



Course Outline

PSYC3121

Social Psychology

School of Psychology

Faculty of Science

T3, 2019

Last updated: 25/09/2019 8:24 AM

1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations	Contact Details
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2. Course information

Units of credit:	6
Pre-requisite(s):	PSYC1001, PSYC1011, PSYC2001, PSYC2061
Teaching times and locations:	PSYC3121 Timetable

2.1 Course summary

This course provides a review of the history, principles, methods, and ethics of social psychology at an advanced level. Substantive research areas such as the nature of attraction, stereotypes and prejudice, aggression, morality and prosocial behaviour, among others, will be covered.

2.2 Course aims

The aim of this course is to introduce new topics not covered in previous courses (PSYC1001, PSYC2061), and to develop skills to critically evaluate research in the field of social psychology. Emphasis will be placed on contemporary theories and approaches. You are assumed to have familiarity with social psychological principles, areas of research, and methodological approaches, as covered in PSYC1001 and PSYC2061.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

At the successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an advanced level of knowledge and understanding of the major objectives, theoretical perspectives, and research methods used in social psychology.
2. Describe, apply and evaluate an advanced knowledge of research methods used in social psychology, enabling you to design and conduct social psychological studies and literature searches.
3. Apply advanced critical thinking skills to problems related to social psychology enabling you to use reasoning and evidence to recognise, develop, defend and criticise arguments and persuasive appeals.
4. Demonstrate an advanced appreciation of values and ethics in social psychology.
5. Demonstrate effective communication, interpersonal and teamwork skills.
6. Understand and apply principles of social psychology to solve problems in everyday life and in society.

2.4 Relationship between course and program learning outcomes and assessments

Program Learning Outcomes							
CLO	1. Knowledge	2. Research Methods	3. Critical Thinking Skills	4. Values and Ethics	5. Communication, Interpersonal and Teamwork	6. Application	Assessment
1.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings, self-assessment quizzes, Discussion Forum						Participation, Group Presentation, Assignment, Final exam
2.		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings, self-assessment quizzes, Discussion Forum					Participation, Group Presentation, Assignment, Final exam
3.			Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings, self-assessment quizzes, Discussion Forum				Group Presentation, Assignment, Final exam
4.				Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings, self-assessment quizzes, Discussion Forum			Participation, Group Presentation, Assignment

5.					Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings, self-assessment quizzes, Discussion Forum		Group presentation, Assignment, Final exam
6.						Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings, self-assessment quizzes, Discussion Forum	Participation, Group Presentation, Assignment, Final exam

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

This course provides an advanced treatment of social psychology. It follows on, and assumes knowledge, from relevant topic coverage in PSYC1001 and PSYC2061. This course provides in depth coverage of current research as it relates to major theories in the field.

This course provides a blend of teaching strategies, including lecture formats, online activities, and face-to-face activities that take place during tutorials. The course also incorporates readings that provide a broader scene for the topics discussed during lectures, tutorials, and online lessons. The course aims to provide high pedagogical value across these strategies.

The Course Material Discussion Forum provides students with an opportunity to question and clarify the concepts and ideas mentioned in the lectures, tutorials, online activities, and readings. Students are strongly encouraged to engage with this forum by posting questions or comments, and reading, answering, or replying to other student's posts to enhance understanding of the content, critical thinking, and written communication skills.

Formative self-assessment quizzes are available for students. These quizzes provide an opportunity to evaluate understanding of course material on a biweekly basis. Timely completion of the biweekly quizzes will assist students in gaining a proper understanding of each topic so that this knowledge can be built on in future content. Completion of the self-assessment quizzes (i.e., not performance on them) contributes towards the participation assessment component of the course.

3.2 Expectations of students

It is expected that students are aware of UNSW Assessment policy and understand how to apply for special consideration if they are unable to complete an assignment/exam due to illness and/or misadventure.

It is expected that students have read through the School of Psychology Student Guide.

Tutorial attendance is compulsory to ensure students are consistently working towards achieving the foundational graduate competencies required by the APAC Accreditation Standards. These Accreditation Standards are incorporated in Program and Course Learning Outcomes. Attendance is monitored for tutorials. You should make sure your name has been marked on the class roll for each class you attend. Failure to meet these specified attendance requirements may result in course failure. Explanations for an occasional absence from a class or requests for permission to be absent from a class should be discussed with the lecturer/tutor, and where applicable, accompanied by a medical certificate.

It is expected that students will complete the online activities in a timely manner. Students are also expected to complete the readings associated with each week of the course.

The final exam for this course will take place on campus during the UNSW examinations period. Students should not arrange travel during the UNSW exam period until the date of the final exam has been released. Students who arrange travel prior to the release of the final exam date will not be granted consideration in the event they are scheduled to be out of country when the final exam is to occur. This is especially important for study abroad students – do not arrange travel home until the final exam date has been released.

Students registered with Disability Support Services must contact the course co-ordinator immediately if they intend to request any special arrangements for later in the course, or if any special arrangements need to be made regarding access to the course material. Letters of support must be emailed to the course coordinator as soon as they are made available.

4. Course schedule and structure

Each week this course typically consists of 2 hours of lecture material, 2 hours of face to face tutorials, and 1 hour of online activities. Students are expected to take an additional 6 hours each week of self-determined study to complete assessments, readings, and exam preparation.

Week	Lecture topic/s	Tutorial/lab topics	Online activities	Self-determined activities
Week 1 16/09/2019	Nonverbal Communication Williams Science of Positive Emotion Williams	No tutorial	<i>Online lecture:</i> Introduction <i>Online lesson:</i> Laughter	Chapter 3
Week 2 23/09/2019	Empathy & Morality Williams Loneliness Williams	Think Tank I – Intro & Topics	<i>Self Test Quiz 1</i>	Chapter 9
Week 3 30/09/2019	Hormones & Social Behaviour Denson 60 Years Of Aggression Research Pt I Denson	Think Tank II – Essentials of Social Psychology Research	<i>Online lesson:</i> Hormones	Chapter 10
Week 4 07/10/2019	60 Years Of Aggression Research Pt II Denson Anger Regulation Denson	No tutorial	<i>Self Test Quiz 2</i>	Chapter 10
Week 5 14/10/2019	Intergroup Aggression and Hatred Denson Human Sociability Forgas	Think Tank III – Operationalisation	<i>Online lecture & lesson:</i> Modern Biases	Chapters 4
Week 6 21/10/2019	Affect & Social Behaviour I Forgas Affect & Social Behaviour II Forgas	Think Tank IV – Group Presentations	<i>Self Test Quiz 3</i>	Chapters 6 & 7
Week 7 28/10/2019	Attraction & Close Relationships I Forgas Attraction & Close Relationships II Forgas	Think Tank V – Feedback	<i>Online lecture & lesson:</i> Cults	Chapter 8

Week 8 04/11/2019	<i>[no lecture on Tuesday 5 November]</i> Social Neuroscience Harmon-Jones	Horizons 1 – Writing and Communicating	<i>Self-Test Quiz 4</i>	Chapter 2
Week 9 11/11/2019	Cognitive Dissonance I Harmon-Jones Cognitive Dissonance II Harmon Jones	Horizons 2 – Open Science and Reproducibility		Chapter 5
Week 10 18/11/2019	Neuroscience of Prejudice Harmon-Jones Terror Management Theory Harmon-Jones	Horizons 3 – Methodological Innovation	<i>Self-Test Quiz 5</i>	Chapter 2
Study period 26/11/2019				
Exam period 29/11/2019				

5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks

All assessments in this course have been designed and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment task	Length	Weight	Mark	Due date
Assessment 1: Participation	N/A	15%	/15	Weeks 2-10
Assessment 2: Think tank group presentation	15 mins	10%	/10	Week 6 Tutorials
Assessment 3: Think tank write-up	1500 words	35%	/100	Week 9 Friday 15 Nov, 5:00pm
Assessment 4: Final exam	2 hours	40%	/100	Exam period

Assessment 1: This combined participation mark comprises attendance at face-to-face tutorials (8%, 1% each), completion of online tutorial activities (3%, 0.75% each), and completion of the self-test quizzes (4%, 0.80% each).

Assessment 2: This group presentation will be a culmination of group-based work (based on the Think Tank activities) in Week 2-5 tutorials. Additional information will be provided in an Assignment Sheet distributed in tutorials and posted to Moodle. Marks will incorporate peer evaluations from fellow group members.

Assessment 3: This written assessment will use your group's Think Tank research question, revised following feedback received in Week 7 as a starting point. You will propose an empirical study to answer the research question, including a brief introduction/rationale, methodology, expected results, and impact. Additional information will be provided in an Assignment Sheet distributed in tutorials and posted to Moodle.

Assessment 4: The final exam will test your factual knowledge of and critical reasoning skills related to lecture material, readings, and tutorial content. Question formats will include multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short essay questions. The number of questions per topic will be proportional to the number of lectures and tutorials on the topic.

UNSW grading system: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/grades>

UNSW assessment policy: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/assessment>

5.2 Assessment criteria and standards

Further details and marking criteria for each assessment will be provided to students closer to the assessment release date (see 4.1: UNSW Assessment Design Procedure).

5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

Written assessments: In accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy written pieces of assessment must be submitted online via Turnitin. No paper or emailed copies will be accepted.

Late penalties: deduction of marks for late submissions will be in accordance with School policy (see: [Psychology Student Guide](#)).

Special Consideration: Students who are unable to complete an assessment task by the assigned due date can apply for special consideration. Students should also note that UNSW has a Fit to Sit/Submit rule for all assessments. If a student wishes to submit an application for special consideration for an exam or assessment, the application must be submitted prior to the start of the exam or before an assessment is submitted. If a student sits the exam/submits an assignment, they are declaring themselves well enough to do so and are unable to subsequently apply for special consideration. If a student becomes ill on the day of the exam, they must provide evidence dated within 24 hours of the exam, with their application.

Special consideration applications must be submitted to the online portal along with Third Party supporting documentation. Students who have experienced significant illness or misadventure during the assessment period may be eligible. Only circumstances deemed to be outside of the student's control are eligible for special consideration. Except in unusual circumstances, the duration of circumstances impacting academic work must be more than 3 consecutive days, or a total of 5 days within the teaching period. If the special consideration application is approved, students may be given an extended due date, or an alternative assessment/supplementary examination may be set. For more information see <https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>.

Alternative assessments: will be subject to approval and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure.

Supplementary examinations: will be made available for students with approved special consideration application and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

5.4. Feedback on assessment

Feedback on all pieces of assessment in this course will be provided in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment	When	Who	Where	How
Participation	N/A	Course coordinator	Online/on campus	Moodle
Think tank group presentation	Week 7 tutorials	Tutor	Tutorials	Written & Verbal
Think tank write-up	25 November	Tutor	Online	Turnitin/Moodle
Final exam	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

The APA (6th edition) referencing style is to be adopted in this course. Students should consult the publication manual itself (rather than third party interpretations of it) in order to properly adhere to APA style conventions. Students do not need to purchase a copy of the manual, it is available in the library or online. This resource is used by assessment markers and should be the only resource used by students to ensure they adopt this style appropriately:

APA 6th edition.

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Further information about referencing styles can be located at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing>

Academic integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage.¹ At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.

Further information about academic integrity and **plagiarism** can be located at:

- The *Current Students* site <https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>, and
- The *ELISE* training site <http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/presenting>

The *Conduct and Integrity Unit* provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct>.

7. Readings and resources

Textbook	Kassin, Fein, Markus, McBain & Williams (2015) <i>Social Psychology: Australia and New Zealand Edition</i> . 1st Ed. Cengage Learning Australia.
Course information	Available on Moodle
Required readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Readings are considered Self Directed Activities, as listed in Section 4. Knowledge of the information in these readings is needed for successful achievement of learning outcomes.• School of Psychology Student Guide.
Recommended internet sites	UNSW Library UNSW Learning centre ELISE Turnitin Student Code of Conduct Policy concerning academic honesty Email policy UNSW Anti-racism policy statement UNSW Equity and Diversity policy statement UNSW Equal opportunity in education policy statement

¹ International Center for Academic Integrity, 'The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity', T. Fishman (ed), Clemson University, 2013.

8. Administrative matters

The [School of Psychology Student Guide](#) contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- Attendance requirements
- Assignment submissions and returns
- Assessments
- Special consideration
- Student code of conduct
- Student complaints and grievances
- Disability Support Services
- Health and safety

It is expected that students familiarise themselves with the information contained in this guide.

9. Additional support for students

- The Current Students Gateway: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>
- Disability Support Services: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/disability-services>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html>