

# SYLLABUS

PSY 202H: Honors Mind and Society, Spring, 2006

## *Course instructor*

Prof. Sanjay Srivastava

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Office hours: Wed 11-12 in Straub 327  
or after class until 2pm

## *Lab instructor*

Jennifer Simonds

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Office hours: TBA

## **Overview**

This course, Honors Mind and Society, provides an overview of social cognition, social behavior, emotions, development, personality, and psychopathology. This is a companion to Honors Mind and Brain (Psychology 201 or 201H), which covers biological foundations, perception, attention, learning, and memory. Together, Psychology 201/201H and 202/202H provide a comprehensive introduction to the field.

## **Text**

The text for this class is available either in a traditional printed form or as an e-book. Additional readings will be posted or linked from the course Blackboard site.

Gazzaniga, M.S. & Heatherton, T.F. (2006). *Psychological Science* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). W.W. Norton.

## **Class meetings**

Class meetings will include a mixture of lecture and discussion. Our meetings will serve several goals: to explain or demonstrate especially important ideas covered in the readings, to present or discuss extensions or applications of ideas, and to cover important or interesting topics that are not addressed in the text. I expect you to complete readings before the class meeting for which they are assigned, and to come to class prepared to discuss the readings.

## **Lab section meetings**

During the first half of the term, the lab section meetings will be used for demonstrations and discussions of important principles from class. In the second half of the term, the class will carry out a collaborative research project. The entire class will work together on planning the project and collecting and analyzing the data. Each student will then individually write a paper based on the lab project. You will receive more information about the lab project from your lab instructor.

## **Grading and Course Requirements**

Grading will be based on the following criteria:

40%	Quizzes (10% each, lowest dropped)
30%	Analysis papers (10% each)
5%	Class participation
20%	Lab grade
5%	Research participation and research experience report

### ***Quizzes***

There will be five quizzes, starting on Thursday of Week 2 and then every second Thursday after that. Quizzes may be on anything but will usually focus on lectures and readings given since the last quiz (which may include reading assigned for the day of the quiz). Not all important ideas in the readings will be covered in class, and not all important ideas presented in class will be covered in the readings, so you should be prepared for quiz questions to come from either source. Each quiz is worth 10% of your total grade; the lowest quiz score will be dropped.

### ***Analysis papers***

You will be required to write three analysis papers. Each paper is a 500-700 word essay that examines a specific idea or theme covered in the readings or in class. Papers will be graded both on the quality of the writing and on the quality of the ideas and arguments that you present. Each paper is worth 10% of your total grade.

### ***Class participation***

This will be a small class run in the style of a seminar, and active class discussions are an important part of the experience. Your attendance and participation in class meetings will therefore be part of your grade. If you anticipate missing a class, please email me in advance to let me know. Class participation is 5% of your grade.

### ***Lab grade***

Your lab grade will be based on participation in lab sections, completion of lab homework, and the lab project (including active contribution in class as well as your individual lab project writeup). The lab section will comprise 20% of your total grade. Your lab instructor will provide additional details about grading of the project and other lab assignments.

### ***Research participation and the research experience report***

Psychology is an empirical discipline: we learn about human nature by studying what real human beings think, feel, and do. In this course you will experience the research process from two sides: as a researcher (through the lab project) and as a participant (through the research participation requirement).

To participate in experiments, you will need to register with the electronic Human Subjects Pool management system at <http://uopsych.sona-systems.com>. You need to complete 4.5 credit-hours of experiments by June 9; if you do not complete your hours, you will receive an incomplete for the course until you make them up.

As part of this assignment, you will write a 400-500 word research experience report based on your experiences in one of the experiments that you participated in. For the experience report, you will read an article suggested by the experimenter and write an essay describing how the theory and ideas in the article relate to the experiment that you participated in. The deadline for this report is June 1. This report will be worth 5% of your total grade in the class.

Many students find it rewarding and enjoyable to participate in the subject pool. However, you always have the right to refuse to participate in research. If you elect not to participate in the subject pool, you will be required to complete an alternative assignment. You must notify me no later than April 28 in order to receive the alternative assignment.

### ***Extra credit***

If you wish, you may also earn extra credit by participating in up to one hour of additional experiments. Each 1/2 credit-hour of participation over and above the required 4.5 credit-hours will earn you an additional 1% toward your class grade, up to a maximum of 2%.

### **Other information**

#### ***Missed quizzes***

My policy of allowing you to drop your lowest quiz score without penalty is intended to cover any circumstances for which you might miss a quiz, including emergencies. Therefore, no exceptions will be made. If you miss two quizzes, I will drop one of them and score the other as a zero.

#### ***Late assignments***

Late assignments will be penalized by one full letter grade (for example, from a B+ to a C+) the moment the deadline passes, and an additional full letter grade every 24 hours thereafter.

If a genuine emergency prevents you from turning in an assignment on time, you must notify me within 24 hours or as soon as is possible, and you must provide documentation.

#### ***Academic integrity***

Everything you submit for this course must represent your own independent work. All quizzes are “closed book;” all papers and other assignments must be written by you alone. For the lab project, you will collect data and discuss the project with your classmates, but your paper must be written on your own. If you are unclear about the expectations for any aspect of this course, please ask!

You are responsible for knowing the definitions of various forms of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism, and fabrication. Information is available on the Student Judicial Affairs website (click on About Cheating) at [http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/programs/student\\_judi\\_affairs/index.htm](http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/programs/student_judi_affairs/index.htm)

Students guilty of any form of academic dishonesty on any assignment will receive an “F” for the course and will be reported to Student Judicial Affairs. Student Judicial Affairs has the power to impose additional sanctions, including expulsion.

#### ***Disabilities***

If you have a documented disability and will need accommodations in this course, please make arrangements with me as soon as possible. Please request that the counselor for students with disabilities send me a letter indicating what accommodations you will need. Further information is available online at <http://ds.uoregon.edu>.

#### ***Changes to this syllabus***

I reserve the right to change any part of this syllabus at any time. Changes may be announced in class or on the Blackboard site.

## SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC	DUE DATES	READING
<u>Week 1</u>			
Apr 4	Introduction		
Apr 6	Research methods		Ch. 2
<u>Week 2</u>			
Apr 11	Thinking: Mental representations, decisions, problem-solving		Ch. 8
Apr 13	Intelligence	Quiz 1	Ch. 8
<u>Week 3</u>			
Apr 18	Social psychology: Self-knowledge, attitudes, social perception		Ch. 15
Apr 20	Social psychology: Influence, helping and harming, relationships	Analysis Paper 1	Ch. 15
<u>Week 4</u>			
Apr 25	Evolutionary principles		**see note**
Apr 27	Evolution and social behavior	Quiz 2	pp. 341-355; 370-379
<u>Week 5</u>			
May 2	Emotions		Ch. 10
May 4	Stress, coping, and health	Analysis Paper 2	Ch. 10
<u>Week 6</u>			
May 9	Biological and cognitive development		Ch. 11
May 11	Social development	Quiz 3	Ch. 11
<u>Week 7</u>			
May 16	Adult development and aging		Ch. 11
May 18	Personality: Psychodynamic and humanistic approaches	Analysis Paper 3	Ch. 12
<u>Week 8</u>			
May 23	Personality: Traits, social learning, assessment		Ch. 12
May 25	Personality: Environments and biology, change and stability	Quiz 4	Ch. 12
<u>Week 9</u>			
May 30	Psychopathology: Foundations, mood disorders		Ch. 13
June 1	Psychopathology: Other disorders	Research Experience Report	Ch. 13
<u>Week 10</u>			
June 6	Treatment of psychopathology		Ch. 14
June 8	Conclusions and final thoughts	Quiz 5	
<b>June 9</b>	<b>Deadline to complete 4.5 research participation credits</b>		
<b>June 16</b>	<b>Lab project writeup due no later than 10:00 AM to the Psychology Department main office</b>		

Note: The evolution reading will be Parts 1-3 of “Evolution 101” on the Understanding Evolution website:  
[http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/0\\_0\\_0/evo\\_toc\\_01](http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/0_0_0/evo_toc_01)