

PSYCH 253 Online - Fall 2012 - Course Syllabus - Course Schedule

Course Schedule

IMPORTANT: ALL TIMES EASTERN - Please see the [University Policies](#) section of your Syllabus for details.

Section/Week	Topics	Readings	Activities and Assignments	Begin Date	End / Due Date	Weight (%)
Section 1: The Power of the Situation						
Week 1	Module 01: Introduction	Text: Ch. 1	One Minute Summary (1 and 2)		Friday, September 14, 2012 at 11:55 PM	5% (The One Minute Summaries are worth a total of 5% of your final grade)
	Module 02: Research Methods	Reading: Jordan and Zanna				
Week 2	Module 03: Conformity	Text: Ch. 6 Reading: Milgram	Journal Article Summary 1		Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at 11:55 PM	8% (The Journal Article Summaries are worth a total of 8% of your final grade)
	Module 04: Helping Others	Text: Ch. 9	One Minute Summary (3 and 4)		Friday, September 21, 2012 at 11:55 PM	
Week 3	Module 05: Aggression	Text: Ch. 10	Journal Article Summary 2		Wednesday, September 26, 2012 at 11:55 PM	
		Reading: Anderson and Dill	One Minute Summary 5		Friday, September 28, 2012 at 11:55 PM	
Section 2: The Perceiver Shapes Reality						
Week 4	Module 06: The Self	Text: Ch. 2 Reading: Wilson and Ross	Test 1: Covers Section 1	Available Wednesday, October 3, 2012 (5:30 AM)	Availability Ends Thursday, October 4, 2012 (8:30)	8%

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			Journal Article Summary 3		Friday, October 5, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
	Module 07: Attribution and Person Perception	Text: Ch. 3	One Minute Summary (6 and 7)		Friday, October 5, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
Week 5	Module 08: Stereotyping and Prejudice	Text: Ch. 12 Reading: Sinclair and Kunda	Journal Article Summary 4		Wednesday, October 10, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
			One Minute Summary 8		Friday, October 12, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
Week 6	Module 09: Persuasion	Text: Ch. 5	One Minute Summary 9		Friday, October 19, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
Section 3: The Interaction of the Person and the Situation							
Week 7	Module 10: Social Comparison Theory	Text: pp 45-49; 347-348 Reading: Schachter and Singer	Test 2: Covers Section 2	Available Wednesday, October 24, 2012 (5:30 AM)	Availability Ends Thursday, October 25, 2012 (8:30 AM)	8%	
			Journal Article Summary 5		Friday, October 26, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
			One Minute Summary 10		Friday, October 26, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
Week 8	Module 11: Cognitive Dissonance Theory and Attitudes	Text: pp 128-140 Reading: Davies, Spencer, Quinn and Gerhardtstein	Journal Article Summary 6		Wednesday, October 31, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
	Module 12: Self-fulfilling Prophecies	Text: pp 450-458 and Module A	One Minute Summary (11 and 12)		Friday, November 2, 2012 at 11:55 PM		

Week 9	Module 13: Culture	Text: Ch. 8	One Minute Summary 13		Friday, November 9, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
Section 4: Applying Social Psychology							
Week 10	Module 14: Social Psychology and Health	Text: Module B Reading: MacDonald, Zanna and Fong	Test 3: Covers Section 3	Available Wednesday, November 14, 2012 (5:30 AM)	Availability Ends Thursday, November 15, 2012 (8:30 AM)	8%	
			Journal Article Summary 7		Friday, November 16, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
	Module 15: Social Psychology and the Law	Text: Module C	One Minute Summary (14 and 15)		Friday, November 16, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
Week 11	Module 16: Social Psychology and the Environment	Text: Module D	Application Paper		Wednesday, November 21, 2012 at 11:55 PM	15%	
	Module 17: Social Psychology and Business	Text: Ch. 7	One Minute Summary (16 and 17)		Friday, November 23, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
Week 12	Module 18: Social Psychology and Dating	Text: Ch.11 Reading: Murray and Holmes	Test 4: Covers Section 4	Available Wednesday, November 28, 2012 (5:30 AM)	Availability Ends Thursday, November 29, 2012 (8:30 AM)	8%	
			Journal Article Summary 8		Friday, November 30, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
			One Minute Summary 18		Friday, November 30, 2012 at 11:55 PM		
Final Exam						40%	

Final Examination Arrangement and Schedule

All students taking online courses that have a final exam must [provide examination arrangement information](#) by **Friday, September 28, 2012 at 11:55 PM**.

Examination schedule details will be available on [Quest](#) approximately four weeks prior to the exam date. For instructions on how to find exam information, go to the [Quest Help](#) page.

Official Grades and Course Access

Official Grades and Academic Standings are available through [Quest](#).

Your access to this course will continue for the duration of the current term. You will not have access to this course once the next term begins.

PSYCH 253 Online - Fall 2012 - Course Syllabus - Communication

Communication

Email/Discussion/Chat

Administrative questions or **technical problems** with Waterloo LEARN should be directed to the **Centre for Extended Learning** office at extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca.

Questions relating to **academic issues** (e.g., course content, deadlines, etc.) should be posted on the "Ask the Instructor" discussion topic. This allows other students to benefit from your question as well. Discussion topics can be accessed by clicking the **Discussions** link on the course navigation bar above. Questions of a **personal nature** can be directed to your instructor, Omid Fotuhi, at ofotuhi@uwaterloo.ca.

Your instructor checks email and the "Ask the Instructor" discussion topic frequently and will make every effort to reply to your questions within 24-48 hours, Monday to Friday.

A "General Discussion" topic has also been made available to allow students to communicate with peers in the course. Your instructor may drop in at this discussion topic but will not participate in the discussions.

Office Hours Chat

Your instructor will host a live chat session each Tuesday from 4pm to 5pm. These chats will act as virtual "Office Hours" where you can take the opportunity to ask questions about the course material. Please feel free to join this optional chat.

News

Your instructor uses the News section of the Course Home page to make announcements during the term to communicate new or changing information regarding due dates, instructor absence, etc. as needed to communicate with students.

To ensure you are viewing the complete list of news items, you may need to click **Show All**.

PSYCH 253 Online - Fall 2012 - Course Syllabus - Course Description and Objectives

Course Description and Objectives

This course surveys the major theories and research in social psychology. Social psychology is a field that studies how people affect one another. In the first part of this course, we will examine how people are influenced by the situations (and especially the other people in those situations) they encounter. We cover conformity, aggression, and helping behaviour in this part of the course. The second part of this course will focus on how people influence the situation and the people they encounter. Topics in this section will include the self-image and self-esteem, attribution and person perception, stereotyping and prejudice, and persuasion. In the third section of this course, we will examine how these first two processes interact. That is, we will examine how the power of the situation and the perceiver's perception of the situation work together in shaping people's thoughts and actions. Here we will examine cognitive dissonance theory, social comparison theory, self-fulfilling prophecies, and culture. Finally, we will apply social psychology to some important social issues, health and well-being, law and the courts, the environment, business, and attraction and relationships.

I have six goals for this course:

1. That you will learn how people are influenced by their situations.
2. That you will learn how people's beliefs and thoughts can influence their situations.
3. That you will gain some understanding of how the person interacts with the situation to shape behaviour.
4. That you will gain some ability to apply social psychological principles to important social issues.
5. That you will learn the basics of research methodology and will be able to differentiate a good study from a bad study.
6. That you will learn to read and understand primary source material.

PSYCH 253 Online - Fall 2012 - Course Syllabus - About the Course Author

About the Course Author

Note

Steve Spencer is the course author of Psychology 253. The course offering will be coordinated, during the term, by a Teaching Fellow. The Teaching Fellow will answer any questions you have about the course and course content. The Teaching Fellow will introduce him or herself at the beginning of the term in an News item on the course homepage. There is also a Teaching Assistant in this course who you will meet through a News item on the course homepage.

Course Author — Dr. Steven J. Spencer

Steve Spencer has been a faculty member at the University of Waterloo since 1997. He received his B.A. from Hope College (located about 2 hours north of Chicago on the western shore of Lake Michigan), and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor (located about an hour west of Detroit).

Dr. Spencer's major research interests are in Social Psychology and particularly the study of the self, stereotyping and prejudice, and unconscious thought processes. In addition to Introductory Psychology, Spencer

teaches a second year undergraduate course in Social Psychology, a third year undergraduate course in Social Cognition, and seminars in research methods and stereotyping and prejudice to graduate students studying for the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. Spencer has two children, Emily and Jon. You will hear a number of anecdotes about his family as you listen to the lectures. In his spare time, he enjoys playing most sports (especially basketball) and is an active member in his church.



PSYCH 253 Online - Fall 2012 - Course Syllabus - Materials and Resources

Materials and Resources

Textbook(s):

Required:

1. David G. Myers, Steven J. Spencer, and Christian Jordan. (2009). *Social Psychology (4th Canadian Edition)*. McGraw-Hill Ryerson.
2. (2004). *Supplementary Readings*. University of Waterloo.

For textbook ordering information, please contact the [Waterloo Bookstore](#).

For your convenience, you can compile a list of required and optional course materials through [BookLook](#) using your Quest userID and password. If you are having difficulties ordering online and wish to call the Waterloo Bookstore, their phone number is +1 519 888 4673 or toll-free at +1 866 330 7933. Please be aware that textbook orders **CANNOT** be taken over the phone.

Other Materials

The [Social Psychology Network](#) is an excellent additional resource for topics on Social Psychology.

Resources

- [University of Waterloo Library](#) (Services for Students Taking Online Courses)

PSYCH 253 Online - Fall 2012 - Course Syllabus - Downloadable Content

Downloadable Content

What is Downloadable Content?

Some course content is available for download so that you can view it offline. This downloadable content is not new or supplementary content: it is typically a duplication of large media files (e.g., lecture presentations, videos, etc.) used in the course.

Downloadable Content Files

Click each of the links below to download and save the ZIP file to your computer.

- [Module 01: Introduction](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 02: Research Methods](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 03: Conformity](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 04: Helping Others](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 05: Aggression](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 06: The Self](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 07: Attribution and Person Perception](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 08: Stereotyping and Prejudice](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 09: Persuasion](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 10: Social Comparison Theory](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 11: Cognitive Dissonance Theory and Attitudes](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 12: Self-Fulfilling Prophecies and Intergroup Relations](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 13: Culture](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 14: Social Psychology and Health](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 15: Social Psychology and The Law](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 16: Social Psychology and The Environment](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 17: Social Psychology and Business](#) (ZIP)
- [Module 18: Social Psychology and Dating](#) (ZIP)

[Instructions for Using Downloadable Content](#)

Grade Breakdown

The following table represents the grade breakdown of this course.

Activities and Assignments	Weight (%)
Experimental Studies	3% (bonus)
One Minute Summaries	5%
Journal Article Summaries	8%
Term Tests	32%
Application Paper	15%
Final Exam	40%

PSYCH 253 Online - Fall 2012 - Course Syllabus - University Policies

University Policies

Submission Times

Please be aware that the University of Waterloo is located in the **Eastern Time Zone** (GMT or UTC-5 during standard time and UTC-4 during daylight saving time) and, as such, the time that your activities and/or assignments are due is based on this zone. If you are outside the Eastern Time Zone and require assistance with converting your time, please try the [Ontario, Canada Time Converter](#).

Accommodation Due to Illness

If your instructor has provided specific procedures for you to follow if you miss assignment due dates, term tests, or a final examination, adhere to those instructions. Otherwise:

MISSED ASSIGNMENTS/TESTS/QUIZZES

Contact the instructor as soon as you realize there will be a problem, and preferably within 48 hours, but no more than 72 hours, have a medical practitioner complete a [Verification of Illness Form](#).

Email a scanned copy of the Verification of Illness Form to your instructor, and **mail** a hard copy to:

Centre for Extended Learning
University of Waterloo
200 University Avenue West
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1

In your email to the instructor, provide your name, student ID number, and exactly what course activity you

missed.

If your instructor agrees to re-open a time-limited component, our technical support staff (extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca) will require an email from the instructor granting permission to allow you access.

Further information regarding Management of Requests for Accommodation Due to Illness can be found on the [Student Medical Clinic](#) website.

MISSED FINAL EXAMINATIONS

If you are unable to write a final examination due to illness, seek medical treatment and provide confirmation of illness to the Centre for Extended Learning within 48 hours by emailing a scanned copy of the completed University of Waterloo [Verification of Illness Form](#) to support your request for accommodation. In your email, provide your name, student ID number, and the examination(s) missed. You will be REQUIRED to hand in the original completed form at the time you write the make-up examination, which should be within a week of having missed your exam. The original completed form must be received before you are able to write a re-scheduled exam.

Further information about [Accommodation Due to Illness](#) regulations are available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

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. **If you have not already completed the online tutorial regarding academic integrity you should do so as soon as possible.** Undergraduate students should see the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#) and graduate students should see the [Academic Integrity Website for Graduate Students](#).

For further information on academic integrity, please visit the [Office of Academic Integrity](#).

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes [academic integrity](#) 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. For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

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.

Grievance

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. When in doubt please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Final Grades

In accordance with [Policy 19](#), the Centre for Extended Learning does not release final examination grades or final course grades to students. Students must go to [Quest](#) to see all final grades. Any grades posted in Waterloo Learn are unofficial.

Note 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 accommodation to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term and for each course.

Use of Computing and Network Resources

Please see the [Guidelines on Use of Waterloo Computing and Network Resources](#).

Copyright Information

uWaterloo's Web Pages

All rights, including copyright, images, slides, audio, and video components, of the content of this course are owned by the course author, unless otherwise stated. These Web pages are owned or controlled by the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning. By accessing the Web pages, you agree that you may only download the content for your own personal, non-commercial use. You are not permitted to copy, broadcast, download, store (in any medium), transmit, show or play in public, adapt or change in any way the content of these Web pages for any other purpose whatsoever without the prior written permission of the course author and the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning.

Other Sources

Respect the copyright of others and abide by all copyright notices and regulations when using the computing facilities provided for your course of study by the University of Waterloo. No material on the Internet or World Wide Web may be reproduced or distributed in any material form or in any medium, without permission from copyright holders or their assignees. To support your course of study, the University of Waterloo has provided hypertext links to relevant Web sites, resources, and services on the Web. These resources must be used in accordance with any registration requirements or conditions which may be specified. You must be aware that in providing such hypertext links the University of Waterloo has not authorized any acts (including reproduction or

distribution) which, if undertaken without permission of copyright owners or their assignees, may be infringement of copyright. Permission for such acts can only be granted by copyright owners or their assignees.

If there are any questions about this notice, please contact the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1 or by [email](#).