Introduction to
SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
Term 2 2007
Monday and Wednesday 11:30 am
Friday 1:30 pm
TSH 120

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

Teaching assistants: Andy Bhattacharjee: bhatta4@mcmaster.ca
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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 two midterm exams, one final exam, and three workshops. Each workshop is worth 2% of your mark. The two in-class midterms (January 31st and March 9th) will be worth 27% of the total for this course and the final exam (date TBA) is worth 40%. The final is cumulative. Exams are multiple-choice format; please bring a No. 2 pencil to each exam. Do not miss class on the date of a midterm exam.

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>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. 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

January 3: Organizational Meeting; Course Overview
January 5: Introduction to Social Psychology READ PP. 1 - 31
January 8: The Self in a Social World part. I: READ PP. 32 - 49
January 10: The Self in a Social World part. II: READ PP. 50 - 68
January 12: Social Beliefs and Judgments: READ PP. 69 - 89
January 15: Workshop
January 17: Social Beliefs and Judgments: READ PP. 90 – 108
January 19: Behaviour and Attitudes: READ PP. 109 - 127
January 22: Behaviour and Attitudes: READ PP. 127 - 140
January 24: Culture, Language and Gender: READ PP. 142 - 160
January 26: Culture, Language and Gender: READ PP. 160 - 169
January 29: Midterm Review

January 31: FIRST MIDTERM EXAM IN CLASS

February 2: Conformity part I: READ PP. 170 - 187
February 5: Conformity part II: READ PP. 188 – 201
February 7: Persuasion: READ PP. 202 - 227
February 9: Resisting Persuasion: READ PP. 227 - 238
February 12: Group Influence: READ PP. 239 - 262
February 14: Workshop
February 16: Group Think: READ PP. 262 - 275
February 26: Altruism: Helping Others: READ PP. 277 - 298
February 28: Altruism: Helping Others: READ PP. 298 - 314
March 2: Aggression: Hurting Others READ PP. 315-333
March 5: Aggression: Hurting Others: READ PP. 334-352

March 7: Midterm Review

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

March 12: Attraction and Intimacy READ PP. 353 - 377

March 14: Attraction and Intimacy READ PP. 378 - 395

March 16: Prejudice READ PP.396 - 419

March 19: Prejudice: READ PP. 420- 442

March 21: Intergroup Relations: READ PP. 443 - 461

March 23: Workshop

March 26: Peacemaking: READ PP. 461 - 478

March 28: Clinical Judgements: READ PP. 480 - 492

March 30: Clinical Judgements: READ PP. 492 - 503

April 2: Social Psychology in the Courts: READ PP. 504 - 519

April 4: Final Review

**Final Exam: TBA**