

University of Waterloo

Online Course
Centre for Extended Learning

PSYCH 354

Spring 2011

Syllabus and Schedule



Communication

Email/Phone

Administrative questions should be directed to the [Centre for Extended Learning office](#).

Technical problems with UW-ACE should be directed to [Technical Support](#).

Academic issues (e.g., course content, deadlines, etc.). **First read through the course syllabus (below) and the course schedule (see tab above)**, this often answers most questions. If you are sure that the information listed on syllabus and schedule does not answer your question, you may direct your question to your instructor Martin Day at mvday@uwaterloo.ca.

The Psychology Department can be reached at 519-888-4567 ext. 32813.

Announcements

To check for announcements from your instructor, select the [Announcements](#) page. Technical Support may also communicate administrative items to students through the *Announcements* page. Please check your announcements regularly.

To ensure you are viewing the complete list of announcements, you must click ALL. Please note you may also be required to click MORE.

[More](#) | View: [Past](#) [Present](#) [All](#) | Sort: [Descending](#)

Discussion Boards

Select the **Communicate** tab to post a question or read questions and answers from *other students*.

[TOP](#)

About the Course

Course Author — John Holmes

The course author is not involved in the ongoing delivery and administration of this course. All communication regarding this course should be addressed to your instructor.

Introduction and Overview

This course is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of research and theory on interpersonal relations. We will begin by exploring how we form first impressions of other people. We'll spend a couple of lectures looking at the criteria that we use to choose our relationship partners (e.g., similarity and physical attractiveness). Next, we will explore the developmental basis of individuals' chronic orientations toward the social world, their expectations about other and beliefs about themselves that affect how they approach their close relationships. Next, we will examine issues of self-esteem and social anxiety and consider how they influence our encounters with others. To some extent, the main focus of the course is the development and maintenance of close, personal relationships. Thus the remaining lectures will focus on areas where couples go right and where they go wrong.

In the latter two sections of the course, we will take a look at how we think about our relationships. That is, we'll turn our focus to social cognition. In the first of these social cognition lectures we will look at questions including whether it better to accurately understand exactly who our partners are, or whether a little poetic license in viewing our partners helpful for our relationships? The second lecture on social

cognition will address similarity in our relationships and will look at our tendencies to perceive greater similarity between ourselves and our partners than may be warranted by reality. Next, we will take a close look at how traditional gender roles influence our satisfaction with our relationships. Subsequently, we will turn our attention to the accommodation phase where the challenge for individuals is to come to terms with a less than perfect partner and to forge a commitment based on a broader and more realistic perspective of their relationships. We will continue with the theme of social cognition following up the accommodation phase lecture with a series of lectures on strategies for maintaining our relationships, dealing with negativity from our partners and coping with uncertainty. We will then address the question of how we evaluate and appraise our relationships, deciding whether to stay with our partners or not. Finally, we will deal with a pivotal concern in any relationship – the handling of conflicts.

Objectives

Our main objective in this course is to provide you with a set of conceptual tools for analyzing and understanding the significant social relationships in your own lives and others' lives. "There is nothing as practical as a good theory" according to Kurt Lewin, the father of social psychology. However, that is only true to the extent that you learn how to apply and translate general ideas into specific situations. Both the lectures and the case study assignments are designed to help you develop skills in analyzing social situations and translating theories into practice.

Grade Breakdown

Assignments	50%
Final Exam	50%
Research Bonus	3%

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Materials and Resources

The Centre for Extended Learning is no longer automatically mailing a course CD/DVD containing lectures that are also found within UW-ACE. Content available on the CD/DVD can now be downloaded free-of-charge via the Content Modules in UW-ACE. However, if you wish to purchase a CD/DVD, please visit our [online ordering system](#).

Textbook(s)

Required:

Brehm, S.S., Miller, R.S., Perlman, D., and Campbell, S.M. (2009). *Intimate Relationships*. Fifth Edition. McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

The assigned textbook for this course is *Intimate Relationships* (5th ed.) by Brehm et al. This is a very fine textbook. It is well-written and relatively lively, and at the same time, it is sophisticated and gives a balanced presentation. We hope you enjoy it! (Students in our course on campus rate it as one of the best texts they've had in university.) It is a great introduction to the study of close relationships and is new as of last year, meaning the research described throughout the book is up-to-date. You should get the fourth edition of the textbook if you are buying it used or online. **The assigned readings come from the 5th edition of the book and the exam questions will be derived from the 5th edition of the book.**

However, if you already have a 4th edition textbook, you may be able to use it for the course. Although this edition was published in 2007, the field of close relationships has been growing rapidly since then. Consequently, our understanding of some concepts is more refined now than it was when the previous edition was published. However, the differences between the two editions are not so significant that you will be at a major disadvantage if you can only obtain the older edition of the book. Your syllabus contains a reading list with page numbers for both editions of the book.

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

For your convenience, you can compile booklists of required and optional textbooks based on your current courses through BookLook using your Quest userID and password (look for the **Shop Online with BookLook** link in the centre-top section of the main Waterloo Bookstore page). 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.

Resources

- **UW Library** (Centre for Extended Learning)

Policies

Course Policies

Keeping up with assignments is essential for getting the most out of this course as a student. Keeping track of late assignments is time consuming and can lead to unreasonable delays in marks for all students. Therefore, in fairness to those who submit assignments on time, penalties will be applied to late assignments at a rate of 5% late penalty/day. Assignments more than 10 days late will not be accepted (i.e., students will receive a zero for that assignment). Only in cases of serious mitigating circumstances (e.g., illness) that can be documented (see below), late penalties will be waived, and only under such circumstances, assignments will still be accepted after 10 days. Please contact the instructor as soon as possible concerning any serious mitigating circumstances.

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; follow up **as quickly as possible** by having a medical practitioner complete a **Verification of Illness Form***. Send a scanned copy of the **Verification of Illness Form** to assignments@uwaterloo.ca, but please be aware that your instructor may require the original and do not lose or destroy it. In your email, provide your name, student ID number, and exactly what you missed. *If your instructor agrees to re-open a time-limited component, our technical support staff will require an email from the instructor granting permission to allow you access.*

Missed Final Examinations

If you miss a final examination due to illness, see a medical practitioner as quickly as possible. Submit a completed **Verification of Illness Form*** preferably **within 48 hours, but not more than 72 hours** after missing the exam. Send a scanned copy of the **Verification of Illness Form** by email to examinations@uwaterloo.ca. In your email, provide your name, student ID number, and the examination(s) missed. The original **Verification of Illness Form** will be required in order for your examination(s) to be rescheduled. Unless otherwise stated by your instructor, your academic faculty, or your department, an exam missed due to short-term illness must be written within the current term's examination period.

* The **Verification of Illness Form** is normally the only acceptable medical documentation. Please make sure the medical practitioner completes the information in the "Degree and Dates of Incapacitation" section of the form.

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.** The undergraduate online tutorial can be found at <http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/ait/> and the graduate tutorial is at <http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/gradait/>. For other information about academic integrity check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/.

Discipline

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.

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.

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, 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.

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 UW-ACE 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 UW Computing and Network Resources](#).

Copyright (©) Information

UW'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 (WWW) 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**.

Course begins Monday, May 2, 2011

ALL TIMES EASTERN – Please see the [Policies section](#) for details.

The Current time in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada is 11:16:08 AM.

Study Guidelines: The assigned readings in the text should be covered in the order listed below. We suggest you read the assigned material before you listen to the lecture. Sometimes the lectures will overlap with the text, expanding on the ideas presented there. However, at other times the lectures will focus on ideas that are not covered in much, if any detail in the book. Our goal in the lectures is to give you more depth on particular topics that we believe are especially significant and to include the most up-to-date findings from the research literature, with the Brehm et al. textbook providing you with the appropriate background material.

We have provided Thought Questions after each lecture. We recommend that you struggle with the issues raised in these questions as a way of integrating ideas from the course and ensuring that you have a good understanding of the concepts. There is often no right or wrong answer to these questions; instead they are intended to get you to consider the ideas in more depth and to realize the complexity and nuances of the issues.

Audio Lectures	Title	Readings from the Text		Course Requirements and Important Dates		
		4th Edition	5th Edition	Assignments	End / Due Date	Weight (%)
Please review the Getting Started page and the Course Syllabus including the Policies section before you begin your course.						
<u>Lecture 01.1</u>	First Impressions	Chapter 1; Chapter 2; Chapter 4, pp. 130-132	Chapter 1; Chapter 2	<u>Introduce Yourself</u> <u>Psychology Research Participation</u>		
<u>Lecture 02.1</u>	Interpersonal Attraction	Chapter 3, pp. 75-93	Chapter 3			
<u>Lecture 03.1</u>	Filter Model	Chapter 3, pp. 93-109	No assigned readings			
<u>Lecture 04.1</u>	Attachment Styles	Chapter 8	Chapter 8			
<u>Lecture 05.1</u>	Bases of Self-Esteem	Chapter 7, pp. 219-234	Chapter 7, pp. 214-233			
<u>Lecture 06.1</u>	Impact of Self-Esteem	Chapter 7, pp. 235-253	No assigned readings			
<u>Lecture 07.1</u>	Social Anxiety	Chapter 14	Chapter 7, pp. 233-244	<u>Assignment 1</u>	Wednesday, May 18, 2011	

<u>Lecture 08.1</u>	Social Cognition #1	Chapter 4, pp. 110-130	Chapter 4			
<u>Lecture 09.1</u>	Social Cognition #2	Chapter 4, pp. 133-142	No assigned readings			
<u>Lecture 10.1</u>	Gender	Chapter 11; Chapter 5, pp. 147-170	Chapter 12, pp. 360-374			
<u>Lecture 11.1</u>	Accommodation	Chapter 6, pp. 186-201	Chapter 6			
<u>Lecture 12.1</u>	Relationship Maintenance	Chapter 6, pp. 202-214; Chapter 15, pp. 458-464	Chapter 14, pp. 420-428	<u>Assignment 2</u>	Wednesday, June 15, 2011	
<u>Lecture 13.1</u>	Negativity	Chapter 10, pp. 314-338	Chapter 10			
<u>Lecture 14.1</u>	Uncertainty	Chapter 9, pp. 276-292	Chapter 9			
<u>Lecture 15.1</u>	Appraising Relationships	Chapter 9, pp. 292-301	No assigned reading			
<u>Lecture 16.1</u>	Communication	Chapter 12, pp. 361-372	Chapter 5			
<u>Lecture 17.1</u>	Conflict	Chapter 12, pp. 373-388; Chapter 13	Chapter 11; Chapter 12, pp. 374-384			
<u>Lecture 18.1</u>	Therapy	Chapter 5, pp. 170-177; Chapter 15, pp. 465-477	Chapter 13; Chapter 14, pp. 428-440	<u>Assignment 3</u>	Wednesday, July 13, 2011	Total 50%
				<u>Assignment 4: Supplementary</u>	Day of the final examination	3%
<u>Final Exam</u>						50%

Final Examination Arrangement and Schedule

All students taking online courses that have a final exam must **provide examination arrangement information** by **Friday, May 20, 2011**.

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 Academic Standings are available through Quest.

Please note: Your access to this course in UW-ACE will continue for the duration of the current term.

You will not have access to this course once the next term begins.