

PSYC 2120 3.0
SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
Section O – Fridays, 11:30-2:30, CLH-G
January 6th - April 20th, 2012

Course Instructor: Kerry Kawakami

Office: BSB 324

If you would like to set up a meeting, please email me or one of the teaching assistants.

Email: kawakami@yorku.ca

Website: <http://www.psych.yorku.ca/kawakami/Class1.html>

TA: Curtis Phills

Office: BSB 321

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TA: Oth Tran

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TA: Chelsea Ferriday

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TA: Katherine Descours

Office: Atkinson 527

Email: kdescour@yorku.ca

General Description:

The primary goal of this course is to provide students with an introduction to research and theorizing in social psychology. Topics covered in this course will include research methods, attitudes and social information processing, social influence, the self, group processes, prejudice, aggression, altruism, and interpersonal attraction.

Class Format:

One three hour class will be held each week consisting of lectures, video clips, and class discussions.

Text:

The textbook for this course is:

Social Psychology, Fourth Canadian Edition (2010)

Aronson, Wilson, Akert, & Fehr

Pearson Education Canada

This textbook is available from the York Bookstore. ISBN: 978-0-13-603954-9

Price \$124.95

Prerequisites:

Psyc 1010 6.0 with a minimum grade of C.

Last Drop Date: March 9th**Evaluation:**

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| (1) Exam 1 – Friday, January 27th | 30% |
| (2) Exam 2 – Friday, March 9th | 30% |
| (3) Final Exam – Exam Period – April 4th to April 20th | 40% |

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.). Exams and the final grade 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 at http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/pdfs/ug2004cal/calug04_5_acadinfo.pdf

Please note that it is important to show up for all exams on time. To be fair to other students and to prevent cheating, students who are late will not be allowed to write the exam.

Also to be fair to the other students, there will be no makeup exams except under extraordinary circumstances. Students will only be allowed to write a missed exam if they notify the instructor within 48 hours of the scheduled exam date. Legitimate reasons include death in the family and illness. Missing an exam for vacation or work related reasons are not valid excuses.

Documentation is necessary. Your doctor must fill the form provided on the website below and provide the necessary details and dates surrounding your illness.

http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/attend_physician_statement.pdf

If you miss an exam for non-medical reasons, you still must produce supporting documentation (e.g., death certificate, accident report, airline ticket for emergency travel).

Class Conduct and Academic Integrity and Honesty:

Please note that all cell phones should be turned off during classes and exams so that incoming calls do not disrupt the class.

Please check out York University's academic integrity website.
<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>

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1) Friday, Jan 6th

Introduction and Methodology

Reading material:

Chapter 1: Introduction to Social Psychology, pp. 2-25.

Chapter 2: Methodology: How Social Psychologists Do Research, pp. 26-55.

Check out the following websites:

<http://www.psych.yorku.ca/kawakami/Class1.html>

2) Friday, Jan 13th

Social Cognition

Reading material:

Chapter 3: Social Cognition: How We Think about the Social World, pp. 56-87.

3) Friday, Jan 20th

Social Perception and Self-Perceptions

Reading material:

Chapter 4: Social Perception: How We Come to Understand Other People, pp. 88-123.

Chapter 5: Self-Knowledge and the Need to Maintain Self-Esteem, pp. 124-151.

4) Friday, Jan 27th

First In-Class Exam

5) Friday, Feb 3rd

Attitudes

Reading material:

Chapter 6: Attitudes and Attitude Change: Influencing Thoughts, Feelings, and Behavior, pp. 152-189.

Do Web demonstrations of the IAT – <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/>

6) Friday, Feb 10th

Persuasion

7) Friday, Feb 17th

Conformity

Reading material:

Chapter 7: Conformity: Influencing Others, pp. 190-229.

8) Friday, Feb 24th – Reading Week – No classes

9) Friday, March 2nd

Group Dynamics

Reading material:

Chapter 8: Group Processes: Influence in Social Groups, pp. 230-263.

10) Friday, March 9th

Second In-Class Exam

11) Friday, March 16th

Altruism and Aggression

Reading material:

Chapter 10: Prosocial Behavior: Why Do People Help? pp. 304-333.

Chapter 11: Aggression: Why We Hurt Other People, pp. 334-369.

12) Friday, March 23rd

Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Discrimination

Reading material:

Chapter 12: Prejudice: Causes and Cures, pp. 370-415.

13) Friday, March 30th

Interpersonal Attraction and Close Relationships and Course Wrap-up

Reading material:

Chapter 9: Interpersonal Attraction: From First Impressions to Close Relationships, pp. 264-303.

14) Final Exam Period – April 4th to April 20th

Date and Location TBA