SOCIAL COGNITION SPRING 2023

PSYCH 353

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CLASS SCHEDULE

Section	Location	Time	Instructor(s)
PSYCH 353 001 *[LEC]*	EIT 1015	Thursdays 11:30 a.m. - 2:20 p.m.	Cam Smith crgsmith@uwaterloo.ca
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INSTRUCTOR / TA INFORMATION

Instructor: Cameron Smith

Office: PAS 3252

Office Hours: TBD

Email: crgsmith@uwaterloo.ca

In most cases, I should respond to emails within 24 hours. If not, feel free to send a follow up email. Other meetings can be arranged by appointment.

TA: Harshadaa Deshpande

Email: h3deshpande@uwaterloo.ca (mailto:h3deshpande@uwaterloo.ca)

Office: PAS 4229 (office hours by appointment)

TA: Jessica Rachael Ross

Email: jrross@uwaterloo.ca (mailto:jrross@uwaterloo.ca)

Office: PAS 3240H (office hours by appointment)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Calendar Description for PSYCH 353

This course examines how people make sense of their social world: how they perceive, represent, interpret, and remember information about themselves and about other individuals and groups. Topics include representation, recall, and use of social knowledge, controllability of thought processes, effects of feelings and desires, stereotype activation and use, and cultural influences.

Prereq: PSYCH 253/253R

Many of us are drawn to psychology because of our interest in understanding why people do what they do. We are social animals, trying to figure out how we—and others—navigate the social world. Social cognition, one of the predominant research perspectives in social psychology today, utilizes both social psychological and cognitive theories and methodologies to examine why people see what they see, think what they think, and do what they do.

In this course, we'll be exploring a number of questions that are studied by social cognition researchers. For instance, how do we represent, interpret, and use information about ourselves, other individuals, and groups? To what extent does motivation colour our perceptions? How does our social knowledge influence perceptions, judgments, and behaviour? How do we make sense of the past, make predictions about the future, and manage conflicting goals? We will explore these questions primarily through a focus on the social psychological aspects of social cognition.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course students should be able to:

Understand the basic concepts and theories in social cognition
Critically evaluate social cognitive research methodology and theory
Think critically about research design
Read and critique primary source material
Apply principles from social cognition to everyday experiences (in your life, in the media)

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	May 11	Introduction & Accessibility	1. Carlston (2013) 2. Moskowitz (2005; pp. 388-430) • Jordan & Zanna (1999) (Optional)
2	May 18	Automaticity and Control & Shared Reality	1. Cesario, Plaks, & Higgins (2006) 2. Echterhoff (2010)

3	May 25	Perceiving Others	1. Halbesleben (2009) 2. Berk & Andersen (2000)
4	Jun. 1	Motivated Perception & Construal Level Theory	1. Balcetis & Dunning (2006) 2. Rim, Hansen, & Trope (2013)
5	Jun. 8	Heuristics and Hypothesis Testing & Affective Forecasting	1. Kahneman (2011; pp. 129-136; 146-155; 166-174) 2. Wilson & Gilbert (2005)
Midterm Exam: Thursday June 15th			
7	Jun. 22	Memory	1. Ross & Wilson (2003) 2. Hellmann & Memon (2016)
8	Jun. 29	Counterfactuals & Self-Identity	1. Seto, Hicks, Davis, & Smallman (2015) 2. Brown, Bailey, Stoll, & McConnel (2016)
9	Jul. 6	Culture and Cognitive Styles & Wisdom &	1. Savani, Stephens, & Markus (2017) 2. Grossman & Kross (2014)
10	Jul. 13	Regulatory Focus & Implicit Theories	1. Scholer & Higgins (2012) 2. Molden & Dweck (2006)
Capstone Assignment Due: July 20th			
11	Jul. 20	Motivation and Goals & Social Self-Regulation	1. Fishback & Dhar (2005) 2. Fitzimons & Finkel (2011)
Final Exam: Thursday July 27th			

TEXTS / MATERIALS

No materials required.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Component	Value
Discussions	16%
Reflection Papers	14% (7% each)
Midterm 1	25%
Midterm 2	25%
Capstone Project	20%
Additional research participation / article summaries	Up to 4% bonus

Exams

There will be two *non-cumulative* in-class exams. Each exam will cover approximately one half of the course material. These exams will draw from both lecture and readings and will be composed of multiple-choice, short-answer, and short essay questions. There will be no final written exam during the exam period.

Discussion Boards and Reflection Papers

Each week you will be required to respond to what you have learned from the readings. There will be 10 weeks with readings (because exam weeks won't have any new material). For each week you will either participate in the weekly discussion or submit a larger reflection paper. You will need to submit 2 Reflection Papers total and you will not be required to participate in the discussions for the weeks that you choose to write a reflection. For more details, see the assignment descriptions on the LEARN page.

Capstone Assignment

The capstone assignment for the course provides an opportunity for you to actively and creatively reflect on and synthesize course material. You have a choice of completing one of three possible projects, described in detail on the Capstone Assignment Handout that will be posted on Learn.

I strongly recommend that you begin working on the capstone assignment early in the term, as it will provide a way for you to be actively reflecting on course material as we are discussing it in class. One of the possible assignment involves making a video. If you choose to do a video assignment, you need to inform the instructor of the topic and (optional) group members by **June 15**. After this date, you cannot choose to do the video assignment. The completed assignment is due **July 20**.

Late work and missed exams

Exams

Attendance at exams is mandatory; accommodations will be arranged only for documented emergencies.

In the case of an illness or emergency that affects exam attendance, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor and teaching assistants of your illness by the exam date and provide documentation in a timely manner.

Capstone Assignment

No late assignments will be accepted. Assignments not turned in on time will receive a grade of 0. In the case of severe illness or other emergency that will affect your ability to submit the assignment on time, contact the instructor and TAs immediately, prior to the deadline.

Sona Participation and Research Experience Marks
Information and Guidelines

Experiential learning is considered an integral part of the undergraduate program in Psychology. Research participation is one example of this, article review is another. A number of undergraduate courses have been expanded to include opportunities for Psychology students to earn grades while gaining research experience.

Since experiential learning is highly valued in the Department of Psychology, students may earn a **"bonus" grade of up to 4%** in this course through research experience. Course work will make up 100% of the final mark and a "bonus" of up to 4% may be earned and will be added to the final grade if/as needed to bring your final grade up to 100%.

The two options for earning research experience grades; participation in research through online, remotely operated and In Lab studies, as well as article review; are described below. Students may complete any combination of these options to earn research experience grades Credits will be permitted to be earned with a maximum of half from online, and the other half (2.0) from In-lab or Remote Access studies (In Lab studies can however go over the limit up to the total of 4.0)

Option 1: Participation in Psychology Research

Research participation is coordinated by the Research Experiences Group (REG). Psychology students may volunteer as research participants in remotely operated, In Lab and/or online (web-based) studies conducted by students and faculty in the Department of Psychology. Participation enables students to learn first-hand about psychology research and related concepts. Many students report that participation in research is both an educational and interesting experience. Please be assured that all Psychology studies have been reviewed and received ethics clearance through a University of Waterloo Research Ethics Board.

How to earn extra marks for your Psychology course(s) this term by participating in studies ...

- You will earn "credits" which will be converted to "marks" (1 credit = 1%)
- You can schedule your remotely operated (replacing in-lab) and ONLINE studies using the "Sona" website.
- You can schedule your In-Person studies through SONA as well but please note the time and location

Educational focus of participation in research

To maximize the educational benefits of participating in research, students will receive feedback information following their participation in each study detailing the following elements:

- Purpose or objectives of the study
- Dependent and independent variables

- Expected results
- References for at least two related research articles
- Provisions to ensure confidentiality of data
- Contact information of the researcher should the student have further questions about the study
- Contact information for the Director of the Office of Research Ethics should the student wish to learn more about the general ethical issues surrounding research with human participants, or specific questions or concerns about the study in which s/he participated.

Participation in remotely operated (counts as the same as in-lab) studies has increment values of 0.5 participation credits (grade percentage points) for each 30-minutes of participation. Participation in ONLINE studies is worth .25 credits for each 15-minutes of participation. Researchers will record student's participation and at the end of the term the REG Coordinator will provide the course instructor with a credit report of the total credits earned by each student.

How to participate?

Study scheduling, participation and grade assignment is managed using the SONA online system. All students enrolled in this course have been set up with a SONA account. You must get started early in the term.

For instructions on how to log in to your SONA account and for a list of important dates and deadlines please, as soon as possible, go to:

Participating/SONA information: How to log in to Sona and sign up for studies (https://uwaterloo.ca/research-experiences-group/welcome-research-experiences-group-and-sona/sona-information)

*** Please do not ask the Course Instructor or REG Coordinator for information unless you have first thoroughly read the information provided on this website.***

More information about the REG program in general is available at:
Sona Information on the REG Participants website (https://uwaterloo.ca/research-experiences-group/welcome-research-experiences-group-and-sona/sona-information) or you can check the Sona FAQ on the REG website homepage (https://uwaterloo.ca/research-experiences-group/sites/ca.research-experiences-group/files/uploads/files/sona_faq_for_fall_2019.pdf) for additional information.

Option 2: Article Review as an alternative to participation in research

Students are not required to participate in research, and not all students wish to do so. As an alternative, students may opt to gain research experience by writing short reviews (1½ to 2 pages) of research articles relevant to the course. The course instructor will specify a suitable source of articles for this course (i.e., scientific journals, newspapers, magazines, other printed media). *You must contact your TA to get approval for the article you have chosen before writing the review.* Each review article counts as one percentage point. To receive credit, you must follow specific guidelines. The article review must:

- **Be submitted before the** last day of lectures (http://www.quest.uwaterloo.ca/undergraduate/dates.html) **. Late submissions will NOT be accepted under ANY circumstances.**
- Be typed
- Fully identify the title, author(s), source and date of the article. A copy of the article must be attached.
- Identify the psychological concepts in the article and indicate the pages in the textbook that are applicable. Critically evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article. If inappropriate or incorrect, identify the error and its implications for the validity of the article. You may find, for example, misleading headings, faulty research procedures, alternative explanations that are ignored, failures to distinguish factual findings from opinions, faulty statements of cause-effect relations, errors in reasoning, etc. Provide examples whenever possible.
- Clearly evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article.

- Keep a copy of your review in the unlikely event we misplace the original.

ASSIGNMENT SCREENING

No assignment screening will be used in this course.

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

For more information about the purpose of territorial acknowledgements, please see the CAUT Guide to Acknowledging Traditional Territory (https://www.caut.ca/content/guide-acknowledging-first-peoples-traditional-territory) .

CHOSEN/PREFERRED FIRST NAME

Do you want professors and interviewers to call you by a different first name? Take a minute now to verify or tell us your chosen/preferred first name by logging into WatIAM (https://idm.uwaterloo.ca/watiam/) .

Why? Starting in winter 2020, your chosen/preferred first name listed in WatIAM will be used broadly across campus (e.g., LEARN, Quest, WaterlooWorks, WatCard, etc). Note: Your legal first name will always be used on certain official documents. For more details, visit Updating Personal Information (https://uwaterloo.ca/the-centre/updating-personal-information) .

Important notes

- If you included a preferred name on your OUAC application, it will be used as your chosen/preferred name unless you make a change now.
- If you don't provide a chosen/preferred name, your legal first name will continue to be used.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health support if they are needed.

On Campus

Due to COVID-19 and campus closures, services are available only online or by phone.

- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca (mailto:counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca) / 519-888-4567 ext. 32655
- MATES (https://wusa.ca/services/uw-mates) : one-to-one peer support program offered by the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) and Counselling Services

Off campus, 24/7

- [Good2Talk](https://good2talk.ca/) (https://good2talk.ca/) : Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-4300 ext. 6880
- [Here 24/7](https://here247.ca/) (https://here247.ca/) : Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- [OK2BME](https://ok2bme.ca/) (https://ok2bme.ca/) : set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online on the Faculty of Arts [website](https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/get-mental-health-support-when-you-need-it) (https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/get-mental-health-support-when-you-need-it)

Download [UWaterloo and regional mental health resources (PDF)](https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/sites/ca.arts/files/uploads/files/counselling_services_overview_002.pdf) (https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/sites/ca.arts/files/uploads/files/counselling_services_overview_002.pdf)

Download the [WatSafe app](https://uwaterloo.ca/watsafe/) (https://uwaterloo.ca/watsafe/) to your phone to quickly access mental health support information.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

[Policy 33, Ethical Behaviour](https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-33) (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-33) states, as one of its general principles (Section 1), "The University supports academic freedom for all members of the University community. Academic freedom carries with it the duty to use that freedom in a manner consistent with the scholarly obligation to base teaching and research on an honest and ethical quest for knowledge. In the context of this policy, 'academic freedom' refers to academic activities, including teaching and scholarship, as is articulated in the principles set out in the Memorandum of Agreement between the FAUW and the University of Waterloo, 1998 (Article 6). The academic environment which fosters free debate may from time to time include the presentation or discussion of unpopular opinions or controversial material. Such material shall be dealt with as openly, respectfully and sensitively as possible." This definition is repeated in Policies 70 and 71, and in the Memorandum of Agreement, Section 6

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of their instructor, TA, and/or the University of Waterloo.

Intellectual property includes items such as:

- Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof);
- Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides);
- Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams); and
- Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with permission of the copyright owner).

Course materials and the intellectual property contained therein, are used to enhance a student's educational experience. However, sharing this intellectual property without the intellectual property owner's permission is a violation of intellectual property rights. For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, TA and/or the University of Waterloo for permission before uploading and sharing the intellectual property of others online (e.g., to an online repository).

Permission from an instructor, TA or the University is also necessary before sharing the intellectual property of others from completed courses with students taking the same/similar courses in subsequent terms/years. In many cases, instructors might be happy to allow distribution of certain materials. However, doing so without expressed permission is considered a violation of intellectual property rights.

Please alert the instructor if you become aware of intellectual property belonging to others (past or present) circulating, either through the student body or online. The intellectual property rights owner deserves to know (and may have already given their consent).

CROSS-LISTED COURSES

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which subject code it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science subject code.

UNIVERSITY POLICY

Academic integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. [Check the Office of Academic Integrity (https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) for more information.]

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4 (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) . When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. [Check the Office of Academic Integrity (https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) for more information.] A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate associate dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71, Student Discipline (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) . For typical penalties, check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties) .

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72, Student Appeals (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72) .

Note for students with disabilities: AccessAbility Services (https://uwaterloo.ca/disability-services/) , located in Needles Hall, Room 1401, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit alternate assignment.