

HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE at
WESTERN UNIVERSITY
LONDON, CANADA
Department of Psychology
Fall/Winter 2018-2019

Psychology 2780E Section 550
Selected Basic Problems in Social Psychology

1.0 CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the behaviour of individuals in a social context and is one of our core courses in psychology. A research-oriented course, it treats the problems of social psychology in terms of theory, research and methodology. Topics covered will include interpersonal attraction, social perception, pro-social and antisocial behaviour, the development and changing of social attitudes, and the structure and functioning of small task groups.

Antirequisites: Psychology 2712F/G, 3780F/G or the former Psychology 170, 271.

Prerequisites: Psychology 1100E and Psychology 2830A/B. A minimum of 60% is required in Psychology 1100E. May be taken concurrently with Psychology 2830A/B.

Extra Information: 3 lecture hours, 1 hour to be assigned by the instructor, 1.0 course.

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course requirements. If you do not have the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from the Dean to enroll in this course, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

2.0 COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Irene Cheung
Email address: icheung5@uwo.ca
Office & Phone Number: V117; 519-438-7224 ext. 225
Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:30-11:30 am & Thursdays 1:30-2:30 pm
Course Website: Access via <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

Time & Location of Lectures: Tuesdays (11:30 am-1:30 pm) & Thursdays (11:30 am-12:30 pm) in HUC-W8

- Please check your OWL account and Western email at least once a day to ensure that you do not miss any important class announcements, messages, or emails.

3.0 COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Identify major concepts, topics and theories in Social Psychology.
- Be knowledgeable about methodological and theoretical issues important to the study of Social Psychology.
- Think critically about various research paradigms used in social psychological research.
- Find, read, and evaluate scientific articles in social psychology.
- Formulate research questions and testable hypotheses in social psychological research.
- Select an appropriate methodology to test a research question, execute the study, and produce a written report of the work.
- Write APA-format research papers (literature review, methodology, results, discussion, and references).
- Reflect about the application of social psychological research and how it might be used to solve real-world problems and understand everyday life experiences.
- Discuss and write about concepts and theories in Social Psychology targeted toward different audiences (scientific community and general public).

4.0 DESCRIPTION OF CLASS METHODS

Classes will generally be in lecture format, but will also consist of discussions, activities, and group work. Students should be prepared to:

1. Complete assigned readings prior to class.
2. Attend lectures and participate in class discussions and activities.
3. Write critical reflections about course concepts.
4. Contribute to two research projects using an experimental design.
5. Write two APA-style research reports.

5.0 TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER SOURCES

Aronson, E., Wilson, T. D., Fehr, B., & Akert, R. M. (2016). *Social Psychology*, Sixth Canadian Edition. Pearson Education Inc. ****Required****

American Psychological Association (2009). *Publication Manual of the American psychological association (6th edition)*. Washington, D.C. ****Strongly recommended****

6.0 METHOD OF EVALUATION

1. **Tests (50%):** There will be a total of four tests. Three tests will be held during regular class time (see section 6.1 for dates) and one test will be held during the final exam period in April (scheduled by the Registrar). Each exam will be worth 12.5%, for a total of 50% of your final grade in the course. The tests may cover any material since the last test, which include lectures, assigned readings, discussions, and activities.
2. **Research Projects (35%):** There will be two experiment-based research projects, one during each term of the course. The first project will be worth 15%, and the second project will be worth 20% of your final grade. More details regarding the projects will be discussed in class.

3. **Reflection Papers (10%):** You will be asked to write four short reflection papers (worth 2.5% each), two each term, to deepen your understanding of the course material. These reflections should describe something interesting that you learned in the course. These are not formal essays but an opportunity for you to think about your intellectual experience. Your reflection should describe what you have learned, why it is interesting, what it made you think or wonder about, and how it applies to you, someone you know, or a group of people. The marking scheme, which will be posted on OWL, will take into account how well the reflections demonstrate your knowledge of the concept, thoughtfulness of your insights, and writing quality. You are strongly encouraged to write your reflections when a topic strikes you rather than writing them near the deadlines. These reflections papers should be no more than one page, double-spaced. More details will be provided in class.
4. **Discussion Participation (5%).** You will be graded throughout the course on your level of participation in the class discussions, which are based on the quantity and quality of your contributions. In addition, the questions you submit for discussion will count towards your participation grade. See tentative lecture schedule for discussion dates.

6.1 SCHEDULE OF EXAMS AND DUE DATES FOR COURSE WORK

Course Component	Due Date	Value
Test 1	Oct 2, 2018	12.5%
Test 2	Nov 27, 2018	12.5%
Test 3	Feb 5, 2019	12.5%
Test 4	TBA, during final exam period in April	12.5%
Reflection Paper #1*	Sep 11, 2018, 11:30 AM	2.5%
Reflection Paper #2 *	Oct 30, 2018, 11:30 AM	2.5%
Reflection Paper #3 *	Feb 12, 2019, 11:30 AM	2.5%
Reflection Paper #4 *	Mar 19, 2019, 11:30 AM	2.5%
Ethics application for first-term project **	Nov 1, 2018	**
Ethics application for second-term project **	Feb 7, 2019	**
First-Term Research Report*	Jan 10, 2019, 11:30 AM	15%
Second-Term Research Report *	Apr 2, 2019, 11:30 AM	20%
Participation	See dates in tentative lecture schedule	5%

* These assignments must be submitted electronically via OWL.

** The ethics application is not worth any marks, but students can **NOT** start data collection for their research project until the application has been approved.

7.0 TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE

Dates	Topic	Readings	First-Term Project
Th Sep 6	Introduction to Course		Learn background relevant to first-term project
T Sep 11	Willpower	Francis & Job (2018)	
Th Sep 13	Discussion #1 Willpower	Logel & Cohen (2012)	
T Sep 18	Simple Experiments	Morling (2015), pp. 271-302	
Th Sep 20	Simple Experiments	Morling (2015), pp. 271-302	
T Sep 25	Experiments with more than one IV	Morling (2015), pp. 343-365	Introduction to the first-term project Form groups for project Conduct literature review Develop research question
Th Sep 27	Experiments with more than one IV	Morling (2015), pp. 343-365	
T Oct 2	Test #1: Covers all lectures and assigned readings since the start of course		
Th Oct 4	Group project: form groups, lit review, generate research questions		
T Oct 9	Fall reading week. No class.		
Th Oct 11	Fall reading week. No class.		
T Oct 16	Social Cognition	Text Ch. 3	Formulate hypotheses Design study to test research question Prepare ethics protocol Nov 1 is the last day to submit ethics application
Th Oct 18	Social Cognition	Text Ch. 3	
T Oct 23	Social Cognition	Text Ch. 3	
Th Oct 25	Research Ethics and Running Studies <i>Attendance is mandatory for data collection and report to be graded.</i>		
T Oct 30	Social Perception	Text Ch. 4	
Th Nov 1	Social Perception	Text Ch. 4	
T Nov 6	Social Perception / Discussion #2	Fiske, Cuddy, & Glick (2006)	Revise ethics Collect data Enter data (more details to follow)
Th Nov 8	Self-Knowledge	Text Ch. 5	
T Nov 13	Self-Knowledge	Text Ch. 5	
Th Nov 15	Discussion #3	Carlson (2013)	
T Nov 20	Test #2: Covers all lectures & assigned readings since Test #1		
Th Nov 22	Data analysis		Analyze data Interpret data
T Nov 27	Data analysis and interpretation		
Th Nov 29	Writing the first-term report		
T Dec 4	Report preparation		
Th Dec 6	Report preparation		Report due on Jan 10, 2019

Dates	Topic	Readings	Second-Term Project
T Jan 8	Attitudes & Attitude Change	Text Ch. 6	Introduction to second-term project Form groups for project
Th Jan 10	Attitudes & Attitude Change	Text Ch. 6	
T Jan 15	Attitudes & Attitude Change	Text Ch. 6	Decide on research topic Conduct literature review
Th Jan 17	Conformity	Text Ch. 7	
T Jan 22	Conformity	Text Ch. 7	Develop research question Design study to test research question
Th Jan 24	Conformity	Text Ch. 7	
T Jan 29	Group Processes	Text Ch. 8	
Th Jan 31	Group Processes	Text Ch. 8	Prepare ethics protocol
T Feb 5	Test #3 Covers all lectures & assigned readings since Test #2		
Th Feb 7	Group project – Finalizing Ethics		Ethics Proposal Due
T Feb 12	Interpersonal Attraction	Text Ch. 9	Revise ethics protocol Begin data collection if study has been approved
Th Feb 14	Interpersonal Attraction	Text Ch. 9	
T Feb 19	Winter reading week. No class.		
Th Feb 21	Winter reading week. No class.		
T Feb 26	Discussion #3	*Whitchurch et al. (2011)	
Th Feb 28	Group project – Collect data		Collect data Enter data
T Mar 5	Prosocial Behaviour	Text Ch. 10	
Th Mar 7	Prosocial Behaviour	Text Ch. 10	
T Mar 12	Data Analysis		Analyze data Interpret data
Th Mar 14	Data Analysis & Interpretation		
T Mar 19	Aggression	Text Ch. 11	Prepare written report Edit written report for submission
Th Mar 21	Aggression	Text Ch. 11	
T Mar 26	Aggression	Text Ch. 11	
Th Mar 28	Prejudice	Text Ch. 12	
T Apr 2	Prejudice	Text Ch. 12	Report due on Apr 2, 2019
Th Apr 4	Discussion #4	*Brochu & Dovidio (2014)	
T Apr 9	Applications & Current Directions		
TBA	Test #4 will be scheduled during the final exam period Covers all lectures & assigned readings since Test #3		

8.0 POLICY ON GRADING STANDARDS

Students at Huron University College should consider a grade in the range from 70-74 to be evidence of satisfactory performance in a 2100-level Psychology course. Grades in the B+ (75-79) or A (80-89%) ranges will only be awarded for performance that is demonstrably superior to the second-year standard associated with the Major or Minor modules. A grade of A+ (90-100%) will only be awarded very rarely and only for work that is truly exceptional.

9.0 SUBMISSION OF WORK

Please note that ALL written work must be submitted electronically through the course website, which allows TurnItIn to conduct a plagiarism check (you do not need to go to the TurnItIn website). Please allow ample time for your submission—this means that you should avoid submitting your paper last minute. The TurnItIn report can sometimes take a while to generate so submit your paper as early as possible. If you are having issues with your electronic submission, you must contact the instructor BEFORE the deadline. Do NOT submit your paper as an email attachment to the instructor and expect to use that as a record of when you submitted your paper as this submission will not contain a TurnItIn report.

10.0 PENALTIES FOR LATE SUBMISSIONS

An electronic copy of written work is due at 11:30 AM. The late penalty is 2% a day for up to 21 days (including weekends). Any written work turned in later than the 21st day following the due date will receive a grade of zero. Extensions for reports are normally considered only before the deadline and granted for medical reasons deemed acceptable by the Dean or his or her designate. Additional information regarding University policy regarding relief based on medical grounds appears in the Appendix.

11.0 MAKE-UP TESTS

There will be NO make-up tests for Tests 1, 2, or 3. Following the failure of a student to write one or the other of these tests, and acting on advice from the Academic Counselling Office to provide relief based on medical grounds, the weight devoted to that test will be allocated equally to the remaining tests. Otherwise the grade recorded will be zero. In the event of failure of a student to write Test 4, and again acting on advice from the Academic Student Services Office to provide relief based on medical grounds, that student will be permitted to write a make-up for Term Test 4. Otherwise, the grade will be recorded as zero. That make-up test will be written on the day and at the time set aside for such make-up examinations. Documentation for missed term tests must be submitted to the Academic Counselling Office in a timely manner.

12.0 AUDIO AND VISUAL RECORDING OF LECTURES

Audio and visual recordings of lectures are strictly prohibited. Consideration of request for audio and visual recordings will be based on recommendation from the Western Student Accessibility Office.

13.0 UNIVERSITY POLICIES

The Senate policies in force for this course (i.e., academic accommodation, accessibility, academic misconduct, course drop dates, and other related university policies) may be found posted on the OWL course site.