

SYLLABUS
PSYCH 2C03: Social Psychology
Department of Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour
McMaster University
Summer 2018

Course time : Tu & Th, 1:30 pm-4:20 pm

Location: BSB B136

Instructor: Dr. Jillian O'Connor

Contact: oconnoj@mcmaster.ca

Office hours & location: TBA

Course Description: This course is designed to introduce you to research and theory in social psychology. We will pay special attention to how research is carried out in this very experimental field, and to how research findings are used to advance our understanding of human social behavior.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the core components of social psychology, including specific phenomena and empirically-supported theory
2. Evaluate the validity and implications of historical and contemporary research in areas of social psychology
3. Apply the social psychological perspective to everyday experiences and world events

Required Textbook: Aronson, Wilson, Fehr, & Akert. *Social Psychology*, 6th Canadian Ed. (REVEL optional). REVEL includes an e-book version of the text as well as practice quizzes, but is not required.

Avenue to Learn: All information regarding this course is accessible on Avenue to learn. Here, students will find lecture slides, discussion forums, and administrative information regarding the course. You are responsible for staying up-to-date with course information by regularly checking the site.

Students should be aware that when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Course Schedule: The following schedule reflects the order of topics. Lecture topics may be covered before/after the scheduled date depending upon factors such as topic progression.

Class	Date	Topic	Chapter
1	June 19	The Science of Social Psychology, Methods	1, 2
2	June 21	Social Cognition	3
3	June 26	Social Perception	4
4	June 28	The Self	5, skip pages 119-120
5	July 3	Midterm Exam 1 Attitudes	5, p. 119-120 6, p. 136-145, 157-70
6	July 5	Persuasion	6, p. 140-156 7, p.198-203
7	July 10	Conformity	7, p.173-197,202-211
8	July 12	Group Processes	8
9	July 17	Midterm Exam 2 Prosocial behaviour	10
10	July 19	Aggression	11
11	July 24	Prejudice	12
12	July 26	Attraction & Close Relationships	9
13	July 31	FINAL EXAM	

Evaluation : All evaluations are held during regularly scheduled class time. Exams will evaluate factual knowledge, conceptual understanding, and ability to apply course concepts. Exams will cover both lecture material and assigned readings. Midterm exams are not cumulative, the final exam is cumulative.

Your grade in this course will be calculated by your performance on the 3 opportunities to earn credit (2 midterm exams, 1 final exam) as documented in this syllabus. The only way to achieve a high standing is to perform well on the assessments. Marks will not be based on how much a student wants or “needs” a good mark. There are no "extra-credit" assignments beyond what is detailed in this syllabus, and I will not adjust marks for individual students.

Bonus Marks: You have the opportunity to earn up to 3% in bonus marks by participating in in-class activities throughout the semester. There will be up to 12 in-class activities (1-2 each week), worth up to .25% each. In order to participate and earn the bonus marks, students will need to download the **Kahoot!** App (<https://kahoot.com/mobile-app/>) or access it online (<https://kahoot.it/>) during class. Students must enter their student # as their “nickname.” Additional details will be discussed during class time. All bonus activities must be completed during the allotted time period - participation cannot be deferred or extended to other time periods.

Evaluation	Weighted Total of Final Grade	Date
Midterm Exam 1	30%	July 3 rd
Midterm Exam 2	30%	July 17 th
Final Exam	40%	July 31 st

Final grade calculation: Final grades are calculated according to McMaster University's grading scheme.

<u>Percentage (Grade)</u>	<u>Percentage (Grade)</u>	<u>Percentage (Grade)</u>	<u>Percentage (Grade)</u>
90-100 (A+)	77-79 (B+)	67-69 (C+)	57-59 (D+)
85-89 (A)	73-76 (B)	63-66 (C)	53-56 (D)
80-84 (A-)	70-72 (B-)	60-62 (C-)	50-52 (D-)
			0-49 (F)

Policy on the Recording of Lectures: You are welcome to record lectures for personal use. You are encouraged to share your recordings with your classmates, e.g. via the notes exchange forum on Avenue to Learn. You may not under any circumstance make lecture recordings publicly available, online or anywhere else.

Exam Policy: You may only have your student card and writing implements visible during the test. Phones, calculators, water bottles, dictionaries, pencil cases, etc. are strictly prohibited during the exam. Please ensure your cell phone is turned off. Students whose cell phones disrupt the class during tests will have 5% deducted from their exam grade. You must be on time for exams. Students who arrive late to an exam will lose 5% for every 5 minutes late after the start time. Students will not be permitted to enter the room or write an exam 20 minutes after the start time.

Missed Exam Policy: Failure to write a midterm exam on the assigned date will result in a "0" for that exam, unless students follow the procedure outlined on <https://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/> under "2....for missed academic work worth 25% or more of the final grade..." for additional information on reporting missed work. Students may not use this procedure for more than 1 midterm exam.

Students who miss 1 midterm exam and follow the above procedure will have their final grade calculated in the following manner: Midterm exam (40%), final exam (60%). Failure to write both midterm exams will result in an automatic failure in the course.

Final Exam: Failure to write the final exam on the assigned date will result in a "0" for that exam, barring **exceptional** circumstances, which must be approved by the instructor prior to

the scheduled exam date when possible. Students will not be excused from the final exam on the basis of recreational activities, including travel plans and vacations. See <https://registrar.mcmaster.ca/exams/deferred/> for additional information.

Communication Policy : Professional and courteous communication is required, whether via email, skype, or in-person. Correspondence must originate from a valid McMaster account. Email from other providers e.g. gmail, Hotmail, etc., will be automatically filtered out and therefore neither read nor responded to. Before sending your email, ensure that the information you are requesting is not already available in the course outline or on Avenue to Learn.

If you have general questions regarding course content or administration, you are encouraged to first post these questions to the appropriate forum on Avenue to Learn *before* emailing me. This is because if you have a question, other students also likely have the same question and would benefit from a posted response. If you have a specific question that does not fit this category, email me. If you email me, I will normally reply within 24-48 hours, excluding weekends and statutory holidays. If you have not received a response *after* 48 hours, (1) check that you sent your email from your McMaster University account, and if so (2) resend your email.

Early Feedback: When students are aware of their progress early in a course they can make informed decisions.

1. All students should receive feedback regarding their progress prior to the final date by which a student may cancel the course without academic penalty.
2. For the majority of undergraduate courses this feedback must equal a minimum of 10% of the final grade

Students will receive feedback (Midterm Exam 1 scores) prior **Wednesday, July 18 2018**, the last day for cancelling courses without failure by default.

Academic Integrity: Please note that the instructor takes the issues of academic misconduct very seriously, and will not tolerate ANY form of misconduct. You are responsible for knowing the definitions of misconduct, and how to avoid misconduct. *Ignorance will not be considered grounds for excuse.*

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour 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 types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity

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.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities: Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Call 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or email sas@mcmaster.ca

Other Student Resources at McMaster University: The Student Wellness Center provides extensive student services:

1. Academic Skill Support: Student Success Center (GH110 x24254), studentsuccess@mcmaster.ca
2. Counselling Services: <https://wellness.mcmaster.ca/counselling/#MakingAnAppointment>. If you are in need of immediate support please visit MUSC B101.
3. Sexual Violence Response Coordinator (MUSC 212 x20909) rossm4@mcmaster.ca

For a full list, visit <https://wellness.mcmaster.ca/resources/campus-resources/>.