

P. Birrell  
Winter 89

PSY 205  
Psychology as a Social Science  
177 LA, 11:30 - 12:30 MWF

Course Objectives:

1. To acquaint students with the broad areas of developmental, social, personality, and abnormal psychology. In particular, the course will be organized around the concept of self and identity. In other words, how do we know who we are, how did we get to be who we are, and how does our concept of who we are effect our behavior and relations with other people?
2. To provide an opportunity for students to learn more about themselves and how they see other people. Discussion sections and research participation are designed to increase your awareness and knowledge of yourself and your relationships with others.

Textbook:

Roediger, H.L., et al., Psychology, 2nd edition, 1987  
Rubenstein, J. & Slife, B., Taking Sides, 5th edition, 1988

Instructors:

Pam Birrell, 205 Straub, ext. 4932  
Jesus Padilla, 446 Straub  
Bentley Barbour, 335 Straub, ext. 4912  
Ann Boylan, 256 Straub, ext. 4964

### Schedule of Topics and Exams

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
1/6	Concepts of Self and Identity	
1/9	Developmental Psychology The importance of early experience	Chapter 9
1/16	Development in Adolescence and through the Life Span	Chapter 10
1/23	Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 12
EXAM I on January 27!		
1/30	Emotions and Stress	Chapter 13
2/6	Social Psychology Conformity and Obedience	Chapter 17
2/13	Social Issues	Chapter 18
EXAM II on February 17!		
2/20	Personality Personality Theories	Chapter 14
2/27	Abnormality and Deviance	Chapter 15
3/6	Psychotherapies	Chapter 16

FINAL EXAM, 10:15 a.m., Wednesday, March 8.

### Exams and grading procedures:

There will be 2 midterm exams and a final exam.

Exam I will cover chapters 9, 10, and 12, and discussions and lecture through January 25.

Exam II will cover chapters 13, 17, and 18, and discussions and lecture from January 30 through February 15.

The Final exam will be comprehensive but will stress mainly chapters 14-16, and lectures and discussions from February 20 through March 10.

Your grade will be based on the following:

- 45% 1. One midterm exam. Your lowest score will be dropped.
- 45% 2. Final exam.
- 10% 3. Discussion section grade (based on participation and highest grade on paper).

Since one of your midterm scores will be dropped, there will be no make-ups given. It is in your best interest to take both of the midterms since the final is comprehensive. Each examination (including the final) will consist of 45 multiple choice questions from the book, lecture, and material covered in discussion sections.

### Research Participation:

The psychology department requires participation in research for introductory courses. In this course, you may meet that requirement in one of two ways:

- 1. Participation in ongoing research projects by being a subject in 3 experiments. (See additional handout).
- 2. Being a subject in your own experiments and writing a short report on your experience. Talk to your discussion leader about this if you feel you cannot do the research participation.

### Cheating:

Anyone caught cheating will automatically fail the course.

PSY 205  
Discussion Section Schedule and Guide

Discussions sections will be used to debate issues in the book, Taking Sides, and to relate these issues to material from the lecture section and the textbook. Your grade in the discussion section will be based on a short (3-5 page) paper and on your participation in discussions. You may write 2 papers and choose the highest grade. The paper should deal with one of the issues discussed, and relate that issue to material in the book or from the lecture. The "quizzes" given in discussions will not be graded, but are designed to give you a preview of exam questions. Some questions from the quizzes will be on the exams.

Schedule of Issues

Week of

1/9      Issue 10:    Should parents provide academic instruction for their children before they're old enough for school?

1/16      Issue 9:        Should children learn morality primarily by examining their own reasoning?

1/23      Review for 1st midterm (ungraded quiz)

1/30      Issue 4:        Do attitudes affect cancer?

First discussion paper due

2/6        Issue 17:       Is pornography harmful?

2/13      Review for 2nd midterm (ungraded quiz)

2/20      Issue 13:       Do diagnostic labels hinder the effective treatment of persons with mental disorders?

2/27      Issue 15:       Is psychotherapy effective?

Second discussion paper due

3/6        Review for final (ungraded quiz)

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Office Hours

Instructor:

Pam Birrell, 205 Straub, 686-4932  
Wednesdays 10:30 - 11:20  
Fridays 12:30 - 2:00  
or by appt

Teaching Assistants:

Bentley Barbour, 335 Straub, 686-4912  
Mondays 10:30 - 11:30  
Thursdays 9:30 - 10:30

Ann Boylan, 256 Straub, 686-4964  
Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:30  
Fridays 3:30 - 4:30

Jesus Padilla, 446 Straub  
Mondays 8:30 - 10:30