Introduction to Social Psychology – ITB 137
Psychology 2C03 Evening – Winter, 2005 – Jan. 4th to Apr. 5th

Instructor: Elliott Beaton
Office hours: By appointment only please.
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Course Objectives: You will be responsible for understanding basic theory, methodology, and empirical evidence that underlie the interaction of evolutionary biology and human behaviour in the social context.


Website: http://www.science.mcmaster.ca/psychology/psych2c3e/

Evaluation: I reserve the right to change the format of the syllabus, tests, and/or exam. Both class and textbook will be tested. There are no make-up midterms in this course. If any test does not take place on the scheduled date due to weather, facilities, or other unforeseen circumstance, the exam will take place at the beginning of the next meeting.

1) Mid-session tests: The first in-class test will be held on Feb. 8th and the second in-class test will be held on March 22nd. Each of these 80 question tests is worth 30% of your final grade.
2) Final Examination: The final exam is 120 questions and worth 40% of your final grade and will be held during the exam period (TBA). It is cumulative and will encompass all of the course material.

Note: To reiterate, students are responsible for both the lecture material and assigned readings, with roughly equal weighting. Mid-session tests can only be written at the times indicated so plan to attend. There can be no make-up tests or special sessions for any student. Students with valid reasons for missing a mid-session test or assignment must consult the Dean of Studies office for their faculty (e.g. Science and Social Science). If, and only if, there is adequate written justification for missing the test or assignment deadline, such students will normally have their grades proportionately reweighted, increasing the relative contribution to their final exam. The tests and exams will be in the multiple-choice format. I use multiple mixed versions of the test questionnaires. Bring MAC ID and a pencil to the tests and exam. Grades will be assigned according to the following convention: 90-100% = A+, 85-89% = A, 80-84% = A-, 77-79% = B+, 73-76% = B, 70-72% = B-, 67-69% = C+, 63-66% = C, 60-62% = C-, 57-59% = D+, 53-56% = D, 50-52% = D-, 0-49% = F. Appeal procedures for mid-session tests are strictly structured, as will be explained by the instructor. Attention is drawn to the Statement on Academic Ethics and the Senate Resolutions on Academic Dishonesty as found in the Senate Policy Statements distributed at registration and available in the Senate Office. Any student who infringes on one of these resolutions will be treated according to the published policy.
**Tentative Schedule of Topics and Readings** *(Lecture dates and topic specifics are approximate and subject to change. Extra time on Feb. 8th and Mar. 22nd may be used for lecture in the event of weather-related class cancellations.)*

**Jan. 4th** – Introduction and the Self in the Social World

**Jan. 11th** – Social Beliefs and Judgements

**Jan. 18th** – Behaviour and Attitudes and Evolution, Reproduction, and Culture

**Jan. 25th** – Conformity and Persuasion

**Feb. 1st** – Persuasion (continued) and “Stupidity” by Albert Nerenberg

**Feb. 8th** – **MIDTERM #1** (In class, 2hrs. – bring a pencil + eraser)

**Feb 15th** – Group Influence

**Feb. 22nd** – **SPRING BREAK**

**Mar. 1st** – Altruism and Aggression

**Mar. 8th** – Attraction and Love

**Mar. 15th** – Prejudice and Religious Behaviour in an Evolutionary Context

**Mar. 22nd** – **MIDTERM #2** (In class, 2hrs. – bring a pencil + eraser)

**Mar. 29th** – Conflict and Peacemaking

**Apr. 5th** – Application of Social Psychology