

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY – PSYC 231-002

FALL 2012 SYLLABUS

Instructor: Dr. Donna Orsini
Email: dorsini@gmu.edu
Office: Aquia 337
Office Hours: M 1:45-2:45

Days: Mon, Wed.
Time: 3 – 4:15
Room: Krug Hall 7
Office Phone: 703-993-5212

Required Text: Aronson, E., Wilson, T. D., Akert, R. M. (2010). *Social Psychology* (8th edition). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall. ISBN 10:0-13-814478-8

Course Objectives: This course is designed to provide an introduction of theories, research and issues in social psychology. As a class, we will apply social psychological principles to everyday life. The learning objectives of this course are to:

- Develop a basic understanding of key concepts, terms, principles, and theories in social psychology;
- Develop an understanding of methodological approaches used in the field;
- Apply social psychological theories and concepts to significant issues in everyday life.

Grading:

Pop Quizzes (10%): Pop quizzes will be given at the instructor’s discretion. They will be used to assess level of knowledge for the material and to provide a reward for class attendance. They will be given at the beginning of the class and will be followed by discussion of the answers. Your lowest quiz grade may be dropped and there will be NO makeup quizzes allowed.

In-Class Exams (60%): There will be 3 in-class exams administered throughout the semester. Each exam will consist of concepts covered in class including the lecture, discussion, and activities as well as the textbook material. You will be permitted to drop your lowest exam grade (NOT including the final exam), and therefore there will be no make-up exams.

Final Exam (30%): The final exam will be on the university scheduled day/time: Monday, December 17 at 1:30-4:15. There will be NO Make-Up Exams. The final exam is required and cumulative.

Final Grade: The final grade you receive for this class will be calculated based on the pop quizzes, in-class exams and the final exam (based on percentage):

A+ = 100-97	A = 96-93	A- = 92-90
B+ = 89-87	B = 86-83	B- = 82-80
C+ = 79-77	C = 76-73	C- = 72-70
D = 69-60	F = below 59	

Class Attendance: Attendance is extremely important and every student is expected to attend class regularly, be on time, and stay for the entire class. Information will be presented that is not in the textbook and classroom discussion is encouraged. All students are expected to show respectful behavior at all times toward the instructor, guest speakers, and their fellow students. All students are expected to turn off cell phones- texting and using cell phones in any way will not be tolerated and will result in loss of participation points.

Important Dates:

Last Day to Add Class	September 4
Last Day to Drop Class	September 28

Disability Accommodations: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Services (DRS) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Honor Code: As the course instructor, I reserve *“the right to enter a failing grade to any student found guilty of an Honor Code violation.”* Violations of the honor code include lying, cheating, plagiarism, and taking credit for work that is not your own. You may find more information about this at www.gmu/catalog/99798/honorcod.html.

Official Communications via GMU E-Mail: Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their mason e-mail account, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Assigned Reading and Due Dates</u> *
August 27	Syllabus Review/Intro to the Course
August 29	Chapter 1: Intro to Social Psychology
September 3	No Class
September 5	Chapter 2: Methodology I
September 10	Chapter 3: Social Cognition I
September 12	Chapter 3: Social Cognition II
September 17	Chapter 4: Perception I
September 19	Chapter 4: Perception II
September 24	EXAM 1 (Chapters 1-4)
September 26	Chapter 5: The Self I
October 1	Chapter 5: The Self II
October 3	Chapter 6: Self Justification I
October 8	No Class- Columbus Day
October 10	Chapter 6: Self Justification II
October 15	Chapter 7: Attitude and Attitude Change I
October 17	Chapter 7: Attitude and Attitude Change II
October 22	Chapter 8: Conformity I
October 24	Chapter 8: Conformity II
October 29	EXAM 2 (Chapters 5-8)
October 31	Chapter 9: Group Processes I
November 5	Chapter 9: Group Processes II
November 7	Chapter 10: Interpersonal Attraction I
November 12	Chapter 10: Interpersonal Attraction II
November 14	Chapter 11: Prosocial Behavior I
November 19	Chapter 11: Prosocial Behavior II
November 21	No Class- Thanksgiving Holiday
November 26	Chapter 12: Aggression I
November 28	Chapter 13: Prejudice
December 3	EXAM 3 (Chapters 9-13)
December 5	Last Day of Class, Review for Final
December 17	FINAL EXAM, 1:30-4:15, Cumulative

* Syllabus subject to change.