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**Office: Humanities 128A**  
**Psychology 2319**  
**Social Psychology**  
**Spring 2018**

### **Course Description:**

Welcome to Social Psychology! Theories, methods, and applications of social psychology are presented. Topics include group behavior, interpersonal attraction, pro-social behavior, aggression and conflict, communication, and research methodology.

### **Textbook:**

Branscombe, N. R. & Baron, R. A. (2017). *Social Psychology*. New York: Pearson. Please read the assigned reading **BEFORE** that topic is covered in class. Expect to read everything more than once! It is a good idea to review the Key Points and Summary and Review, and **more importantly** be able to answer the **Learning Objectives** in each chapter.

### **General Course Requirements:**

Class attendance is required. Please come to class prepared to participate in class. Most classes will consist of activities and exercises **conducted by the students** to increase your understanding of the material. These exercises will count toward your final course grade and if missed cannot be made-up.

Anyone who wishes to withdraw from class must take the responsibility to formally drop with the Registrar; otherwise a failing grade will be given. If you miss more than 3 classes, you should consult with me about your grade before withdrawing. I reserve the right to drop you from my class due to excessive unexcused absences. At any time you are concerned about your grade, you should talk with me.

As a courtesy, please turn off all cell phones and beepers and put them out of sight. I know some of you are great multi-taskers but it is distraction to some of us.

**The syllabus quiz and acknowledgement form at the end of the syllabus must be completed and turned in or you will be dropped from the class.**

There will be 3 **exams**: All exams will be in an essay question format. There will be up to 10 short answer essay questions. Students will be encouraged to develop and submit an essay question and a grading rubric to be used for the exam. If you should miss an exam, you may be allowed to take a **MAKE-UP** exam, which will be more comprehensive. It is your responsibility to discuss this with me prior to missing the exam. The regular exams will each count 100 points. Exam dates are listed on the calendar and will be discussed in class.

## Assignments

1. Each student will be required to give four class **presentations** over chapter learning objectives. Each presentation will be worth 25 points. The presentation should clearly state the 1) learning objective, and provide 2) the answer, including 3) the book definition of any terms as well as 4) an explanation in your own words, and offer 5) applied examples. Presentation dates are listed on the calendar. Each student will sign up for four dates and a learning objective for that date.
2. You will develop one test essay question for each learning objective you present and a grading rubric for that question for each exam (20 points). Due on the day of each presentation (listed on the calendar).
3. You will attend library instruction during one class period (date listed on the calendar). You will find one peer reviewed empirical journal article related to social psychology using Ebscohost. You will print a hard copy of the article and provide the APA reference for that article (15 points).
4. You will participate in a **Debate** over a topic to be determined, which will be worth 100 points. Because Social Psychology is interested in an individual's group behavior, pro-social behavior, conflict and communication, you will be assigned to work and present together an argument, either pro or con, on an issue selected by the instructor. Instructions for Debate can be found on Blackboard.
5. You will also turn in an APA style reference for all sources used in the debate. Due on the day of the debate (listed on the calendar).

Due to a crowded calendar and the participatory nature of the class, **no late work will be accepted**. You will simply lose the allocated points if unprepared.

Extra-credit is usually not available in this course. Studying the text, coming to class, and doing the assignments are assumed to be sufficient work for this class. However, if bonus points are given for any reason, you will simply add all points together to get your final grade. Grades will be assigned on the basis of your points from assignments and major exams.

**Grades** will be computed as follows:

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Exams:                         | = 300 points |
| Presentations x 4:             | = 100 points |
| Essay question and rubric x 3: | = 60 points  |
| APA reference:                 | = 15 points  |
| Debate:                        | = 100 points |
| Debate references:             | = 25 points  |
|                                | -----        |
| Total                          | 600 points   |

The grading scale below will be used to determine your final grade.

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| Points        | Percentage | Letter Grade |
|---------------|------------|--------------|
| 540 - 600     | 90-100%    | = "A"        |
| 480 - 539     | 80-89%     | = "B"        |
| 420 - 470     | 70-79%     | = "C"        |
| 360 - 419     | 60-69%     | = "D"        |
| 359 and below | below 60%  | = "F"        |

Also, five (5) additional bonus points may be added for perfect attendance and submission of all work.

You may want to make the best grade possible so you qualify for membership in Psi Beta, which is the National Honor Society in Psychology. Ask me about the qualifications and what Psi Beta does here on our campus.

Appointments with me may be scheduled for times other than the scheduled office hours. Speak with me before or after class to make arrangements. You may also contact the secretary, Ms. Rodriguez, for the M/S building at 903-434-8292 and she can usually get in touch with me.

**I check my campus email more frequently than blackboard.** When you email the professor, include your **class and section number** in the subject line.

*Class Hours*

MW 8:00am-12:20pm  
TR 9:30am-12:20pm

*Office Hours*

Skaar Office Schedule

## **COURSE GOALS:**

The primary goal of social psychology is to investigate “the ways in which our thoughts, feelings, and actions, are influenced by the social environments in which we find ourselves—by other people or our thoughts about them” (Branscombe & Baron, 2017).

This class will emphasize development of critical thinking skills and prepare you to be a cautious and analytical consumer of information that is proclaimed to be scientific or based on research.

I also hope that you will derive personal benefits from this class; that at the end of the term you will have increased your understanding and acceptance of yourself and others; and that you will gain something from this class that will enrich your personal relationships and add to your success in your chosen occupation.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO'S)**

**Students will:**

- 1) Provide examples of how human behavior is responsive to changes in social situations.**
- 2) Recall questions and topics relevant in social psychology.**
- 3) Develop, interpret, judge and apply ideas relevant to social psychology through oral communication individually and collaboratively.**

## **Computer/Blackboard Access**

If you have not had the portal set up on your computer, you may want to get your computer “campus ready” by seeing Austin Baker in Library. You will need to see him for internet access anywhere on campus and how to access the portal.

From the portal, click on the Blackboard link and then click on the course number for your class. You will access this with your first initial of your first name and your full last name and the last 3 digits of your social security number. No spaces. Example: jsmith378. Your password will be your birth date using 8 digits. Example: 04031979. If you have problems accessing your class, contact Austin Baker in the Library on campus or phone **903-434-8279**. You may also email him at [abaker@ntcc.edu](mailto:abaker@ntcc.edu)

## **OFFICIAL POLLICIES**

### **Other Course Requirements:**

#### **NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:**

"Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook."

**Academic Ethics:**

The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

**ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with Katherine Belew, Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in the College Connection. She can be reached at 903-434-8218. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the NTCC website - Special Populations.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

**Tobacco Use Policy (Smoking)**

The College District prohibits the use of any type of tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, on College District grounds and in College District buildings, facilities, and vehicles in order to provide students, employees, and visitors a safe and healthy environment. This prohibition shall also apply to spaces leased by the College District. The use of tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, shall be permitted in designated areas and private vehicles parked on College District property provided any residue is retained within the vehicle.

Syllabus quiz

- 1. What is your class and section number? Psyc \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. Is class attendance required? Yes No
- 3. How many exams will there be? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. The exams will be in what format? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Who will develop the exam questions? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. How many presentations will each student make? \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. How many points is the debate worth? \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. Will late work be accepted? Yes No

Needs to be turned in by **Thursday, January 30, by 3pm.**

My signature below indicates that I have read the syllabus and understand the requirements of this class. I understand that it is in my best interest to attempt all assignments and discuss in person with the professor anything I do not understand.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature