

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

FALL 2022

Instructor: Dr. Erica Speakman
Email: hiltze@mcmaster.ca
Lecture: Monday and Wednesday 2:30-3:20

Lecture Location: MDCL 1305
Office: KTH 213
Office Hours: Wednesdays 1-2pm or by appointment

Contents

Course Description.....	2
Course Objectives.....	2
Required Materials and Texts	2
Class Format.....	3
Course Evaluation – Overview	3
Course Evaluation – Details	3
Tutorial Attendance and Participation (10%)	3
Quizzes (5% Each = 20%), Due: Sept. 19, Oct. 3, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 2022.....	3
Final Assignment (25%), Due: Nov. 9 by 11:59pm	3
Midterm Exam (15%), Due: Oct. 17, 2022	4
Final Exam (30%), Due: TBD	4
Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings	4
Course Policies	5
Email Policy	5
Submission of Assignments.....	5
Grades.....	6
Late Assignments	6
Avenue to Learn	7
Turnitin.com.....	7
University Policies	7
Academic Integrity Statement.....	7
Conduct Expectations.....	8
Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities.....	8
Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work	8
Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)	9

Copyright and Recording 9
Extreme Circumstances..... 9

Course Description

At its core, social psychology explores the relationship between the individual and society, and systematically studies the nature and causes of human social behaviour. This course is designed to introduce you to the theory and empirical research of social psychology. We will begin by laying the groundwork and discussing the different theoretical and methodological tools that social psychologists utilize to understand a plethora of phenomena. This will provide the foundation for our exploration of topics that are of particular interest to social psychologists, such as: socialization, the development of self and identity, behaviour and attitudes, and group processes, ultimately just scratching the surface of the amazing field of social psychology!

Course Objectives

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Understand the dominant theoretical and methodological perspectives that are utilized to study social psychology, as well as appreciate the strengths and limitations of these approaches
- Gain a critical understanding of the impact that the individual and society has on the development of the self and identity
- Be able to apply concepts and ideas learned in this course to current situations and events in the community and around the world.
- Be able to apply social psychological principles and concepts to students' own experiences and everyday life
- Enhance students' critical thinking, writing, and organizational skills through course assignments, as well as enhance students' communication skills through class discussions.

Required Materials and Texts

- **Required:** Myers, D., J. M. Twenge, C. H. Jordan, and S. M. Smith (2021) *Social Psychology* 8th Canadian Ed. McGraw-Hill.
 - The text can be purchased at the *Campus Store*. There are both physical copies and an e-book version.
 - The publisher's website also offers the option to rent the text at a lower cost
 - Any previous editions purchased are done so at the student's own risk
- All other assigned and supplemental readings will be posted on Avenue to Learn

Class Format

Lectures will be held in-person, unless otherwise specified. Lectures will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:30-3:20pm in MDCL 1305. Tutorials will also be in-person. You must attend the tutorial that you have been assigned through Mosaic.

While attendance is not mandatory, it is *strongly* encouraged. With that being said, please do not come to lecture/tutorial if you feel unwell. This is especially the case if you are experiencing COVID symptoms and/or have tested positive. Contingencies will be in place if you are unable to attend. This will be addressed during the first lecture

The format of this class may change due to the ever-changing nature of the pandemic. If the university closes, the lectures will be moved to a virtual format until it is safe to return to campus.

Course Evaluation – Overview

1. Tutorial Attendance and Participation – 10%
2. Quizzes - 20% (4 quizzes at 5% each)
3. Mid-Term Exam – 15%,
4. Final Assignment – 25%
5. Final Exam – 30%

Course Evaluation – Details

Tutorial Attendance and Participation (10%)

Over the course of the semester, you are asked to attend tutorials where you will have the opportunity to work on practice test questions, discuss course material in a more in-depth manner, and, perhaps most importantly, connect with your peers. If you are unable to attend your tutorial for that week, please contact your TA to work out alternatives for assessment

Quizzes (5% Each = 20%), Due: Sept. 19, Oct. 3, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 2022

Throughout the term, you will complete FOUR quizzes that will be based on both lecture and reading material. Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple choice/true or false questions. They are open-book assessments and will be administered through Avenue to Learn. You will have 15 minutes to complete the test, which will be available from 9am-9pm on the day they are due

Final Assignment (25%), Due: Nov. 9 by 11:59pm

For the final assignment, you will carry out a film analysis, where you will take ideas from the course, and ground them within the film assigned. Note, this is not a film review, but rather an opportunity to develop your analytical and critical thinking skills. Further instructions will be provided on Avenue to Learn

Midterm Exam (15%), Due: Oct. 17, 2022

The exam will be based on both the lectures and the readings. It will consist of multiple choice and true or false questions. Unless otherwise specified, the exam will be held in-person during class time

Final Exam (30%), Due: TBD

The exam will be based on both the lectures and the readings. It will consist of multiple choice and true or false questions. Please note that the exam is **not cumulative**. Unless otherwise specified, the exam will be in-person and will be scheduled by the Office of the Registrar

Weekly Course Schedule and Required Readings

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	DUE
Week 1 (Sept. 7)	Introduction to the Course	No Readings!	
Week 2 (Sept. 12 & 14)	What is Social Psychology? How Do We <i>Do</i> Social Psychology?	Chapter 1	
Week 3 (Sept. 19 & 21)	Self, Identity, and Impression Management	Chapter 2	QUIZ 1 - SEPT. 19 (covers week 2)
Week 4 (Sept 26 & 28)	Social Perception and Cognition	Chapter 3	
Week 5 (Oct. 3 & 5)	Behaviours and Attitude	Chapter 4	QUIZ 2 - OCT. 3 (covers weeks 3 & 4)
Week 6	READING WEEK	No Readings!	
Week 7 (Oct. 17 & 19)	Review and Midterm Exam	No Readings!	MIDTERM EXAM – OCT.17 (covers weeks 2-5)
Week 8 (Oct. 24 & 26)	Persuasion	Chapter 5	

Week 9 (Oct. 31 & Nov. 2)	Conformity	Chapter 6	QUIZ 3 – OCT. 31 (covers week 8)
Week 10 (Nov. 7 & 9)	Group Influence	Chapter 7	FINAL ASSIGNMENT DUE NOV. 9 BY 11:59 PM on Avenue to Learn
Week 11 (Nov. 14 & 16)	Altruism and Aggression	Chapters 8 and 9	
Week 12 (Nov. 21 & 23)	Prejudice	Chapter 11	QUIZ 4 – NOV. 21 (covers weeks 9-11)
Week 13 (Nov. 28 & 30)	Conflict and Peacemaking	Chapter 12	
Week 14 (Dec. 5 & 7)	Wrap up and Review	No Readings!	

Course Policies

Email Policy

If you have any questions or concerns throughout the term, please feel free to email either Dr. Speakman at hiltze@mcmaster.ca, or your TA (contact information forthcoming).

When emailing either Dr. Speakman or the TA, please use your McMaster email. This is University policy. In addition, please do not use Avenue messenger, as these messages often get overlooked or missed entirely. In the subject heading of your email, please indicate the course code. It would also be helpful to include your name (this can either be the one on the registrar's list, or your preferred name) and student number in the email.

If you do not get a response within a week, please re-send the email as it may not have been received. In addition, please be aware that emails may not be responded to in the evenings or the weekends, and the instructor or TA will get back to you as soon as they are able

Submission of Assignments

Please submit your final assignments to the appropriate folder on Avenue to Learn. When submitting an assignment, please use either a PDF or Word document as other

formats are not recognized. Also ensure that you are submitting the correct assignment to the correct class

Grades

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK	GRADE
90-100	A+
85-90	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

Late Assignments

The due dates for assignments are fixed and non-negotiable unless you are registered with SAS or submit a McMaster Student Absence Form (<http://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf>). The MSAF is a self-reporting tool for Undergraduate Students to report absences for medical or other reasons that last up to 3 days and provides the ability to request accommodation for any missed academic work worth less than 25% of your overall. In these cases, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar "Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work". Please note these regulations have changed beginning Fall 2015.

This form should be filled out when you are about to return to class after your absence. If you are absent for more than 3 days, or exceed one request per term, you **MUST** visit your Associate Dean's Office. You may be required to submit supporting documentation.

MSAF cannot be used for the Final Assignment (it is 25% or over), or the Final Exam. Late assignments will be deducted **1% per day late**. Any assignments that come in 2 weeks past the due date will receive an automatic grade of zero.

If you miss a quiz, please fill out an MSAF and contact Dr. Speakman as soon as possible to work out an alternative test date within a reasonable time

Review of Marks

We will be diligent in marking all assignments fairly and accurately. Nonetheless, occasionally students disagree with the marks they receive. When this occurs, we will be happy to review the mark of any assignment or exam, if the procedure outlined below is followed. ***Please note that when a mark is reviewed, the new mark may be lower than the original.***

To request a review of a mark, write a ½ page memo describing in detail the nature of the perceived marking error and submit this memo to your Teaching Assistant. You may submit requests for review no sooner than **48 hours** after receiving a grade, and no later than one week after assignments/exams are released back to the class.

If, after this review of your mark, you continue to dispute the mark, you may submit an appeal to Dr. Speakman. Write a 1-page memo describing the dispute with the reviewed mark and submit it along with the original assignment and all written feedback from the Teaching Assistant. Dr. Speakman will not review any marks not already reviewed by the respective Teaching Assistant.

Avenue to Learn

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Turnitin.com

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to Turnitin.com and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com must still submit a copy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please to go www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

University Policies

Academic Integrity Statement

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behavior can result in serious

consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Conduct Expectations

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#) (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, **whether in person or online**.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”.

Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the [RISO](#) policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office **normally within 10 working days** of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

Copyright and Recording

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

Extreme Circumstances

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.