Saddleback College
Fall 2009

Soc 30: Intro. to Social Psychology Ticket#25150D
Cross listed as:
Psych 30: Intro. to Social Psychology Ticket#25150A

Classroom: BGS 327
Time: TTH 12-1:30

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Office: BGS300
Office Hours: TTH 1:30-2:30 & 3 hrs. on line TBA

What You Need to Know


Catalog Course Description: Introduction to phenomena related to social behavior and influences on social behavior. Topics include social perception cognition, personality, attitudes and attitude change, attraction, altruism, aggression, interpersonal influence, social norms and group processes.

Learning Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:
After completing the course, students of Soc/Psych 30 will be able to:

- be able to identify and discuss how social psychology is a unique discipline within the sciences, bringing together sociology and psychology

- identify the major social psychological theories and be able to describe how each of these perspectives are different and how they influence research

- apply the major social psychological theories to the various topics covered in the course and to current social phenomena

- be able to identify how social phenomena influences how we perceive ourselves, other individuals and society and how our personality, identity and attitudes affect others, groups and society

- understand the main methodological tools used to conduct social psychology

- evaluate current trends and controversies within the field of social psychology
Course Requirements: Students are expected to attend each lecture and have the assigned readings completed prior to class meetings, bring their book to class and be prepared to discuss the readings and topics in class. Random, short quizzes based solely on the readings will be given weekly, so staying on top of the assigned readings is crucial. This also means that being on time and planning on staying the entire class session is essential for you to acquire your quiz points. In addition, although the book supplements my lectures, I do not lecture “off the book”. Therefore, your attendance and careful lecture notes are very important.

Moreover, your participation is also critical to your success in this class and for your intellectual exploration and growth. I believe that collaborative learning is the best way to enhance your academic success in this class and understanding of the course objectives and outcomes. This course requires active and engaged learning. The good news about this is you will have the unique opportunity to determine some of the topics covered in class through small group learning modules. In these modules, you will get to know your group members well and work weekly with one another in various peer lead facilitations and in-class group assignments.

If you feel this course is in conflict with your schedule and you will not be able to devote the time needed each week, or you decide the course is not for you, it is your responsibility to drop this course. I will not drop you!

Student’s progress in the course will be evaluated as follows:

- 2 Exams- 200 Points (100 points each consisting of multiple choice and True/False)

- Field Assignments- 100 Points: You will write 4 (1-2 page) self reflections throughout the semester. These short essays will ask you to address specific questions that relate to material we are covering along with your personal thoughts.

- Group Work and Participation- 50 Points: You will be put into groups at the beginning of the session and will do group work each week in these groups in class. (Details will be provided in class)

- Group Facilitation- 50 Points: You will be the “educator” or facilitator in your small group twice throughout the semester as part of collaborative learning. (Details to follow in class)

- Short Weekly Quizzes- 50 Points: 12 random quizzes based on the readings will be given throughout the semester. The quizzes will be multiple choice and T/F and will be questions that may appear on your exams. The quizzes will be useful study guides to you. (You may drop your lowest two scores)
**Course Policies:**
If you are not going to be in class on the days that you are facilitating, you will lose the points for that day. Due to the nature of the assignment, these points cannot be made up as is the case with all in-class work and quizzes.

If you will be absent when a written assignment is due, you must make sure you have the assignment in my campus mailbox or e-mail by the beginning of the start of the class despite your absence. There will be no exceptions unless there is a substantiated medical or other emergency.

Likewise, you are expected to take each exam at the time and day they are scheduled. **IMPORTANT:** Only substantiated emergencies will be given a make-up exam. You will have to have a doctor’s note or other documentation.

*If you miss an exam or assignment due to an emergency, you must contact me within 48 hours after the exam or assignment was due or it will not be accepted and a make-up will not be possible.*

*Plagiarism and/or cheating will not be tolerated in this course and appropriate actions will be taken according to campus policy. If you are unclear of this policy, please refer to the Saddleback handbook at [http://www.saddleback.edu/media/pdf/handbook.pdf](http://www.saddleback.edu/media/pdf/handbook.pdf)*

*If I catch you cheating in any form, you will automatically receive an F for the assignment and will be asked to meet with me to discuss further action before being allowed back in the class.*

You are required and expected to be on time, courteous and respectful of both the instructor’s and your fellow student’s opinions- ideas and contributions. Excessive talking, texting, performing work that is not related to the class will not be tolerated and you will be asked once to cease the disruptive/rude behavior. After that, you will be asked to leave the class and arrange a meeting with me before returning.

**Tentative Course Readings and Outline**
*(I reserve the right to modify/alter this schedule)*

**Week 1: What is Social Psychology**
**Readings:** None
**Topics Covered:**
8/25- Introduction
8/27- Theory
Week 2: The Nuts and Bolts of Social Psych
Readings: Chapters 1, 2
Topics Covered:
9/1- Theory
9/3- Methods

Week 3: Socialization
Readings: Chapters 3
Topics Covered:
9/8- Childhood Socialization
9/10- Socialization

Week 4: Symbolic Culture
Readings: Chapter 7
Topics Covered:
9/15- Culture
9/17- Symbolic communication and language

Week 5: Personality
Readings: Chapter 18
Topics Covered:
9/22- Individual Personality
9/24- Social Personality

Week 6: Self and Identity
Readings: Chapter 4 and 9
Topics Covered:
9/29- Identity
10/1- Self Presentation and Management

Week 7: Attitudes and Emotions
Readings: Chapters 6 and 10
Topics Covered:
10/7- Attitudes
10/9- Emotions

Week 8: Social Structure
Readings: Chapter 14
Topics Covered:
10/13- Midterm Exam
10/15- Roles and Status
Week 9: Social Structure
Readings: Chapter 15
Topics Covered:
10/20- Group Behavior
10/22- Social Control

Week 10: Attraction
Readings: Chapter 13
Topics Covered:
10/27- Attraction
10/29- Relationships

Week 11: Gender
Readings: Chapter 17
Topics Covered:
11/3- Gender
11/5- Sexuality

Week 12: Race and Ethnicity
Reading: Chapter 16
Topics Covered:
11/10- Racial/Ethnic Identity
11/12- Inter-group conflict

Week 13: Deviance
Readings: 19
Topics Covered:
11/17- What is Deviance
11/19- Special topics in deviance

Week 14: Altruism
Readings: Chapter 11
Topics Covered:
11/24- Giving
11/26- NO CLASS THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Week 15: Aggression
Reading: Chapter 12
Topics Covered:
12/1- Aggression
12/3- Gender based aggression
Week 16: Social Movements
Readings: Chapter 20
Topics Covered:
12/8- Collective behavior and Social Movements
12/10- Current Social Movements

IMPORTANT FINAL EXAM DATE:

Tuesday December 15th, 12:45-2:45

Additional Information:

Learning Assistance Program (LAP)
If you need any tutoring assistance, please contact the Learning Assistance Program at www.saddleback.edu/library or at the campus library at 114 at phone number (949) 582-4519.

Computing Services
The LAP also has computers with printing capabilities available for your use.

Special Services
If you should require any specialized assistance in this course, please feel free to talk to me so we can make arrangements or contact Student Services at www.saddleback.edu/serv/couns/dsp/ or at SSC113 at (949) 582-4249. If you have already made arrangements with Student Services, please discuss this with me at the beginning of the course so I may get the appropriate paperwork.