Renison University College Land Acknowledgement

With gratitude, we acknowledge that Renison University College is located on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples, which is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land granted to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

Winter 2022

Course Code: PSYCH 253R Section 003
Course Title: Social Psychology
Class Times/Location: Thursdays 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm / REN 1918
Instructor: Dr. Sherman Kwok
Office: N/A
Office Hours: By appointment
Email: sm3kwok@uwaterloo.ca

Course Description

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, close relationships, and others. The textbook is broad and general, while the lectures will cover more specific issues, especially recent experimental and theoretical approaches.

!!COVID-19 Contingency Plan –Please read Appendix A!!
Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

A. Explain the strengths and limitations of methods of investigation used in Social Psychology
B. Relate the findings of Social Psychology research to their own lives and to important issues in society and the world at large
C. Critically think about issues related to Social Psychology and the reporting of psychological research in the media

Required Text


Course Requirements and Assessment

There are two exams and two assignment components that will make up your overall mark for this course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Date of Evaluation</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Discussions</td>
<td>Every Week</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>February 17th</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Report Assignment:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Report</td>
<td>March 29th</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Presentation</td>
<td>March 29th</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Reflection</td>
<td>March 31st</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>April 5th</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonus Research Participation</td>
<td>Deadline April 4th</td>
<td>+3%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Students may either participate in psychology studies or write short reviews of relevant research articles for bonus credit.

Weekly Discussions

You will participate regularly in group discussions focusing on the course concepts covered during the week. You will be asked to reflect on how the content that you learned in class can be applied to your life, or society at large, and engage in discussion with your fellow students.

Each week on LEARN, you will post an initial reflection post and comment on two other students’ reflection posts. Your initial posts will be due on Fridays
at 11:59 pm. Your replies to other students’ posts will be due the following Wednesdays at 11:59 pm.

To receive full grade on each week’s reflection, your posts and comments should be substantive and thoughtful.

“I thought this week’s materials were interesting” and “I agree” are examples of a superficial post and reply that would not receive full marks.

A full description of this activity can be found on LEARN.

**News Report Assignment**

The purpose of this assignment is to help you critically consume scientific research and understand the intricacies of accurately portraying scientific findings in the media.

As a group you will select one of four articles from a pre-selected list, review the article and create a point-form summary of the most important variables and findings, prepare a media-style news report that explains the findings and conclusions to a public audience, and give a presentation of your report to the class.

Individually, you will also write a short reflection on your experiences during the completion of this project and what you have learned about how the media portrays psychological research.

The rubric for this assignment can be found on LEARN.

Everyone in your group will receive the same grade for the group components. If you have any concerns, please reach out to the Instructor.

**Exams**

Each exam will include 50 multiple-choice questions. They are not cumulative. They are both administered on LEARN.

The Midterm covers materials from Weeks 1 to 5 (inclusive)
The Final covers materials from Weeks 6 to 11 (inclusive)

**Bonus Research Participation**

See Appendix B
## Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan. 6</td>
<td>Online: Introduction and Research Methods</td>
<td>Ch. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jan. 13</td>
<td>Online: The Self in a Social World 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Ch. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jan. 20</td>
<td>Online: Social Beliefs &amp; Judgments 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Ch. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jan. 27</td>
<td>Self-Regulation &amp; Motivation, &amp; Persuasion</td>
<td>Ch. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Feb. 3</td>
<td>Behaviour &amp; Attitudes 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Ch. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>Conformity &amp; Group Influence</td>
<td>Ch. 6 &amp; 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Online Midterm on LEARN – Thursday February 17 (Only Weeks 1-5)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mar. 3</td>
<td>Social Psychology in the Court and Altruism</td>
<td>Ch. 7 &amp; 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mar. 10</td>
<td>Aggression &amp; Attraction &amp; Intimacy 1</td>
<td>Ch. 9 &amp; 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mar. 17</td>
<td>Attraction &amp; Intimacy 2 &amp; Stereotyping &amp; Prejudice 1</td>
<td>Ch. 10 &amp; 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mar. 24</td>
<td>Stereotyping &amp; Prejudice 2</td>
<td>Ch. 11 &amp; 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mar. 31</td>
<td>Group Presentations &amp; Final Review</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reading Week – No Classes (Feb 21-25)**

**Online Final on LEARN – Tuesday April 5 (Only Weeks 6-10)**

News Report due (March 29th) by 11:59 pm

### Late Work

Unless an accommodation has been provided for a documented extenuating circumstance, assignments are due on the listed due date, and tests must be written on the scheduled date at the scheduled time (see below for information about accommodation).

Missed tests will receive a grade of 0. Late assignments will receive a penalty of 10% per day after the deadline up to three days, after which time, they will be assigned a grade of 0.

### Attendance Policy

Attendance is strongly encouraged. Much of the course content we will be covering does not appear in your readings or appears only in limited detail. Thus, attending class is essential for doing well in this class.

### Final Examination Policy

For **Winter 2022**, the established examination period is **April 8-26**. The schedule will be available early in the winter. Students should be aware that student travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting an alternative final examination time (see: Final Examination Schedule [https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations](https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations))
Accommodation for Illness or Unforeseen Circumstances:

The instructor follows the practices of the University of Waterloo in accommodating students who have documented reasons for missing quizzes or exams. See http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/students/accom_illness.html

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. See the UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage (https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) and the Arts Academic Integrity webpage (https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour) for more information.

**Discipline:** Every student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their own 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 professor, academic advisor, or Academic Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties are imposed under the University of Waterloo Policy 71 – Student Discipline. 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-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties).

Students should also be aware that copyright laws in Canada prohibit reproducing more than 10% of any work without permission from its author, publisher, or other copyright holder. Waterloo’s policy on Fair Dealing is available here: https://uwaterloo.ca/copyright-guidelines/fair-dealing-advisory Violation of Canada’s Copyright Act is a punishable academic offence under Policy 71 – Student Discipline.

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

**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 they have a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72, Student Appeals.

**Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo):**
http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** AccessAbility 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.

**Intellectual Property.** Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of the instructor, which can include:

- lecture handouts and presentations (e.g., PowerPoint slides)
- lecture content, both spoken and written (and any audio or video recording thereof)
- questions from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams)
- work protected by copyright (i.e., any work authored by the instructor)

Making available the intellectual property of instructors without their express written consent (e.g., uploading lecture notes or assignments to an online repository) is considered theft of intellectual property and subject to disciplinary sanctions as described in Policy 71 – Student Discipline. Students who become aware of the availability of what may be their instructor’s intellectual property in online repositories are encouraged to alert the instructor.
Contingency Planning (for planning specific for COVID-19, please see Appendix A below)

Inclement Weather
In the event of a short-term campus closure or the cancellation of an in-person class due to snow or inclement weather, online and remote classes will not be affected.

Interruption or Cancellation of In-Person Classes
In the event of a pandemic-related interruption of in-person classes, including a 'pivot' to remote learning, your Instructor will post details in LEARN. Please check the Announcements section of the course homepage in LEARN for updates.

Interruption or Cancellation of In-Person Examinations
In the event of a pandemic-related interruption of in-person exams, your Instructor will post details in LEARN. Please check the Announcements section of the course homepage in LEARN for updates.

Absence Due to Influenza-like Illness or Required Self-Isolation
If you need to be absent due to influenza-like illness or due to mandatory self-isolation, please complete an Illness Self Declaration. The form is available in the Personal Information section of Quest. Accommodations may be made for students who have completed an Illness Self Declaration without the need for a medical note.
Mental Health Support
All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health supports if they are needed.

On Campus
- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4567 ext. 32655
- **MATES**: one-to-one peer support program offered by the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) and Counselling Services
- Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from Student Life Centre

Off campus, 24/7
- **Good2Talk**: Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- **Empower Me**: Confidential, multilingual, culturally sensitive, faith inclusive mental health and wellness service.
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-4300 ext. 6880
- **Here 24/7**: Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- **OK2BME**: 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 at the Faculty of ARTS website Download the UWatWaterloo and regional mental health resources (PDF) Download the WatSafe app to your phone to quickly access mental health support information
A respectful living and learning environment for all

Everyone living, learning, and working at Renison University College is expected to contribute to creating a respectful environment free from harassment and discrimination.

You may contact Melissa Knox, Renison’s external anti-harassment and anti-discrimination officer, by email (mnknox@uwaterloo.ca) or by phone or text (226-753-5669). Melissa is an employment and human rights lawyer and part-time Assistant Crown Attorney for the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General. Melissa is experienced in case management, discipline and complaints processes, and works with organizations across Canada to foster safe, respectful, and inclusive work and learning environments through policy development, educational workshops, conflict mediation and dispute resolution, and organizational culture audits.

Harassment is unwanted attention in the form of disrespectful comments, unwanted text messages or images, degrading jokes, rude gestures, unwanted touching, or other behaviours meant to intimidate.

According to the Ontario Human Rights Code, discrimination means unequal or different treatment causing harm, whether intentional or not, because of race, disability, citizenship, ethnic origin, colour, age, creed, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, or other personal characteristic.
Appendix A: COVID-19 Contingency Plan

Lecture Delivery:
- Lectures will be delivered in synchronous sessions online
  o The Zoom widget will be added to the course’s LEARN page.
  o Class sessions will be scheduled for the same dates and times as outlined in the course syllabus.
  o Students are highly encouraged to attend the live sessions at the regularly scheduled times. The instructor recognizes that online learning for 3 hours in one setting can be a lot. The Instructor will try his best to record the live sessions, and post them after class. Students who can only attend part of the class/miss the class can view those recordings after.
  o The instructor will use the “Share Screen” feature to show the lecture slides.
  o The complete lecture slides will also be posted on LEARN.

Discussion Activities:
- The weekly discussion activities take place fully online on LEARN.
  o No adjustment needs to be made for this component.

In-Class Presentations:
- Students will present during a synchronous live session using Zoom if we cannot be in-person by the originally scheduled in-class presentation time.
  o A live session will be scheduled for the same date and time as the presentation day outlined in the course syllabus using the Zoom widget.
  o One member of the group will use the “Share Screen” feature to show the group’s slides and each group member will unmute when it is their turn to speak during the presentation.
  o For groups that cannot attend the synchronous presentation, they will need to record their presentation and upload it prior to the presentation date.

Midterms/Tests:
- They will be held on LEARN as an online quiz
Appendix B: 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 3% in this course through research experience. Course work will make up 100% of the final mark and a "bonus" of up to 3% 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 and remotely operated (replacing in-lab) studies, and article review; are described below. Students may complete any combination of these options to earn research experience grades.

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 (replaces 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 Committee.

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.
• FOR THE WINTER 2022 TERM ALL OF YOUR CREDITS can be earned through ONLINE AND REMOTELY/ ONLINE OPERATED (replacing in-lab) studies. This could change as advice on in lab studies progresses.

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 (replaces in-lab) studies has increment values of 0.75 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**

*** 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](#) or you can check the [Sona FAQ on the REG website homepage](#) 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. 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.