

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology 240/ Sociology 240

FALL QUARTER, 2008

INSTRUCTOR: Julia Wales

MAILBOX: D110

OFFICE HOURS: by appointment

EMAIL: jwales@bellevuecollege.edu

TEXT: Myers, D. G. (2005). Social Psychology (Ninth Edition). New York: McGraw-Hill. (Optional Study Guide available)

REQUIREMENTS:

EXAMS: There will be three unit exams worth 100 points each. Exams will cover the reading, lectures, videos, and demonstrations. Exams will consist of 40 objective (multiple choice) questions and an essay section; students will need to bring #2 pencils and scantron sheets available for sale at the bookstore. Students are expected to take the exams as scheduled; in the event of a legitimate problem, a make-up exam may be scheduled once during the quarter. There will be no comprehensive final exam.

RESEARCH PROJECTS: Students will be asked to do one research project. The paper will be worth 100 points. We will work together as a class to design the experiment, but students will submit individual papers to be graded.

As a class, we will choose a topic to research, create a survey, and administer the survey, Students will submit an APA style paper.

Since we will be determining the topic and methods of this paper as a class, it is important that you are present and actively participating in class so that you can keep up with this assignment.

Each paper should be 2-5 double space typed pages and include the following sections with headings:

*APA format will be described in class and can also be found on the Writing Lab website: <http://www.bcc.ctc.edu/writinglab/APA.html>.

Introduction: Includes an overview of the project, the purpose of the study, and the hypothesis.

Method: Describes the subjects of the study, how they were selected, and exactly how the data was collected

Results: The findings of the research, in narrative form, using numbers (e.g. totals, averages, percentages), with graphs where appropriate.

Discussion: Interpretation of the results, whether hypothesis was supported, problems with the research process, conclusions.

Papers will be due by 3:30 on the day they are due. You can bring them to class, or drop them off in my mailbox (D110). Unless you arrange otherwise with me, I will only accept paper copies of papers.

ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments will be partial rough drafts for the paper and will be turned in for credit or no credit. You will receive feedback so that you can revise each section of the paper for final submission. More information about assignments will be given throughout the quarter. 100 points will be given for assignments at the end of the quarter based on completion and quality of assignments throughout the quarter.

QUIZES

I do not give points for attendance. However, I do give a quiz on each chapter. I will not announce the days I will give the quiz, but they will usually be the day after we finish a chapter. If you are coming to class, you should know when the next quiz will be. There will be a total of 15 quizzes worth 5 points each. If you take all 15 quizzes, the lowest quiz score will be dropped.

STUDY GUIDES

A comprehensive study guide will be available before each exam. Study guides will be in question form and will only be available on MyBCC (paper copies will not be handed out). If you complete the study guide and turn it in on the day of the exam, you will receive 2 points of extra credit. Study guides must be complete, correct, and on time to receive credit.

GRADING SYSTEM:

	<u>Points</u>
Exams (3 @ 100)	300
Projects (1 @ 100 pts.)	100
Quizzes (15 @ 5 pts each)	75
Assignments (100 pts)	100
Study Guides (3 @ 2 pts each)	<u>6</u>
Total Possible Points	575

FINAL GRADE ASSIGNMENT

Final grades will be determined based on point totals. You can calculate your grades using the following percentages. For example $465/575 = 82\%$ which would be a grade of B-

A	94-100%	B-	80-83%	D+	67-69%
A-	90-93%	C+	77-79%	D	64-66%
B+	87-89%	C	74-76%	D-	60-63%
B	84-86%	C-	70-73%	F	0-50%

Students with special learning needs should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course surveys the field of social psychology, the scientific study of how people think about, influence, and relate to one another. Emphasis will be on the interaction of the social environment with intrapsychic processes as determinants of attitudes, perception, personality, and behavior. Upon completion of the course, students will be better able to:

1. Identify and critique the research methods social psychologists use.
2. Explain how social cognition influences beliefs, perceptions, explanations, and attitudes.
3. Describe psychological and social influences on the following attitudes and behaviors:
 - a. Conformity and obedience
 - b. Group behavior
 - c. Prejudice
 - d. Aggression
 - e. Attraction
 - f. Altruism
 - g. Conflict and peacemaking
4. Apply research findings in social psychology to public forums, including mental health, the court system, and consumerism.
5. Identify and apply the principles of social psychology to one's own life
6. Design simple psychological research projects involving data collection and write-ups

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In addition to lectures, class time will be largely devoted to discussions, demonstrations, experiments, films, research projects, and exams. Students are expected to cover assigned reading on their own.