

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 3315-001, FALL 2018
Meeting Time: Tuesday/ Thursday 8:00-9:20 AM
Room: University Hall 108

Textbook: Myers & Twenge, *Social Psychology*, 12th edition (with Connect access)
ISBN: 9781260038316
OR
E-book ISBN: 9781259295614

Course Description:

This course presents an introduction to the field of social psychology. We will examine theory and research as well as practical applications to social problems. In addition to learning how social psychologists conduct research, we will learn about how we think about the social world, how we come to understand other people and ourselves, self-justification and the need to maintain self-esteem, influencing thoughts and feelings, influencing behavior, influence in social groups, interpersonal attraction, why people help, why people hurt other people, and causes and cures of prejudice.

Student Learning Objectives:

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- Describe and explain the nature of social psychology as a scientific discipline.
- Describe and analyze major theoretical perspectives and overarching themes of social psychology and their historical development.
- Understand, apply, and analyze social psychology as a specific content area within psychology.
- Identify and explain different research methods used by social psychologists.
- Use critical thinking to evaluate popular media and scholarly literature.
- Engage in creative thinking by evaluating new ideas with an open but critical mind.
- Apply psychological concepts, theories, and research findings to issues in everyday life.
- Identify appropriate applications of psychology in human service, education, business, and other professions.
- Demonstrate how psychological principles can explain social issues and inform public policy.
- Explain and apply major theoretical and scholarly approaches, empirical findings, and historical trends in a social/behavioral science.
- Apply modes of critical thinking used in a social/behavioral science.

Contacting the Instructor: You may email me at any time for questions regarding this course. Please be aware, however, that I do not answer emails after 5 PM or on weekends. Therefore, please allow up to 48 hours for a response. If after that time I have not gotten back to you, feel free to send me a reminder email. Typically, responses will be much quicker than 48 hours, and

in the event of an emergency (e.g. I forgot to put up a submission portal on BlackBoard for an assignment), I will do my best to address the situation immediately. Lack of planning on your part (e.g. waiting until the last second to submit an assignment and BlackBoard decides to crash), however, does not constitute an emergency of mine.

Attendance: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I am not making attendance a requirement. However, attendance may be taken at random throughout the semester and used as extra credit and you cannot earn points for in-class activities if you are not there. Although attendance is not required, I highly recommend attending class; students who have done so in the past typically perform much better than those who have not. While UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

Grading/Final Grade Policy: Final grades will be determined by on the following criteria:

LearnSmart Assignments (10 @ 10 points each)	100 points
Academic Journals (3 @ 10 points each)	30 points
Classroom Activities	10 points
Professionalism Points	10 points
<u>Exams (3 @ 100 points each)</u>	<u>300 points</u>
Total	450 points

Grade Breakdown:

A	405 and above
B	360-404
C	315-359
D	270-314
F	314 or below

Grades will be assigned on the basis of the final distribution of the sums of all students' total points. Criteria for each letter grade will be determined on the basis of this distribution, but sums in the range of 90-100% will always earn A range grades, sums in the range of 80-89% will always earn at least B range grades, sums in the range of 70-79% will always earn at least C range grades.

LearnSmart Assignments: LearnSmart is an interactive text designed to help you review the material learned in each chapter. The LearnSmart system continually adjusts to your level of

content mastery. Each assignment will appear in a content folder corresponding to the unit it appears in.

Each chapter on average will take approximately 30 minutes to 45 minutes to complete and will include between 60 – 100 questions. Scores are assigned based on the percentage of mastery for each assignment. Each LearnSmart module will be worth 10 points.

You will have 13 opportunities to complete 10 LearnSmart modules. Only your top 10 LearnSmart modules will be counted towards your grade. As I provide you extra opportunities to complete your LearnSmarts, I do not provide make-ups for these modules regardless of the circumstances.

The LearnSmart Assignment can also be accessed on your iPhone or iPad and synced with your Blackboard:

- Go here to download the iPhone app*:
 - <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/learnsmart/id365879172?mt=8>

*All work completed on the iPhone/ iPad app WILL sync with Blackboard; however, you MUST check in via computer once per chapter to get the mobile work to sync.

Academic Journals: Students will find a topic covered during a chapter and apply it to a current event issue. This journal should summarize how the topic applies to the issue, why the topic is important, and potential resolutions to the topic. You may do up to one journal per chapter, but at least one journal must be done *per section* (that is, one before exam one, one before exam two, and one before exam three). Your highest grade from each section will count. ****These assignments should be viewed as a cumulative grade- though you will receive feedback for each journal entry, you will receive an overall grade out of 30 points for your final grade. Thus, if you decide to plagiarize or violate the academic honesty policy in any way for these assignments, you will earn a 0 out of 30****

Professionalism Points: Students are expected to maintain a professional relationship with both the instructor and their peers. Reasons to potentially lose points include, but are not limited to: being argumentative during classroom discussions, use of phone or laptop during class time, coming in habitually late to class, emailing the instructor about questions that are answered on the syllabus (i.e. ‘when is the exam?’, ‘what grade do I need to make an A?’), or disrupting an exam by coming in late.

Exams: Exam grades will be determined by performance on three exams throughout the semester, as well as a final cumulative exam. Students will be allowed to drop the lowest exam grade. All material presented in lecture, textbook, videos, and other class activities are ‘fair game’ to appear on the exams. You must be present by 8:30 AM on exam day or before the first student has completed their exam (whichever is earlier) in order to take the exam.

Make-up Policy: Makeup exams may be offered only if documentation is provided indicating that circumstances beyond a student’s control had prevented them from taking a scheduled exam. A note from a friend or family member is not acceptable documentation. A request for a makeup exam must be made before or no later than the next class period following the missed exam. Given that the final is optional, there will be no make-ups offered for the final.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Disability Accommodations: UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a **letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

ARC Exams Students with an approved need for special accommodations may schedule exams with the Academic Resource Center (ARC) as needed. Exam request forms must be submitted to the instructor *at least* 72 hours in advance of the classroom scheduled exam time to ensure a copy of the exam can be provided to the testing center (viz., a Monday exam must have a request submitted to the instructor by 8 AM Friday). These forms should be provided in both email and hard copy form, unless notification of receipt has been provided by the instructor for an emailed document. Failure to submit these forms at the appropriate time may result in not being able to take the exam.

Non-Discrimination Policy: *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.*

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in

accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act *or information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX* or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled

in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: for semester-long courses, a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located in the front of the classroom. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities. Evacuation plans may be found at http://www.uta.edu/campus-ops/ehs/fire/Evac_Maps_Buildings.php.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](#), [major-based learning centers](#), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](#), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](#). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

Class Schedule – Fall 2018

Week	Date	Material
1	-	-
	Aug 23 rd	NO CLASS- READ COURSE SYLLABUS
2	Aug 28 th	Course Introduction/ Chapter 1- Introduction to Social Psychology
	Aug 30 th	Chapter 2 – The Self in a Social World
3	Sept 4 th	Chapter 2 – The Self in a Social World
	Sept 6 th	Chapter 3 – Social Beliefs and Judgments

4	Sept 11 th	Chapter 3 – Social Beliefs and Judgments
	Sept 13 th	Chapter 4 – Behaviors and Attitudes
5	Sept 18 th	Chapter 4– Behaviors and Attitudes Exam I Review
	Sept 19 th	LearnSmart Assignments Due
	Sept 20 th	Journal I Due Exam I
6	Sept 25 th	Chapter 5- Genes and Gender
	Sept 27 th	Chapter 6- Conformity and Obedience
7	Oct 2 nd	Chapter 6- Conformity and Obedience
	Oct 4 th	Chapter 7- Persuasion
8	Oct 9 th	Chapter 7- Persuasion
	Oct 11 th	Chapter 8- Group Influence
9	Oct 16 th	Chapter 8- Group Influence
	Oct 18 th	Exam II Review
	Oct 22 nd	LearnSmart Assignments Due
10	Oct 23 rd	Journal II Due Exam II
	Oct 25 th	Chapter 9- Prejudice
11	Oct 30 th	Chapter 9- Prejudice
	Nov 1 st	Chapter 10- Aggression
12	Nov 6 th	Chapter 10- Aggression
	Nov 8 th	Chapter 11- Attraction/Intimacy
13	Nov 13 th	Chapter 12- Helping
	Nov 15 th	Chapter 13- Conflict and Peacemaking
14	Nov 19 th	LearnSmart Assignments Due
	Nov 20 th	Exam III
	Nov 22 nd	NO CLASS- Thanksgiving
15	Nov 27 th	Chapter 15- Social Psychology in Court
	Nov 29 th	Chapter 16- Social Psychology and the Sustainable Future
16	Dec 4 th	Course Wrap-up/ Final Exam Review
Finals Week	Dec 7th	Final Exam 8- 10:30 am

The instructors reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. Adjustments will be communicated via blackboard or in class.