

Syllabus---Winter 2003/04
Psychology 456/556
Social Psychology
242 Gerlinger
TU & TH 1200-1320

Dr. Carene Davis-Stitt
Office: 212 STRAUB
Office Hours: TU 1400-1500 & TH 1030-1130
& by appointment
Telephone (office hours only): 346-5582
Telephone: 344-9704
E-mail: carene@deltanet-consultants.com

The focus of this course will be the study of individuals interacting with, and thinking about, other individuals---the social side of human existence.

This course focuses on how human behavior is affected by social influences. For example, the people around us, the situations we find ourselves in, social cues we have learned, social norms and expectations we have internalized. We will be studying the individual in this course; however less emphasis will be place on individual differences in people's behavior.

By the end of the course, you can expect to have a good understanding of the major topics in social psychology, and how research is done. The course will be based on research. We will study theories of social behavior and the experiments and observations that have been done to test and demonstrate the theories.

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon. Please bring a notification letter from Disability Services outlining your approved accommodations.

Texts

Baron & Byrne (2004). Social Psychology (10th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon. (Required)
Lesko, W. A. (2003). Readings in Social Psychology (5th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon (Required)

Additional readings as assigned.

Lecture & Reading Schedule

1	Tue	Jan 6	The Field of Social Psychology B&B Ch 1 Lesko Ch 1
4	Thu	Jan 15	Social Cognition: Thinking about the Social World B&B Ch 3 Lesko Ch 3
2	Thu	Jan 8	Research Activity, Part 1
3	Tue	Jan 13	Research Activity, Part 2 Social Perception: Understanding Others B&B Ch 2 Lesko Ch 2 Paper assignment distributed

5	Tue	Jan 20	Attitudes: Evaluating the Social World B&B Ch 4 Lesko Ch 4 Data from Research Activity distributed
6	Thu	Jan 22	Attitudes cont.
7	Tue	Jan 27	Social Identity: Self and gender B&B Ch 5 Lesko Ch 5
8	Thu	Jan 29	Prejudice and Discrimination B&B Ch 6 Lesko Ch 6 Research Report due
9	Tue	Feb 3	Prejudice cont.
10	THU	FEB 5	MIDTERM Grads Term Paper Assignment distributed
11	Tue	Feb 10	Interpersonal Attraction B&B Ch 7 Lesko Ch 7
12	Thu	Feb 12	Close Relationships B&B Ch 8 Lesko Ch 8
13	Tue	Feb 17	Social Influence: Changing Others' Behavior B&B Ch 9 Lesko Ch 9 Application Paper Assignment distributed
14	Thu	Feb 19	Social Influence cont.
15	Tue	Feb 24	Prosocial Behavior: Providing Help to Others B&B Ch 10 Lesko Ch 10
16	Thu	Feb 26	Prosocial Behavior cont.
17	Tue	Mar 2	Aggression B&B Ch 11 Lesko Ch 11
18	Thu	Mar 4	Aggression cont. Application Paper due Grads Term Paper due

19	Tue	Mar 9	Social Psychology in Action B&B 13 Lesko 13
20	Thu	Mar 11	Social Psychology in Action Lesko 14

FRI MAR 19
0800 – 1000

FINAL EXAM

Course Requirements

PSY456

This is an advanced undergraduate course. You will be expected to be able to read and write at that level. Instructions for the following assignments will be given in class.

- Your participation is required in a research activity during class. Following the activity you will write a research report in APA style.
- You will write an application paper analyzing how to better understand an important real world event by applying knowledge from a relevant topic from the course.
- You will be asked to do a brief critical thinking writing exercise at the end of certain class sessions.
- You will be asked to participate in class discussions and activities.
- Occasional additional short assignments will be given out in class
- There will be a midterm (covering first half of course) and a final examination (covering second half of course). These exams will consist of multiple choice questions, short answer and essay questions similar to those in the study guide (will be handed out in class). The questions will be taken from material in the text, readings, class lectures, films, and activities.

PSY556

This is a graduate course. You will be subject to all the course requirements above except the application paper in the second bullet.

Term paper assignment for graduate students:
Study Proposal

In place of the short paper for undergraduates, you will write a proposal for an empirical study in the field of social psychology. Just as if you were submitting your paper for publication, it will include an introduction and methods section. However, you will place greater emphasis on the literature review element of the introduction than you might include in a paper you were submitting for publication. Further instructions will be handed out in class.

PSY456 Grading Total points = 200

	<u><i>Points</i></u>
• Research Activity (2) and Paper (23)	25
• Application Paper	30
• Critical Thinking Writing Exercises, Activities & Additional Assignments	15
• Midterm	60
• Final	70

Grading Scale PSY456

200 - 196	A+	
195 - 180	A	
179 - 175	A-	
174 - 170	B+	
169 - 160	B	
159 - 155	B-	
154 - 150	C+	
149 - 140	C	(140 required for P)
139 - 135	C-	
134 - 130	D+	
129 - 120	D	
119 - 115	D-	
114 - 0	F	

PSY556 Grading Total points = 250

	<u><i>Points</i></u>
• Research Activity (2) and Paper (23)	25
• Study Proposal	80
• Critical Thinking Writing Exercises & Activities & Additional Assignments	15
• Midterm	60
• Final	70

Grading Scale PSY556

250 - 246	A+	
247 - 225	A	
224 - 220	A-	
219 - 215	B+	
214 - 200	B	
199 - 195	B-	
194 - 190	C+	
189 - 175	C	(175 required for P)
174 - 170	C-	
169 - 165	D+	
164 - 150	D	
149 - 145	D-	
144 - 0	F	