

Psychology 410: Psychology of Prejudice/Intergroup Relations
December 30, 1997

Instructor: Myron Rothbart

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00 to 9:50 am

Room: 142 Straub Hall

Course requirements:

1. Basis for grade:
 - a. Midterm (Feb 16)
 - b. Final (March 18)
 - c. Weekly synopses
 - d. Pre-paper and term paper
 - e. Participation in class discussion
2. Classroom meetings: Monday and Wednesday will be primarily lecture with some discussion. Friday meetings will be primarily discussion based on student questions submitted on Wednesday.
3. Readings: Each week there will be assigned readings from Allport's *Nature of Prejudice*, Stephan & Stephan's *Intergroup Relations*, and very likely one or two articles on reserve in the main library. The readings must be completed by the Wednesday of each week, since a synopsis based on the readings is required at that time.
4. Weekly Synopses: A synopsis of the readings and one thoughtful question must be turned in each Wednesday during class period. The synopsis should be no more than two pages in length (typed, double space), and should summarize the essential arguments made by a) Allport, b) Stephan and Stephan, and c) reserve room readings. In addition, there should be one thoughtful question, appropriate for discussion, that you want to discuss, generated by the readings. The discussion questions will be used as the basis for discussion on Fridays.

The synopses must be typed, and will receive a grade of 0, 1 or 2 (0 if not turned in, 1 if turned in, but barely adequate, 2 if thoughtful). They will not be returned.
5. Paper Topic: A paper, due on the last day of class, March 13, with the following format:
 - a. A focussed question (related to any topic on prejudice). [Hint: "Why are people prejudiced?" is not a focussed question. "Under what conditions is intergroup contact most likely to lead to favorable attitude change?" is a focussed question]
 - b. A review of the literature relevant to that question.
 - c. A specific research proposal that is a) plausible, b) interesting, and c) derived (at least in part) from the analysis provided in the literature review.
 - d. Although the completed paper is due on March 13, a "pre" paper is due on February 18. This pre-paper is a two or three page abstract of the final paper,

and copies will be made available to the instructor and to other students in the class. Two class periods (February 18 and 20) will be spent discussing these proposals, with suggestions for improvement expected from the class and instructor.

- e. Since some of you are planning to do a research project later in the year, or next year, possibly as an honor's project, this proposal should be viewed as a good opportunity to develop your plans.

Weekly Topics

1. January 5-9: Defining and Measuring Prejudice, Stereotypes, Intergroup Hostility
 - a. Allport: Chapters 1-5
 - b. Stephan & Stephan: Chapter 1
 - c. Reserve articles: None
2. January 12-14 (no class on the 16th): Perceiving Group Differences, Part I
 - a. Allport: Chapters 6-8
 - b. Stephan & Stephan: Chapter 5
 - c. Reserve articles: In honor of M. L. King's birthday, a chapter on the Montgomery Bus Boycott from Taylor Branch's *Parting the Waters: A history of the King years 1953-1963*.
3. January 21-23 (no class on the 19th, due to M. L. KING's birthday): Perceiving Group Differences, Part II
 - a. Allport: Chapters 10-13
 - b. Stephan & Stephan: None
 - c. Reserve articles:
 - i. Campbell, D.T. (1967). Stereotypes and the Perception of Group Differences. American Psychologist, 22, 817-829
 - ii. Rothbart, M., & Taylor, M. (1992). Category labels and social reality: Do we view social categories as natural kinds? In G. R. Semin & K. Fiedler (Eds.), Language, interaction and social cognition (pp. 11-36). London: Sage.
 - iii. Ryan, C.S. (1995). Motivations and the perceiver's group membership: Consequences for stereotype accuracy. In Y. Lee, L. J. Jussim, C.R. McCauley (Eds.), Stereotype Accuracy. (pp. 189- 214) Washington: American Psychological Association.
4. January 26-30: Category Boundaries and Ingroup-outgroup perception
 - a. Allport: Chapters 17-20
 - b. Stephan & Stephan: Chapter 4
 - c. Reserve articles: None

5. February 2-6: Theories of Prejudice, Part I
 - a. Allport: Chapters 21-24
 - b. Stephan & Stephan: Chapter 2
 - c. Reserve articles: None
6. February 9-13: Theories of Prejudice, Part II
 - a. Allport: Chapters 25-28
 - b. Stephan & Stephan: None
 - c. Reserve articles: Fein, S. and Spencer, S. J. (1997). Prejudice as self-image maintenance: affirming the self through derogating others. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 73, 31-44.
7. **February 16: Midterm**
8. February 18-20: Discussion of Pre-papers
9. February 23-27: Intergroup Competition and Conflict/Socio-cultural factors
 - a. Allport: Chapters 14-15
 - b. Stephan & Stephan: Chapter 6
 - c. Reserve articles: None
10. March 2-6: Minority Status, Stigma, and the effects of Victimization
 - a. Allport: Chapter 9
 - b. Stephan & Stephan: None
 - c. Reserve articles:
 - i. Cook, S. W. (1984). The 1954 Social Science Statement and School Desegregation: A reply to Gerard. American Psychologist, 39, 819-832.
 - ii. Crocker, J. and Major, B. (1989). Social stigma and self-esteem: The self-protective properties of stigma. Psychological Review, 96, 608-630.
 - iii. Steele, C.M. (1997). A threat in the air: How stereotypes shape intellectual identity and performance. American Psychologist, 52, 613-629.

11. March 9-13: Reducing prejudice/intergroup hostility
 - a. Allport: Chapters 16, 29-31
 - b. Stephan & Stephan: Chapter 3
 - c. Reserve articles:
 - i. Rothbart, M., & John, O. (1985). Social categorization and behavioral episodes: A cognitive analysis of the effects of intergroup contact. Journal of Social Issues, 41, 81-104.
 - ii. Pettigrew, T.F. (1988). The contact hypothesis reconsidered. In Hewstone, M. & Brown, R. (Eds.) Contact and Conflict in Intergroup Encounters. (pp.169-195) Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
12. March 18, 3:15pm: Final Exam