SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
Term 1 2004
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9:30am
TSH 120

Instructor: Professor M.D. Rutherford
Office: room 105
Office Hours: TBA

Teaching assistants: Elliott Beaton: beatonea@mcmaster.ca
Paul Szego: szegopa@mcmaster.ca


Objectives: The aim of the course is to introduce students to basic theory, research findings and methods of investigation in social psychology. By the end of the term students should be able to: describe the important theories and research findings in social psychology; discuss the theories and key findings covered in the course, discuss their relevance to everyday life; and understand and think critically about issues and research in social psychology. During the course we will examine, firstly, the extent to which behaviour is influenced by social factors, and secondly, the ways in which empirical research can help us understand how social processes influence what we do.

Evaluation: Marks in this class will be based on three exams and two workshops. The three exams are: two midterms (October 8th and November 9th) and the final exam (date to be announced). Exams are weighted equally; each will be worth 32% of the total for this course. Each workshop is worth 2% of your mark. Exams are multiple-choice format; please bring a No. 2 pencil to each exam. The final is cumulative. There are no make-up midterms in this course.

NOTE: If any exam does not take place on the scheduled date due to weather, facilities, or any other unforeseen circumstance THE EXAM WILL TAKE PLACE AT OUR NEXT MEETING.

McMaster’s Grading Scale:

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<th>90-100</th>
<th>85-89</th>
<th>80-84</th>
<th>77-79</th>
<th>73-76</th>
<th>70-72</th>
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<th>63-66</th>
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<th>57-59</th>
<th>53-56</th>
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<td>A+</td>
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The instructor reserves the right to adjust the final marks up or down, on an individual basis, in the light of special circumstances and/or the individual’s overall performance in the course.

The instructor cannot be responsible for returning long distance calls from students. Any student wishing to reach an instructor is invited to e-mail or drop by during office hours.

Policy Reminder: Please note 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 one of these resolutions will be treated according to the published policy.

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.
Tentative Schedule

September 10: Organizational Meeting; Course Overview

September 14: Introduction to Social Psychology READ PP. 1 - 29

September 15: The Self in a Social World part. I: READ PP. 31 - 47

September 17: The Self in a Social World part. II: READ PP. 47 - 66

September 21: Social Beliefs and Judgments: READ PP. 67 - 91

September 22: Workshop

September 24: Social Beliefs and Judgments: READ PP. 91 – 112

September 28: Behaviour and Attitudes: READ PP. 113 - 130

September 29: Behaviour and Attitudes: READ PP. 130 - 145

October 1: Culture, Language and Gender: READ PP. 147 - 161

October 5: Culture, Language and Gender: READ PP. 161 - 178

October 6: review

October 8: FIRST MIDTERM EXAM IN CLASS

October 12: Conformity part I: READ PP. 179 - 198

October 13: Conformity part II: READ PP. 198 – 213

October 15: Persuasion: READ PP. 214 - 231

October 19: Resisting Persuasion: READ PP. 231 - 249

October 20: Group Influence: READ PP. 250 - 267

October 22: Workshop

October 26: Group Think: READ PP. 267 - 288

October 27: Altruism: Helping Others: READ PP. 289 - 307

October 29: Altruism: Helping Others: READ PP. 307 - 326

November 2: Aggression: Hurting Others READ PP. 327-346
November 3: Aggression: Hurting Others: READ PP. 346-364

November 5: review

**November 9: SECOND MIDTERM EXAM IN CLASS**

November 10: Attraction and Intimacy READ PP. 365 - 386

November 12: Attraction and Intimacy READ PP. 386 - 409

November 16: Prejudice READ PP.410 - 431

November 17: Prejudice: READ PP. 431- 450

November 19: Intergroup Relations: READ PP. 451 - 470

November 23: Peacemaking: READ PP. 471 - 488

November 24: Clinical Judgements: READ PP. 489 - 504

November 26: Clinical Judgements: READ PP. 504 - 516

November 30: Social Psychology in the Courts: READ module B

December 1: Social Psychology and the Sustainable Future: READ module C

December 3: Final Review

**Final Exam: TBA**