Course Information Form (CIF)

Course Code: PSY 205 (IAI S8 900)

Course Title: Introduction to Social Psychology

Department: Arts, Media, and Social Sciences
PCS Code: 1.1 - Baccalaureate/Transfer
CIP Code: 42.2707
Repeatability: 0

Effective Date: Summer 2026

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 3-0-3
Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 3	Lab: 0	Clinical: 0	**Total: 3**

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Systematic introduction to theory and research on the ways social factors influence individual and group behavior. Examines attitudes, social perception, social cognition, the establishment of norms, leadership, group dynamics, interpersonal relations, and research methods emphasizing their effects on the individual.

General Course Objectives

To develop a deeper understanding of the individual in relation to others through the social psychological study of how social interaction influences individual and group behavior. To integrate social psychological methodologies into each topic discussed, and to develop a clear understanding of social psychological methodologies. The learning outcomes listed below are the minimal outcomes required for every section of this course. Any additional learning outcomes are determined by the instructor.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Placement out of ENG 099	None	None

Prerequisites

None

Recommended before enrolling (not required):

Credit in PSY 101

Methods of Evaluation

3-4 exams (objective, comprehension, and application-level multiple choice and/or short answer), and 4-6 application activities and/or writing assignments.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Social Psychology, by Aronson. Students must have current online edition of the textbook, but can also order a printed copy in addition (optional).

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Critical Thinking and Information Literacy: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate perspectives, evidence, and implications, and to locate, assess, and use information effectively.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Introduction	1. Describe the basic principles of social psychology. 2. Discuss the how social psychology differs from biological and behaviorist theories. 3. Explain social psychology and the social influence on the individual.	3	0	0
Methodology	1. Distinguish between major social psychological research methods. 2. Examine social psychological studies from a methodological point of view. 3. Break down the social psychological research methods used for each topic of the course.	3	0	0
Conformity	1. Assess the types of conformity and variables affecting conformity. 2. Articulate how the variables affecting conformity affect the individual. 3. Use the concepts of conformity to analyze specific social situations.	6	0	0
Social Cognition	1. Describe schemas. 2. Explain the theory of schemas. 3. Give examples of particular schemas. 4. Discuss automatic and controlled thinking.	4	0	0
Social Perception	1. Examine the relationship between social perception and social self. 2. Outline the components of self-concept. 3. Recognize the elements of social perception involved in perceiving other individuals and groups. 4. Illustrate the process of social perception in one's own life. 5. Examine how the process of social perception affects individuals. 6. Break down attribution from elements to dispositions.	8	0	0
Attitudes	1. Illustrate the link between attitudes and behavior. 2. Discuss the components of persuasion. 3. Explain the role of cognitive dissonance in individual behavior, including one's own behavior.	6	0	0
Group Process	1. Examine collective processes. 2. Outline the elements of collective processes to analyze collective behavior. 3. Recognize the processes of establishing norms, roles, and cohesiveness. 4. Analyze group behavior of own groups. 5. Illustrate the effects of collective and group processes on individual behavior. 6. Relate the process of the establishment of leadership in group.	6	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Interpersonal Relations	1. Use social exchange and equity theories to assess relationships. 2. Articulate the process of attraction. 3. Determine the factors affecting aggressive behavior. 4. Relate the concepts of interpersonal relations to individual, group, and collective behavior.	9	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
45	0	0