

Social Psychology (Soci 4340)

Spring 2024; Environmental Science Bldg Rm 120; M/W 3:30-4:50

# Instructor Information

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| Instructor | Email | Office Location & Hours |
| Kevin McCaffree, PhD | Kevin.mccaffree@unt.edu | In person/Zoom by appointment. |

# General Information

## Description

Social psychology is a fascinating field that combines a traditional psychological focus on individual cognition with a sociological focus on socialization, interaction and groups. In this class we will be touring much of the field, though we will focus particularly on aggression and altruism towards the end of the course. At the end of this class, you’ll be able to identify and precisely apply key social psychological concepts in a way that is useful to you and, potentially, helpful for others.

## Required Text:

Gilovich, T., Keltner, D., Chen, S., Nisbett, R.E. 2018. Social Psychology: **Fifth Edition.** W.W. Norton & Co.

Class Assignments

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Type of Assignment** | **Details** |
| **Attendance/ Reading Reflection** | Your attendance grade will be calculated from your submission of two reading questions each week.  These questions should be carefully thought out, should draw from and cite specific material from the assigned readings, and should range from between 150-250 words *each*. These questions will be due Friday by midnight each week, uploaded to Canvas.  This assignment is NOT due the first two weeks of class (i.e., weeks 1 and 2), the last two weeks of class (i.e., week 16 and Finals Week) or during Spring Break week (week 9).  Each set of questions is worth 10 points (5 points each), and questions will be required for 12 weeks (total) of the course, for a total of 120 points. |
| **Exams** | There are three essay exams in this course.  Exams will be taken in class, using a Blue Book. (Bring a blue book and pen to class on exam days!)  Each exam is worth 100 points, for a total of 300 points. |

**Exam Schedule**

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| --- | --- |
| Date | Subject |
| 2/19 | **Exam One** |
| 3/27 | **Exam Two** |
| 5/1 | **Exam Three** |

**Grade Breakdown**

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| --- | --- |
| Assignment | Possible Points |
| Reading Questions | **120 points; ~29% of final grade** |
| Exams | **300 points; ~71% of final grade** |
| TOTAL | **420 points** |

**General Policies:**

\*\* Late work will not be accepted unless there are emergency circumstances; a doctor’s note will be required and will need to be emailed to the Dean of Students for approval.

\*\*Instances of plagiarism will result in an automatic F and referral to the Dean of Students.

\*\*I won’t be posting powerpoint slides on Canvas (copyright issues).

\*\*There is no extra credit in this course, however, in-class participation will make students eligible for end-of-semester grade bumps.

\*\*The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course.

# Course Schedule\*

| Week | Topic | Reading | Assignments |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Week 1 (1/17) | Syllabus and Introductions | None | None |
| Week 2 (1/22, 1/24) | The Replication Crisis in Social Psychology | Gilovich et al., Chp 1, 4 | None |
| Week 3 (1/29, 1/31) | The Self | Gilovich et al., Chp. 3 | Submit reading questions (Friday by Midnight) |
| Week 4 (2/5, 2/7) | The Self (cont.) and Groups | Gilovich et al., Chapter 12 | Submit reading questions (Friday by Midnight) |
| Week 5 (2/12, 2/14) | Groups | Readings Posted to Canvas | Submit reading questions (Friday by Midnight) |
| Week 6 (2/19, 2/21) | Emotion | Gilovich et al., Chp. 6 | **Exam 1 on 2/19**  Submit reading questions (Friday by midnight) |
| Week 7 (2/26, 2/28) | Emotions (cont.) ; Persuasion and Manipulation | Gilovich et al., Chp. 8 | Submit reading questions (Friday by midnight) |
| Week 8 (3/4, 3/6) | Attitudes, Behavior and Rationalization | Gilovich et al., Chp. 7 | Submit reading questions (Friday by midnight) |
| Week 9 (3/11-3/13) | SPRING BREAK | None | None |
| Week 10 (3/18-3/20) | Social Attribution | Gilovich et al., Chp. 5 | Submit reading questions (Friday by midnight) |
| Week 11 (3/25, 3/27) | Social Influence | Gilovich et al., Chp. 9 | **Exam 2 on 3/27**  Submit reading questions (Friday by midnight) |
| Week 12 (4/1, 4/3) | Aggression | Gilovich et al., Chp. 13 | Submit reading questions  (Friday by midnight) |
| Week 13 (4/8, 4/10) | Aggression | Readings Posted to Canvas | Submit reading questions (Friday by midnight) |
| Week 14 (4/15, 4/17) | Altruism and Cooperation | Gilovch et al., Chp. 14 | Submit reading questions (Friday by midnight) |
| Week 15 (4/22, 4/24) | Altruism and Cooperation | Gilovich et al., Chp. 10 | Submit reading questions (Friday by midnight) |
| Week 16 (4/29, 5/1) | Future Directions in Social Psychology | Readings posted to Canvas | **Exam 3 on 5/1** |
| Finals Week |  |  |  |

\*This syllabus, with its course schedule, is based on the most recent information about the course content and schedule planned for this course. Its content is subject to revision as needed to adapt to new knowledge or unanticipated events. Updates will remain focused on achieving the course objectives and students will receive notification of such changes. Students are responsible for attending to such changes or modifications posted on the CANVAS site ([https://unt.instructure.com](https://unt.instructure.com/)) for this course.