

**Faculty of Health  
Department of Psychology  
HH/PSYC 2120 3.0 Section A  
SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY  
Fall 2016  
Tuesdays 11:30-2:30 Vari Hall C**

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### **Instructor and T.A. Information**

Instructor: Dr. Amy Muise

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Office Hours	Wednesdays 12-1	Mondays 2-3

### **Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced.**

- HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology), with a minimum grade of C.

### **Course website: [Moodle](#)**

### **Course Description**

This course is an introduction to social psychology—the scientific study of people’s thoughts, feelings and behaviours in a social context. The primary goal of the course is to provide students with knowledge and understanding of theories and research in social behavior, social perceptions and social relationships. Topics covered in this course will include research methods, attitudes and social information processing, social influence, the self, group processes, prejudice, aggression, altruism, emotions, and interpersonal attraction and relationships.

### **Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of social determinants of behaviour.
2. Describe and evaluate current theory and research in social psychology.
3. Understand and interpret principles of social psychology in everyday life.
4. Define causes of social behaviour from different perspectives.

### **Specific Learning Objectives**

Students should leave the course with a broad understanding of the key research topics and theoretical perspectives in social psychology. Specifically, students should have knowledge of the different approaches to conducting social psychological research, understand the research methods used in social psychology, be able to discuss and evaluate key theories in social psychology, gain

knowledge about how social psychology theory and research apply to everyday life, compare and contrast different theoretical perspectives of social phenomenon, and critically evaluate research findings in social psychology.

### Course Materials

Required reading for this course includes the following book. It is available for purchase from the York University Bookstore <http://bookstore.yorku.ca/>:

**Textbook:** Myers, *Social Psychology*, 6<sup>th</sup> Canadian edition 9781259258121 \$149.95

**Alternative eBook Option:** Myers, *Social Psychology*, 6<sup>th</sup> Canadian edition 9781259256776 \$89

**In-Class Engagement:** We will be using the Top Hat ([www.tophat.com](http://www.tophat.com)) classroom response system in class. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops or through text message. You can visit [tinyurl.com/TopHatStudentGuide](http://tinyurl.com/TopHatStudentGuide) for the Student Quick Start Guide which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running. An email invitation will also be sent to your school email account (if you don't receive this email, you can register by visiting our course website <https://app.tophat.com/e/116315> Join code: 116315. Top Hat will require a paid subscription of \$24 for 4-months of unlimited access. A full breakdown of all options can be found at [www.tophat.com/pricing](http://www.tophat.com/pricing)

### Course Requirements and Assessment

There are four pieces of assessment for this course — in class participation (5%), two midterm exams (25% and 30% respectively) and a final exam (40%).

Assessment	Date of Evaluation (if known)	Weighting
In-Class Participation	During all lectures	5%
Midterm Exam #1	October 11th (in-class)	25%
Midterm Exam #2	November 8th (in-class)	30%
Final Exam	TBD	40%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

### Description of Assignments

1. In-Class Participation (5%): Using Top Hat's interactive learning application, there will be questions and discussion throughout the term. Your final grade will be based primarily on completion (i.e., just responding to the questions). Questions include participation-based questions that have no right or wrong answer and content questions that do have a correct answer (mostly you are graded on participation, not on correctness). I will also take attendance with this application, but this will not count towards your grade.
2. Midterm Tests (55% total): There are two midterms in-class during the semester. Midterm #1 will test on the first five chapters of the textbook plus the corresponding lectures. Midterm #2 tests on chapters 6 to 10 and the corresponding lectures only (Midterm #2 is non-cumulative). The exams will include a fairly even split of questions from the textbook

and the lectures. The exams will primarily include multiple choice questions, but will include some open-ended, essay style questions.

3. Final Exam: The final exam in this course includes all chapters and lectures throughout the semester (i.e., it is cumulative). The final exam will follow a similar structure to the midterm exams.

### Grading as per Senate Policy

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests\* will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

(For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - <http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2016-2017/academic-and-financial-information/academic-services/grades-and-grading-schemes>)

### Late Work/Missed Tests or Exams

Students with a documented reason for missing a course test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (Attending Physician Statement which can be found at: <http://registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attending-physicians-statement.pdf>) may request accommodation from the Course Instructor. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

If a student misses one of the midterms for a documented reason, the percentage will be reallocated to the final exam. This means that if a student misses the first midterm (worth 25%), their final exam will now be worth (65%).

### Add/Drop Deadlines

For a list of all important dates please refer to: [Important Dates](#)

Important dates	Fall (F)	Year (Y)	Winter (W)
Last date to add a course <b>without</b> permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Sept. 21	Sept. 21	Jan. 18
Last date to add a course <b>with permission</b> of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Oct. 5	Oct. 19	Feb. 1
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Nov. 11	Feb. 10	March 10
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a "W" on the transcript – see note below)	Nov. 12 - Dec. 5	Feb. 11 - Apr. 5	March 11 - Apr. 5

### Electronic Device Policy

My policy on electronic devices is that they should be used only for purposes related to the course. If your use of electronic devices is inappropriate or distracting to me or the other students, you will be asked to put away the device or to leave class.

## **Attendance Policy**

Attendance is at the student's discretion. I will take attendance to assist with managing the in-class participation application, but students will not be graded on attendance. A portion of the student's grade, however, is earned through in-class participation.

## **Academic Integrity for Students**

York university takes academic integrity very seriously, please visit [an overview of Academic Integrity at York University](#) from the Office of the Vice-President Academic.

The following links will assist you in gaining a better understanding of academic integrity and point you to resources at York that can help you improve your writing and research skills:

- [Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#)
- [Online Tutorial on Academic Integrity](#)
- [Information for Students on Text-Matching Software: Turnitin.com](#)
- [Beware! Says who? A pamphlet on how to avoid plagiarism](#)
- [Resources for students to help improve their writing and research skill](#)

## **Test Banks**

The use of test banks is not permitted in this course and may be considered a potential breach of academic honesty. This includes but is not limited too; buying or selling test banks.

## **Electronic Devices During a Test/Examination**

Electronic mobile devices of any kind are not allowed during a test or examination. Students are required to turn off and secure any electronic mobile device in their bag which is to be placed under the chair while a test/exam is in progress. Any student observed with an electronic device during a test/exam may be reported to the Undergraduate Office for a potential breach of Academic Honesty.

## **Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

While all individuals are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to do so at a level of excellence, the university recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to do so. The [York University Accessibility Hub](#) is your online stop for accessibility on campus. The [Accessibility Hub](#) provides tools, assistance and resources. Policy Statement

**Policy:** York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations and adaptations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs.

The nature and extent of accommodations shall be consistent with and supportive of the integrity of the curriculum and of the academic standards of programs or courses.

Provided that students have given sufficient notice about their accommodation needs, instructors shall take reasonable steps to accommodate these needs in a manner consistent with the guidelines established hereunder.

For Further Information please refer to: [York university academic accommodation for students with disabilities policy](#)

### Course Materials Copyright Information

These course materials are designed for use as part of the HH/PSYC 2120 3.0A course at York University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law.

Copying this material for distribution (e.g. uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law. [Intellectual Property Rights Statement](#)

### Course Schedule:

Lesson	Topic	Reading(s)
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	What is Social Psychology?	Chapter 1
September 20 <sup>th</sup>	Research Methods & The Social Self	Chapters 1 & 2
September 27 <sup>th</sup>	Social Cognition & Attribution	Chapter 3
October 4 <sup>th</sup>	Attitudes & Persuasion	Chapter 4 & 5
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	Midterm #1 (In-class)	Chapters 1-5 and Lectures
October 18 <sup>th</sup>	Social Influence	Chapters 6 & 7
October 25 <sup>th</sup>	Aggression & Altruism	Chapter 8 & 9
November 1 <sup>st</sup>	Interpersonal Attraction and Close Relationship	Chapter 10
November 8 <sup>th</sup>	Midterm #2 (In-class)	Chapters 6-10 and Lectures
November 15 <sup>th</sup>	Emotions	No Readings
November 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Prejudice, Stereotyping & Discrimination	Chapters 11 & 12
November 29 <sup>th</sup>	Spotlight on Canadian Researchers & Closing Remarks	No Readings
	<b>Final Exam (TBD)</b>	All Readings and Lectures