

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE IN ILLINOIS

Spring, 2006, Session B
Monday, 6:00-10:00 P.M.

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Social Psychology PSY 211-70 (3)

Course Description: This course is a study of human value systems, social perception and influences, attitude formation and modification. Topics include interpersonal relations, social facilitation, leadership styles, and the analysis of one's self-concept. Social phenomena such as prejudice, aggression, suicide, chemical dependence, and loneliness are discussed. Prerequisite: None.

Text: Social Psychology 6th Edition by Sharon Brehm, Saul Kassin, Steven Fein 2005

Mission Statement: The mission of Springfield College in Illinois is to provide students the best liberal arts education in the Ursuline tradition of a nurturing faith-based environment. We prepare students for a life of learning, leadership and service in a diverse world.

Goals, Objectives, and Outcomes

Goal: The goal of the course is to provide an introduction and overview of the field of Social Psychology.

Objectives: The following Common Student Learning Objectives (CSLOs), adopted December 9, 2004, are addressed:

- . **Content Knowledge (Lifelong Learning) CK-1.** Know and apply the central concepts of the subject matter.
- . **Communication Skills (Lifelong Learning and Leadership) CS-1.** Communicate effectively in oral and written forms.
- . **Problem Solving Skills (Lifelong Learning and Leadership) PS-2.** Seek information and develop an in-depth knowledge base, grounded in research.
- . **Global Perspectives (Diversity) GP-1.** Recognize the importance of diversity of opinion, abilities and cultures.

Course Based Student Learning Objectives. Upon completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate their mastery of the following learning outcomes, addressing the following CLSOs (in parentheses):

To define Social Psychology and explore its scientific nature (CK-1).

To understand how we perceive and communicate with others (CS-1).

To better understand the social world by exploring our thought processes (GP-1).
To learn about one's self-concept, identity, and gender roles (GP-1).
To explore how we develop attitudes about the social world and how those attitudes affect our behavior (GP-1, PS-2).
To discover the nature and origins of prejudice, discrimination, and its effects on the social world (CK-1, GP-1).
To explore friendship, love, and relationships with others (GP-1).
To understand how our behavior influences others (CK-1, GP-1).
To examine the nature of prosocial behavior and aggression (CK-1).
To understand the nature, function, and decision making of groups (CK-1, CS-1).
To apply Social Psychology to law, work, and health in society (CK-1).

Goals, objectives and learning outcomes that will be assessed in the class are stated in this syllabus. Instructor will use multiple choice and true/false examination questions, papers and presentations to ascertain student's progress. Instructor will use pre-tests and post-tests, three question surveys, minute point papers and others assessment techniques as deemed necessary in order to provide continuous improvement of instruction. Students are required to take part in all assessment measures.

Teaching methods: lectures and discussions, presenting cases and video clips that illustrate issues in Social Psychology and small group activities.

Exams: The four exams are multiple choice and true/ false. Each exam has 50 questions counting 2 points each. Exams are 60 % of the total grade and all exams count equally. Class participation counts 10% Students are expected to have read chapter(s) assigned. Attendance is expected. A student's final grade would be lowered 5% if there are more than 2 unexcused absences.

A student found to be cheating will fail the test/paper with a warning not to do it again. It is considered cheating to have any notations concerning the course present during a test or to plagiarize a paper (to turn in a paper or part of a paper not written by and in the language of the student). If the student is found cheating a second time, then they will receive an F for the course.

Project paper 20% oral report 10%

Your project is to choose a topic in Social Psychology and research it.

The material may be from research literature, such as journal articles or a book. A minimum 8 page term paper (not including title and reference pages). The type should be of 10 to 12 points size, and should have at least 4 sources.

You should decide by March 27, 2006 the topic for your paper. All papers are due April 17, 2006. Each person will give an oral report of their paper lasting approximately 20 minutes with 5 minutes for question time from the class.

- April 3** **Conformity: compliance and obedience, (chapters 7, 8)**
majority and minority influences
- Group Process: collective process,**
interacting and responding with others
- Exam: chapters 5-8**
- April 10** **Attraction and Close Relationships: (chapters 9, 10, 11)**
Explore the fundamental human motive of being with others,
initial attraction, loneliness
- Helping Others:**
Why and when do people help?
Who is likely to help and whom do people help?
- Aggression:**
cultural/gender differences
origin and situational influences on aggression
- April 17** **Class Presentations**
Exam: chapters 9-11
- April 24** **Law: jury selection/courtroom (chapters 12, 13, 14)**
applying Social Psychology to the legal system
- Business: personal selection, performance appraisals,**
leadership, and motivation
applying Social Psychology to business
- Health: examines the causes, affects, appraisal of stress and**
ways of prevention, coping, and treating stress, and the
pursuit of happiness
applying Social Psychology to health
- May 1** **Final Exam: chapters 12-14**