I. COURSE OUTLINE
A seminar-format graduate course in social cognition theory and research. The goal of the course is for students to learn and discuss the major themes and programs of social cognitive research and the historical roots of that research.

Social cognition can be defined in several ways, from a methodological approach to a set of research topics. At its least significant, social cognition is merely cognitive psychology with social objects. At its most significant, social cognition “treats cognition as a fundamentally social activity,” and challenges the position that cognition can be adequately understood as an individual act that unfolds independent of external social processes.

You will be expected to read about 3 articles per week, plus an additional one of your choosing. If this is too much, then this is not the course for you.

II. EVALUATION
   In-class midterm (10/15): 40%
   Take-home final exam (distributed 12/3, due 12/13): 40%
   In-class participation (throughout semester): 20%
Midterm and final will consist of 3-4 essay questions. You will submit anonymous and named versions of your exam.

III. CLASS FORMAT
The entire class is expected to participate in discussions throughout the semester. Each week, students will find one reading related to that week's topic, upload the reading plus a short paragraph connecting the reading to the week's topic (d2l.msu.edu), and present the reading to the class.

IV. ACADEMIC HONESTY
The following is the academic honesty statement from the Office of the Ombudsman; all students are required to adhere to this statement:

   Article 2.3.3 of the Academic Freedom Report states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, the Psychology department
adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide and/or the MSU Web site: www.msu.edu.) Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com Web site to complete any course work in PSY 235. Students who violate MSU rules may receive a penalty grade, including--but not limited to--a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. (See also http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/honestylinks.html)

Any violation of the academic honesty statement results in a 0.0 for the course, without exception.

V. COURSE TOPICS AND READINGS CALENDAR
All readings available on course website at: d2l.msu.edu
Items with * are optional, but recommended.

Sept 3 Course introduction

Sept 10 State of the Field


Sept 17 Mental Structure and Representation

Sept 24 Process


Oct 1 Affect and Evaluation


Oct 8 Expectancies, Memory, and Judgment

Hastie, R., & Park, B. (1986). The relationship between memory and judgment depends on whether the judgment task is memory-based or on-line. Psychological Review, 93, 258-268.


Oct 15 **IN CLASS MIDTERM**

Oct 22 **Indirect & Direct Measures**


Oct 29 **Stereotyping and Prejudice: Foundations & Control**


**Nov 5  Stereotyping and Prejudice: Second Wave**


**Nov 12  Cognition and Behavior**


**Nov 19  Self and Others: Relationship and Group Social Cognition**


**Nov 26  Self and Others: The Social Foundations of Cognition**


Dec 3  Self and Others: Evolutionary Psychology


Final exam distributed Tuesday Dec 3 in class
Final exam due Friday December 13, 2:45