What this document contains:

1. “Must knows” about taking an online course
2. Schedule
3. Detailed course information and Michigan State policies

1 – Must knows about taking an online course

1. High speed internet access is required.

2. All times listed in the syllabus are in Eastern Standard Time (EST) zone.

3. If you run into issues with D2L, call the MSU Help Line: 1-800-500-1554 or (517) 355-2345. Help is available 24 hours / 7 days a week.

4. This course is just as hard as an in-person course.

5. Write your emails with points, not paragraphs. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Don’t send this...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I had some ideas about using X to do Y. Is that possible? It doesn't seem possible to do X without doing W. I also thought we might be able to do A. I saw paper on B. Did you read it? I really like Q because R, S and T.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Send this instead...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I had some ideas about using X to do Y. Is that possible?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- It doesn't seem possible to do X without doing W.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I also thought we might be able to do A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I saw a paper on B. Did you read it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I really like Q because</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) R;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) S; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) T.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2 – Schedule

Part 1: Biological & Developmental System
5/13 – 5/17 Lectures #1 – 4

Topics include:
Course Introduction & Approach;
Evolution; Life History Theory; Attachment Theory

Read:
Cosmides & Tooby (1997)
Fraley (2010)

5/17 (by 6pm) Application Paper #1 Due
5/18 – 5/19 Exam 1

Part 2: Cognitive System
5/20 – 5/31 Lectures #5 – 14

Topics include:
Social Cog Foundations; Principles of Knowledge Activation;
Categories & Expectancies; Recent Revision; ELM;
Subjective Experience/Misattribution

Read:
Hamilton & Gifford (1976)
Macrae & Boden. (2000)
Bargh (1999)
Jussim et al. (2009)

5/31 (by 6pm) Application Assignments #2, 3 Due
6/1 – 6/2 Exam 2

Part 3: Motivational System
6/3 – 6/7 Lectures #15 – 18

Topics include:
Regulatory Focus; Self-Control; Attribution;
Motivated Reasoning & Perception

Read:
Yeager & Dweck (2012)
Ryan & Deci (2000)
Fessler & Holbrook (2013)

6/7 (by 6pm) Application Assignment #4
6/8 – 6/9 Exam 3
Part 4: Social System
6/10 – 6/21  Lectures #19 – 25

Topics include:
Attraction; Repulsion; Us vs. Them; Group Dynamics

Read:
Navarrete & Fessler (2005)
Schulz et al. (2007)

6/21 (by 6pm)  Application Assignments #5,6 Due
6/22 – 6/23  Exam 4

Final Exam:
Starts: Wednesday, June 26 @ 12:00am
Ends: Thursday June 27 @ 11:59pm

What exactly are all of those bold things in the syllabus?
1. Lectures are online videos posted to D2L by Dr. Joseph Cesario. They are about social psychology, and they contain much of the information you will need to know for the course.

2. Application papers are one-page write-ups where you take the material presented in the lectures and apply it to anything you’d like.

3. Exams are multiple-choice tests to be taken online. You will not have access to the video lectures when the exams are posted (for example, you won’t be able to access video lectures on 5/18 or 5/19).
3 – Detailed course information and MSU policy

The rest of this document contains the information that you are used to seeing: lengthy paragraphs about coursework, extended info on grading schemes, and fundamental points regarding MSU’s academic policies. Please read with care, beginning on the next page.
Course Workload

Summer courses are intense. Plan to spend around 4 hours per day working on PSY 235. This includes the time you spend reading the text, viewing lectures, working on homework problems, taking quizzes, and studying the material. Remember, we will cover the same material that is normally covered in an entire semester. You should commit yourself to seven weeks of working very hard. Do not plan a summer vacation in the middle of this class! If these considerations do not fit with your plans or your personality, then drop this class as soon as possible.

Course Overview

This course provides an overview of social psychology. Research in social psychology uses the scientific method to understand the relationship between the individual and his or her social situation. This includes both how the situation influences a person's thoughts, emotions, and behaviors, as well as how a person influences and creates the situation.

Research in social psychology has implications for virtually all aspects of life, because social influence is so pervasive: romantic relationships, decision-making, child rearing, marketing and advertising, group identification, political negotiations, etc. So there is much applicability for the principles you will learn in this course. However, rather than providing a list of topics and research findings, this course is structured around the intra- and inter-personal systems that regulate social behavior. My hope is that this provides a more cohesive and engaging presentation compared to simply describing topic after topic in an unconnected way.

The course is made up of four parts (1. Biological & Developmental System, 2. Cognitive System, 3. Motivational System and 4. Social System)—REFER TO “X. COURSE TOPICS AND READINGS LIST” OF THE SYLLABUS FOR A DETAILED TIMELINE. All material is presented on the course Desire2Learn website (d2l.msu.edu). There are a series of instructional links that will orient you to the layout and features of D2L.

***YOU MUST COMPLETE ALL THE ITEMS UNDER "Begin Here! 2019 Course Orientation" TO GET ACCESS TO ALL OTHER COURSE MATERIAL!!***

Course Objectives

One objective of this course is to demonstrate how psychologists think about social interactions and social influence. What questions do social psychologists ask? How do they go about trying to answer these questions? What have they learned? The more
important objective is to teach you how to think like a social psychologist. By the end of the course you should be able to apply such approaches to novel situations relevant to your own experiences.

Lectures
A set of instructive and engaging lectures is provided, courtesy of Dr. Joseph Cesario in the Psychology Department here at Michigan State. It should be emphasized that *slides are provided to facilitate the lecture and not to present the bulk of the material*. All the lectures and transcribed versions for each unit will be available at the start of each unit.

Please note that *lecture slides will be closed for the entire duration of the exam period, regardless of when you begin the exam!* For example, lectures for the first exam will be closed off at the start of the Exam 1 test period. **EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT PLANNING ON STARTING THE EXAM UNTIL LATER IN THE PERIOD IT WILL BE CLOSED FOR YOU!** Therefore, do not plan to view the material after the exam period has begun!

Required Reading
There is *no required textbook* for this class. Instead, you will *read original source material* (posted on D2L under the Readings tab). References for the readings are also listed at the end of the syllabus.

Grading

A. Philosophy.
Your evaluation in this course will be based primarily upon how you master and are able to apply the methods of social psychology that we will cover in the course. As important as it is to learn the findings of social psychology research, it is just as important that you understand the more substantive issues behind research—why a researcher thought an experiment was important, why the experiment was designed the way it was, and the implications these experiments have for our understanding of human social behavior and human nature. Understanding the scientific process of psychological research is one of the most valuable things you can take away from this course. Long after you have forgotten the findings you learn in this class, you may still be able to use what you know about the psychological approach to contemplate the your and others’ behavior, and this philosophy guides the format of this class.

B. Exam
1) There are five exams, each worth 50 points. The first four exams are not cumulative; the final exam is cumulative. Only your top four of five exam scores count toward your final grade. Examinations will focus both on the extent to which you are able to remember what social psychologists have found and on the extent to which you are able
to understand and apply how they went about finding it.

2) **Exams will be available online for a window of 48 hours, and you will have 2 hours to complete the exam once you have opened it. Exams open at 12:00am on the first day and close at 11:59pm on the second day. You must leave yourself enough time to complete the full exam, and you must finish the test in a single sitting.**

3) The exam method used in our department is called “Single-question, no backtrack.” In this type of exam only one question is delivered at a time. Once you answer and submit a question and the next question is presented, it is not possible to go back to previous questions. Exams are primarily multiple choice but may include some short and long answer questions as well.

**C. Application Paper**

This is something that I also did when I took social psychology as an undergraduate! It allows you not only to demonstrate your understanding of the material but also to discover practical applications in your own life that would have otherwise gone unnoticed. I hope this is enjoyable to you as it was for me! Take this as an opportunity to exercise your creativity in applying the material to your life 😊

1) At the end of section, you will turn in 1-page, single-spaced application/ reaction paper(s) through D2L. The goal of this paper is to first help you absorb information from lectures and readings, then let you go beyond presented information to explore what interests you the most. Therefore, papers should include a brief description of the concept/theory/technique you have chosen and a description of your application/reaction/integration. The possibilities for this paper are endless. For example, you could:

- Use a theory to make sense of your thoughts, behavior, or emotions. (Can evolutionary theory tell me why I find my significant other attractive?)
- Use a social influence technique to get what you want. (If I make certain types of norms salient, can I get my roommate to pick up his underwear off the floor?)
- Present and discuss real world examples (personal, in the news etc.) that do or do not fit what we are learning through lectures and readings.
- Raise questions for future research.

2) There are six papers, each worth 10 points. There are one or two papers assigned for each section based on how long we spend on each section (see schedule). Your lowest paper grade will be dropped. You will not receive written evaluations on your weekly papers. The paper should a) follow the instructions outlined above, meaningfully discussing something relevant to class and b) correctly name the file (if you need a reminder go back to the orientation material – Submitting Assignments).
It is your responsibility to check that the assignment has been uploaded properly. You can turn in any assignment before the deadline, and you can write on any topic covered during that deadline. There is no required specific format (e.g., APA, etc.); it should simply be written in a professional manner. You do not need a reference page.

Please note that I am a mandatory reporter of any Title IX complaints. So, your application papers can focus on personal topics but if anything is revealed that would fall under Title IX I am required to report it. You can read more information on the ombudsperson website or the human resources website.

D. Calculating Your Final Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam: Highest 4 out of 5</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Paper: Highest 5 out of 6</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your total points earned will be divided by the course total to arrive at a percentage.

90-100% = 4.0  
85-89.99% = 3.5  
80-84.99% = 3.0  
75-79.99% = 2.5  
Etc.

I will adhere to these cutoffs and there will be no adjustments to your grade other than a calculation error. If you believe there was a calculation error, please email me with evidence. I will then check and change your grade if there was an error.

Accommodations

(from the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)): Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation ("VISA") form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date may not be honored.

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)

If you break the academic honesty agreement in any way, you will receive a 0.0 for the course. There are no exceptions.

Password for D2L website

- After completing the D2l orientation, you will need to complete an online quiz in order to gain access to the lectures. The quiz will ask you for the syllabus password, which is: psychology

Email and office hours

- There will be no in-person office hours during this course, but I will respond to emails within one business day (except over weekends). If we need to discuss via a different medium I will set up a zoom conference.
- My ability to help you will be significantly improved if I can understand your email. Please read this blog post (http://matt.might.net/articles/how-to-email/) on sending emails.
Reading List


