASS!!!!

Week 4 2/11/09	The Self Self Monitoring <b>Experiment idea due</b>
Week 5 2/18/09	Prejudice/Stereotyping Intergroup Bias <b>Assignment: Method section</b>
Week 6 2/25/09	<b>Quiz #1</b>
Week 7 3/4/09	Norms, Conformity Milgram Video <b>Method section due</b>
Week 8 3/11/09	Bem Sex-Role Inventory Cross-sex behavior Gender Roles and Relationships <b>Assignment 1: Introduction</b> <b>Assignment 2: Method 2<sup>nd</sup> draft (if needed)</b>
Week 9 3/18/09	SPRING BREAK!!!! NO CLASS!!!!
Week 10 3/25/09	<b>Quiz #2</b> <b>Introduction due</b> <b>Assignment: Run Study</b>
Week 11 4/1/09	Attraction and Interpersonal Relationships <b>Data from study is due</b> <b>Assignment: Results section</b>
Week 12 4/8/09	Groups <b>Results section due</b>
Week 13 4/15/09	Stanford Prison Study <b>Assignment: Discussion section</b>
Week 14 4/22/09	<b>Quiz #3</b> Media presentations overview <b>Discussion section due</b>
Week 15 4/29/09	<b>Media Presentation</b> <b>Assignment: Make poster</b>
Week 16 5/6/09	<b>Media Presentation</b>
<b>Last Day of Classes 5/8/09</b>	<b>Poster Presentation</b>

### Important Dates

Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup> :	Census date
April. 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	Last day to drop with an automatic "W"
March. 16 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Break
May 8 <sup>th</sup> :	Last day of classes

**Policy on Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures.

Discipline may include a grade of “F” for the assignment, a grade of “F” for the class, suspension or expulsion from the University.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit 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 your Enrollment Loan has been applied to outstanding tuition fees.

**Students with Disabilities**

If you require an accommodation based on disability, you will need to meet with your instructor during the first week of the semester to be sure you are appropriately accommodated. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty at the beginning of the semester and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels.

**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.