

Psych 253 Online – Winter 2020

Course Schedule

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

Week	Module	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	Introduce Yourself		Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 11:55 PM	2 bonus marks on any quiz if over 80% of you do this
	Module 02 - Research Methods	Reading: Jordan and Zanna. "How to Read a Journal Article in Social Psychology" (PDF)				
Week 2	Module 03 - Conformity	Text: Ch. 6 Reading: Milgram. "Behavioral Study of Obedience" (PDF)				
	Module 04 - Helping Others	Text: Ch. 8				
Week 3	Module 05 - Aggression	Text: Ch. 9 Reading: "No, Video Games Are Not a Factor in Mass Shootings" (Web Article)				
Section 2: The Perceiver Shapes Reality						
Week 4	Module 06 - The Self	Text: Ch. 2 Reading: Wilson and Ross. "From Chump to Champ: People's Appraisals of Their Earlier and Present Selves" (PDF)	Term Test 1	Available Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 5:30 AM	Availability Ends Thursday, January 30, 2020 at 8:30 AM	5%
			Term Test 1 - Feedback Available	Friday, January 31, 2020 at 12:00 AM		
	Module 07 - Attribution and Person Perception	Text: Ch. 3				
Week 5	Module 08 - Stereotyping and Prejudice	Text: Ch. 11 Reading: Sinclair and Kunda. "Reactions to a Black Professional" (PDF)				
Week 6	Module 09 - Persuasion	Text: Ch. 5				

Reading Week (Saturday, February 15, 2020 to Sunday, February 23, 2020)

Section 3: The Interaction of the Person and the Situation

Week 7	Module 10 - Social Comparison Theory	Reading: Schachter and Singer. "Cognitive, Social, and Physiological Determinants of Emotional State" (PDF)	Term Test 2: Covers Section 2	Available Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 5:30 AM	Availability Ends Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 8:30 AM	5%
			Term Test 2 - Feedback Available	Friday, February 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM		
Week 8	Module 11 - Cognitive Dissonance Theory and Attitudes	Text: Ch. 4 Text: Ch. 12				
Week 9	Module 12 - Self-fulfilling Prophecies and Intergroup Relations	Reading: Davies, Spencer, Quinn and Gerhardstein. "Consuming Images" (PDF)				

Section 4: Applying Social Psychology

Week 10	Module 13 - Social Psychology and Health	Text: Module B Reading: MacDonald, Zanna and Fong. "Decision Making in Altered States" (PDF)	Term Test 3: Covers Section 3	Available Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 5:30 AM	Availability Ends Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 8:30 AM	5%
			Term Test 3 - Feedback Available	Friday, March 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM		
	Module 14 - Social Psychology and the Law	Text: Module C				
Week 11	Module 15 - Social Psychology and the Environment	Text: Module D	Application Paper		Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at 11:55 PM	20%
	Module 16 - Social Psychology and Business	Text: Ch. 7				

Week 12	Module 17 - Social Psychology and Dating	Text: Ch.10 Reading: Murray and Holmes. "Seeing Virtues in Faults" (PDF)	Term Test 4: Covers Section 4	Available Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 5:30 AM	Availability Ends Thursday, April 2, 2020 at 8:30 AM	5%
			Term Test 4 - Feedback Available	Friday, April 3, 2020 at 12:00 AM		
			Bonus Points	Online Study Surveys	Friday, April 3, 2020 at 11:59 PM	3% (Bonus)
Final Examination	Exact date will be determined when final exams are scheduled by the university. Approximately 50 multiple choice questions, 2.5 hours.					60%

Final Examination Arrangements and Schedule

Please carefully review the information about [writing exams](#) for online courses, including dates, locations, how to make examination arrangements, writing with a proctor, and deadlines.

If you are taking any on-campus courses, you will automatically be scheduled to write your exam on campus. No action is required.

If you are taking only online courses, do one of the following:

- If your address in QUEST is within 100 km of an examination centre, you must choose an exam centre in [Quest](#) by end of the second week of term. This must be done each term.
- If your address in Quest is more than 100 km from an exam centre, you must arrange for a proctor. Please review the guidelines and deadlines for [writing with a proctor](#). This must be done each term.

Your online course exam schedule will be available in Quest approximately four weeks before your exam date(s). Instructions on how to find your schedule are posted on the [Quest Help](#) page.

University of Waterloo Senate-approved [academic regulations related to assignments, tests, and final exams](#) can be found on the Registrar's website.

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.

Contact Information

Announcements

Your instructor uses the **Announcements** widget 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. You are expected to read the **Announcements** on a regular basis.

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

Discussions

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.

Contact Us

Who and Why	Contact Details
Instructor <ul style="list-style-type: none">Course-related questions (e.g., course content, deadlines, assignments, etc.)Questions of a personal nature	<p>Post your course-related questions to the Ask the Instructor discussion topic*. This allows other students to benefit from your question as well.</p> <p>Questions of a personal nature can be directed to your instructor.</p> <p>Instructor: Cameron Smith crgsmith@uwaterloo.ca</p> <p>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.</p>
Teaching Assistants <ul style="list-style-type: none">Course-related questions (e.g., course content, deadlines, assignments, etc.)	<p>The TAs will be checking the Ask the TAs discussion board regularly and will make every effort to reply to your questions within 24–48 hours, Monday to Friday.</p> <p>learnhelp@uwaterloo.ca</p>
Technical Support, Centre for Extended Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none">Technical problems with Waterloo LEARN	<p>Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.</p> <p>Technical support is available during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM (Eastern Time).</p> <p>LEARN Help Student Documentation Student Resources</p>
Learner Support Services, Centre for Extended Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none">General inquiriesWatCards (Student ID Cards)Examination information	<p>extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca +1 519-888-4002</p> <p>Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.</p>

*Discussion topics can be accessed by clicking **Connect** and then **Discussions** on the course navigation bar above.

Course Description and Objectives

Description

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.

Objectives

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.

This online course was developed by Dr. Stephen J. Spencer, with instructional design and multimedia development support provided by the Centre for Extended Learning.

Grade Breakdown

The following table represents the grade breakdown of this course.

Activities and Assignments	Weight (%)
Introduce Yourself	Ungraded
Psychology Experiments/Article Reviews	3% BONUS*
Term Tests (4 x 5%)	20%
Application Paper	20%
Final Examination	60%

* The SONA website will say 6 credits rather than 3 credits. This is because the SONA system only allows half of the credits for a course to be online credits. To get around this, our course is set at 6 so that you can apply a full 3 online research credits to the course.

About the Course Author

Course Author — Dr. Steven J. Spencer

Steve Spencer was a faculty member at the University of Waterloo from 1997 to 2016. He is now a faculty member at The Ohio State University. 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. Spencer has two children, Emily and Jon. You will hear a number of anecdotes about his family as you listen to the lectures.



Materials and Resources

Textbook

Required

1. David G. Myers, Christian Jordan, Steven Smith, and Steven J. Spencer. (2018). *Social Psychology (7th Canadian Edition)*. McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

- **NOTE:** Get the the **CANADIAN** edition of this text.

There are a few ways to get this textbook:

- The UWaterloo Bookstore in South Campus Hall is selling the physical copy of this book for \$99.95.
- The used bookstore in the basement of the Student Life Centre has a few used copies. I believe the price was around \$80.
 - The used bookstore also has copies of the 6th Canadian edition for around \$50 I believe. You can use this version of the textbook for this class. You can also use the 5th Canadian edition of the text too if you can find it.
- You can use online versions of the text if you prefer. We will not be using the extra features that are sometimes included with the online versions.

For textbook ordering information, please contact the [W Store | Course Materials + Supplies](#).

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 +1 888-330-7933. Please be aware that textbook orders **CANNOT** be taken over the phone.

Other Materials

Supplementary Readings 1-9:

There are nine required Supplementary Readings in this course. They can be found under the "Readings" column on the [Course Schedule](#).

Social Psychology Network

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

Resources

- [Library services for co-op students on work term and extended learning students](#)

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

Further information regarding Management of Requests for Accommodation Due to Illness can be found on the [Accommodation due to illness](#) page.

Missed Final Examinations

If this course has a final exam and if you are unable to write a final examination due to illness, seek medical treatment and have a medical practitioner complete a [Verification of Illness Form](#). Email a scanned copy to the Centre for Extended Learning (CEL) at extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca within 48 hours of your missed exam. Make sure you include your name, student ID number, and the exam(s) missed. You will be REQUIRED to hand in the original completed form before you write the make-up examination.

After your completed Verification of Illness Form has been received and processed, you will be emailed your alternate exam date and time. This can take up to 2 business days. If you are within 150 km of Waterloo you should be prepared to write in Waterloo on the additional CEL exam dates. If you live outside the 150 km radius, CEL will work with you to make suitable arrangements.

Further information about [Examination Accommodation Due to Illness](#) regulations is 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 [Graduate Students and Academic Integrity](#) website.

Proper citations are part of academic integrity. Citations in CEL course materials usually follow CEL style, which is based on APA style. Your course may follow a different style. If you are uncertain which style to use for an assignment, please confirm with your instructor or TA.

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

Turnitin

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 the alternate assignment.

[Turnitin® at Waterloo](#)

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 46 - Information Management](#), Appendix A - Access to and Release of Student Information, 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.

AccessAbility Services

[AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall, 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 AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term and for each course.

Accessibility Statement

The Centre for Extended Learning strives to meet the needs of all our online learners. Our ongoing efforts to become aligned with the [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act \(AODA\)](#) are guided by University of Waterloo accessibility [Legislation](#) and policy and the [World Wide Web Consortium's \(W3C\) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.0](#). The majority of our online courses are currently delivered via the Desire2Learn Learning Environment. Learn more about [Desire2Learn's Accessibility Standards Compliance](#).

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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 websites, 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 extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca.

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we live and work on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (Neutral), Anishinaabeg, 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.