

Renison University College
Social Psychology

Psychology 220R, Winter 2010
Wednesday and Friday 1-2:20pm
Room: REN 2102

Professor: Dr. Denise Marigold
Email: Through ACE website
Office: Founders 2607
Office Hours: Wednesday 10:30am to 12:00pm

Course Overview: The purpose of this course is to introduce you to research in the field of social psychology. Topics include: prejudice, stereotyping, attraction, attitudes, the self, prosocial behavior, persuasion, and others. The textbook is broad and general, while the lectures will tend to cover more specific issues, especially recent experimental and theoretical approaches.

Required text: Myers, D. G., Spencer, S. J., & Jordan, C. *Social Psychology*, Fourth Canadian Edition.
Recommended: Online study guide: www.mcgrawhill.ca/college/istudypsychology/

Requirements:

Tests. There will be three tests throughout the term, worth 30%, 30%, and 25% respectively. Tests are not cumulative. They will include multiple-choice and short-answer questions.

Reflection paper. There will be one writing assignment worth 13%.

Research participation. The remaining 2% of your grade will be based on participation in research. You can also earn an additional 2% in bonus marks. More detailed information appears later in this syllabus.

Reflection Paper

The purpose of this assignment is to deepen your knowledge of the concepts from the course and practice applying them. You may choose any topic(s) covered in the course and explain how the social psychological concepts discussed in lectures and the textbook can be applied to yourself, your relationships, your job, your education, your career, etc. Your paper should be 3-5 pages long, double-spaced with 12-point font and one-inch margins.

The marking scheme will take into account:

- The choice of appropriate concepts from the course
- Clear and correct explanation of the concepts
- Application of the concepts to the topic of the assignment
- Depth of thought and understanding in addressing the implications
- The clarity of writing

Due date: You can hand the paper in anytime, but *no later* than Wednesday, March 31. You are encouraged to complete the paper as soon as possible. No late assignments will be accepted.

Proposed Schedule of Classes

Date	Lecture	Topic	Textbook
Jan 6	1	Introduction	
Jan 8	2	Research Methods	Ch 1
Jan 13	3	The Self in a Social World 1	Ch 2
Jan 15	4	The Self in a Social World 2	Ch 2
Jan 20	5	Social Beliefs & Judgments 1	Ch 3
Jan 22	6	Social Beliefs & Judgments 2	Ch 3
Jan 27	7	Behaviour & Attitudes	Ch 4
Jan 29		<i>No class (Prof. away)</i>	
Feb 3		<i>Test 1 (30%)</i>	
Feb 5	8	Persuasion	Ch 5
Feb 10	9	Conformity	Ch 6
Feb 12	10	Group Influence	Ch 7
Feb 17 & 19		<i>No class (Reading Week)</i>	
Feb 24	11	Culture & Language	Ch 8
Feb 26	12	Altruism	Ch 9
Mar 3	13	Aggression	Ch 10
Mar 5		<i>Test 2 (30%)</i>	
Mar 10	14	Attraction & Intimacy 1	Ch 11
Mar 12	15	Attraction & Intimacy 2	Ch 11
Mar 17	16	Attraction & Intimacy 3	Ch 11
Mar 19	17	Stereotyping and Prejudice 1	Ch 12
Mar 24	18	Stereotyping and Prejudice 2	Ch 12
Mar 26	19	Social Psychology in the Clinic	Module B & D
Mar 31	20	Social Psychology in Court <i>Reflection Paper Due</i>	Module C
Apr 5 (Monday)		<i>Test 3 (25%)</i>	

Notes/Policies:

- 1) **ACE:** Please check ACE regularly. I will post announcements, lecture slides, grades, etc. Lecture slides will be posted by 5pm the day before lecture to help you with your note-taking, although I recommend that you take your own notes as much as possible (research shows that people have greater memory for the material when they take their own notes).
- 2) **Attendance:** To succeed, attend all lectures. Tests will be approximately 50% lecture material, and I will present a great deal of material not covered in your textbook and expand on important points in the text.
- 3) **Missing exams:** Students may take make-up tests if they inform me in advance that they will be unable to take the test (whenever possible) and have verifiable evidence of a medical problem. See <http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/exams/finalexams.html> which states “*Student travel plans are not considered acceptable grounds for granting an alternative examination time.*” Please wait until you are advised of the final exam date before you make end-of-term travel arrangements.
- 4) **Cell phone policy:** Ringing cell phones are a disruption during lecture, as is leaving the room to accept a cell phone call during class (even if the ringer is off). Cell phones must be turned off during lectures.
- 5) **Information for Students with Disabilities:** The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, 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 the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.
- 6) **Expectation of 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 www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.]
- 7) **Note on avoidance of academic offences** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity [check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/] to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. 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, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm. For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm.
- 8) **Student Grievances:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm. When in doubt please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

9) **Student Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 (Student Petitions and Grievances) (other than a petition) or Policy 71 (Student Discipline) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72 (Student Appeals) www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm.

10) **Peace and Conflict Studies Students:** This course is recognized as a PACS Content Course that fulfills requirements in the interdisciplinary Peace and Conflict Studies plan. For information about doing a PACS concentration (Major, Minor or Option) visit: <http://grebel.uwaterloo.ca/academic/undergrad/pacs/plans.shtml>.

Research Experiences Group (REG)
Participation in Psychology Research: Guidelines for Psychology 220R, Winter 2010

Experiential learning is considered an integral part of the undergraduate program in Psychology. Participation in research is one example of this. A number of undergraduate courses have been expanded to include opportunities for Psychology students to volunteer as research participants enabling them to learn first-hand about psychology research and related concepts. Many students report that participation in research is both an educational and interesting experience.

Since experiential learning is highly valued in the Department of Psychology, students may earn up to 2% of the final mark in this course through research experience (i.e., course work will make up 98% of the final mark and research experience will make up the other 2% for a maximum grade of 100%. In addition, for those students who wish to sample a wider range of these experiences, a further "bonus" 2% may be earned and will be added to the final grade. However, your maximum grade, combining coursework and REG credits, cannot exceed 100%. You can bank your "bonus" REG credits to be used if/as needed to bring your final grade up to 100%. For example, if you get 98% in your course and you earn 4 REG credits, only 2 of your credits will be applied to your grade. The other 2 credits cannot be applied to your grade, however, you will have nevertheless gained useful research experience.

This can be done in two ways. First, you may participate in studies conducted by students and faculty in the Department of Psychology. Participation is worth 0.5 participation credits (percentage points) for each half-hour of participation. Researchers will record student's participation and the REG Coordinator will advise the course instructor of the total credits earned by each student at the end of the term. Second, if you do not wish to participate in research, you may choose an alternative approach to earning the same number of credits; this is explained below in "Alternative to participating in research."

Please note that all Psychology studies have undergone prior ethics review and clearance through the Office of Research Ethics.

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.

How to sign up for studies:

Once you are registered in this course, you will get an account on Sona (our web-based Study Sign-Up system) at <http://uwaterloo.sona-systems.com> and you will receive an email with your UserID and Password. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE this email, please report this to regadmin@uwaterloo.ca immediately. You may nevertheless log on to your Sona account and start signing up for studies as described below.

- 1) **Log On to Sona:** User ID is your Quest ID (eg. j2smith)
Password is your Student ID (eg 2001234)
- 2) **Human Subjects/Privacy Policy:** Please Read/Acknowledge
- 3) **Prescreen Questionnaire:** Please take 10 minutes to provide this demographics information. There is no credit for this and you may decline if you wish however completing it will increase your eligibility for studies.
- 4) **Sign-up for Online Surveys and/or Lab studies:**
 - a. Go to “Studies” page to view the list of available studies.
 - b. Click on the Titles of studies that are eligible for this course.
 - c. Read the Study Information page.
 - d. For Online studies: Click on “View Timeslots” and/or “Participate”.
 - e. For Lab studies: Click on “View Timeslots” to set up lab appointments.
- 5) **Feedback and Credits:** Upon completion of the study you will receive feedback about the study hypothesis, design and predictions. Within 48 hours you will be granted the credit. Credits will be converted to grades and added to your final grade at the end of the term.

Mass Testing Survey (for 1.0 participation credit):

You should do this Online study FIRST ... before doing any other Online studies Researchers often select participants based on their responses to the measures in this survey. Completing it increases your eligibility for other studies. Note that you can only do this survey if you have completed the Prescreen questionnaire. Doing both Prescreen Questionnaire and Mass Testing Survey helps you (by providing more qualifying studies) and it helps researchers (by identifying more qualified participants). The Mass Testing Survey will be available until Wednesday February 17 at which time it will go offline, so please try to complete it before that date.

Study Restrictions and Important Dates:

- i) The first day to start participating in studies is Wednesday January 6.
- ii) The study must be eligible for a credit in this course (as noted in the Eligibility Requirements column on your Studies page).
- iii) **Only 2 of your credits for this course** can be for **Online** studies.
- iv) You should try to spread your participation out over the term i.e., if you wait until late in the term there may not be enough studies available for you.
- v) Mass Testing Survey closes Wednesday February 17.
- vi) Online limit override begins Wednesday February 17 (see note below).
- vii) The last day to participate for **credit** is Monday April 5.
- viii) The last day to participate for **remuneration/pay** is Friday April 23.

Online credit limit and override for students in multiple REG courses:

The Sona system automatically prohibits participants from signing up for more than 2.0 (TWO) online credits *per person*. If you are in more than one REG course this term the REG Coordinator will override this limit in order for you to sign up for up to 2.0 (TWO) online credits *per course* starting *Wednesday February 17*. At that time, details will be posted on the FAQ page of your Sona account, item 4 and an email notice will be sent to you.

Denial of access to studies: Completing studies that you have signed up for!

It is very important that you complete the studies that you have signed up for. For Lab studies this means showing up for the scheduled appointment. For Online studies this means completing the survey before the deadline that is posted in the timeslot. Please note that a study sign-up is a firm commitment to the researcher running the study so if you cannot keep the lab appointment or complete the survey before the deadline, please cancel the Sign-Up or contact the researcher in advance. Failure to attend 3 (THREE) Lab and/or Online studies that you have signed up for without providing adequate prior notice to the researcher may result in denial of access to further studies. Details are provided on the FAQ page on your Sona account.

For information, instructions, help with login problems etc. please contact:

REG website: <http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~regadmin/regparticipant>

REG Coordinator: regadmin@uwaterloo.ca

Alternative to participating in research

Students are not required to participate in research, and not all students wish to do so. As an alternative to gaining experience in research by participating in studies, students may submit short reviews (1½ to 2 pages) of journal articles. Each review article counts as one percentage point. *You must contact your professor to get approval for the article you have chosen before writing the review.* To receive credit, you must follow specific guidelines. The article review must:

- **Be submitted before Monday April 5. 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.

Students may complete any combination of a) participation in research or b) article reviews up to a total of 4 credits (i.e., 4% grade).