SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
Term 2 2006
Monday and Wednesday 8:30 am
and Friday 10:30am
CNH 104

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

Teaching assistants: Paul Szego: szegopa@mcmaster.ca
Jenna Cheal: chealjl@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 (February 1st and March 10th) 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>
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<th>67-69</th>
<th>63-66</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.

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](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

January 4: Organizational Meeting; Course Overview

January 6: Introduction to Social Psychology READ PP. 1 - 29

January 9: The Self in a Social World part. I: READ PP. 31 - 47

January 11: The Self in a Social World part. II: READ PP. 47 - 66

January 13: Social Beliefs and Judgments: READ PP. 67 - 91

January 16: Workshop

January 18: Social Beliefs and Judgments: READ PP. 91 – 112

January 20: Behaviour and Attitudes: READ PP. 113 - 130

January 23: Behaviour and Attitudes: READ PP. 130 - 145

January 25: Culture, Language and Gender: READ PP. 147 - 161

January 27: Culture, Language and Gender: READ PP. 161 - 178

January 30: review

February 1: FIRST MIDTERM EXAM IN CLASS

February 3: Conformity part I: READ PP. 179 - 198

February 6: Conformity part II: READ PP. 198 – 213

February 8: Persuasion: READ PP. 214 - 231

February 10: Resisting Persuasion: READ PP. 231 - 249

February 13: Group Influence: READ PP. 250 - 267

February 15: Workshop

February 17: Group Think: READ PP. 267 - 288

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

March 1: Altruism: Helping Others: READ PP. 307 - 326

March 3: Aggression: Hurting Others READ PP. 327-346

March 6: Aggression: Hurting Others: READ PP. 346-364
March 8: review

**March 10: SECOND MIDTERM EXAM IN CLASS**

March 13: Attraction and Intimacy READ PP. 365 - 386

March 15: Attraction and Intimacy READ PP. 386 - 409

March 17: Prejudice READ PP. 410 - 431

March 20: Prejudice: READ PP. 431- 450

March 22: Intergroup Relations: READ PP. 451 - 470

March 24: Peacemaking: READ PP. 471 - 488

March 27: Clinical Judgements: READ PP. 489 - 504

March 29: Clinical Judgements: READ PP. 504 - 516

March 31: Social Psychology in the Courts: READ module B

April 3: Social Psychology and the Sustainable Future: READ module C

April 5: Final Review

**Final Exam: TBA**