

Psychology 240: Introduction to Social Psychology

Purdue University-Fall, 2006

Instructor: Professor Kipling D. Williams, PSYC 2165, 494-0845
E-mail: kip@psych.purdue.edu
Webpage: <http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~kip/>
Course Webpage: <http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~kip/240/index.htm>

Class times: *Lecture:* Mondays & Wednesdays, 11:30am – 12:20pm; EE 170
Recitations:

01	T	7:30 – 8:20am	REC 226	Steven Arthur
02	T	12:30 – 1:20am	REC 226	Steven Arthur
03	W	7:30 – 8:20am	REC 226	Adrienne Carter-Sowell
04	W	8:30 – 9:20am	REC 226	Adrienne Carter-Sowell
05	F	8:30 – 9:20am	REC 226	Zayra Longoria
06	F	9:30 – 10:20am	REC 226	Zayra Longoria

Office hours: Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon, or by appointment.

Text: Myers, D. (2005). *Social psychology* 8th Edition. NY: McGraw-Hill. *A limited number of study guides are available from the bookstore; buy one if you think you might need it.*

TAs:

Steven Arthur	sarthur@psych.purdue.edu	494-6892	PSYC 2114	Off. hrs: W 1:30-2:30
Adrienne Carter-Sowell	arcarter@psych.purdue.edu	494-6892	PSYC 2180	Off. hrs: W 10-11am
Zayra Longoria	zayra@psych.purdue.edu	494-6892	PSYC 2182	Off. hrs: T 12-1pm

Course Objectives: The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the field of social psychology. There are three major sub-goals: (1) To explain how social psychologists think about and study human behavior. (2) To introduce you to the body of knowledge and underlying principles that currently exist in the field. (3) To encourage reflection about the implications of social psychological research for the situations we encounter in everyday life.

Class Format: This class involves two lectures and a recitation each week. The 50-minute lectures will cover the topics listed on this syllabus. The text covers these same topics, but lectures and text overlap only about 50%. Consequently you will both need to attend lecture and read the text to learn all of the examinable material.

Recitations: You will also be assigned to a recitation section that will meet once each week. In recitation, you will take part in a variety of activities meant to build on and extend lecture material. Such activities will include discussions of readings, demonstrations of classic social psychological phenomena, and a major project. Recitation is designed to give you greater insight into the research process and to provide opportunities to discuss course material in smaller groups. The TAs leading recitations are advanced social psychology graduate students.

Grading. Course grades will be based on three non-cumulative midterm exams (each worth 25%), and recitation participation, assignments and projects (25%). Make-ups will only be granted with a valid medical excuse, and will be taken at a time convenient for your TA. The grades will follow the following breakdown. The percentages are based on the *top score* achieved in the class.

100 – 90%	=	A
89 - 80%	=	B
79 - 70%	=	C
69 - 60%	=	D
< 60%	=	F

No Extra Credit: There are no extra credit opportunities.

Purdue Student Code of Honor: Know it and follow it. For your own sake, do your own work. Plagiarism is a serious offense, and is easily detectable with the advent of search engines. It does not matter if you plagiarized intentionally or unintentionally—either way it is plagiarism. Here is a useful website to understand the definition and issues surrounding plagiarism: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_plagiar.html

Schedule of Topics and Readings for Lecture

This schedule is only an approximation. The instructor may extend, shorten, or even re-arrange the lectures. All students are responsible for any changes mentioned in class, including changes in test dates. PLEASE ROUTINELY CHECK THE COURSE WEBPAGE FOR UPDATES, CHANGES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: <http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~kip/240/index.htm>

Date	Topic	Reading
Aug 21, Mon	Introduction—Go over syllabus; answer questions	Chapter 1
Aug 23, Wed	Introduction <i>continued</i>	
Aug 28, Mon	Research Methods	
Aug 30, Wed	Research Methods <i>continued</i>	
Sep 4, Mon	LABOR DAY	
Sep 6, Wed	Research Methods <i>continued</i>	
Sep 11, Mon	The Self	Chapter 2
Sep 13, Wed	The Self <i>continued</i>	
Sep 18*, Mon	Social Beliefs and Judgments	Chapter 3
Sep 20, Wed	Social Beliefs and Judgments <i>continued</i>	
Sep 25, Mon	Behavior and Attitudes	Chapter 4
Sep 27, Wed	Behavior and Attitudes <i>continued</i>	
Oct 2, Mon	***EXAM 1***	
Oct 4, Wed	Persuasion	Chapter 7
Oct 9, Mon	OCTOBER BREAK	
Oct 11, Wed	Persuasion <i>continued (possible guest speaker)</i>	
Oct 16, Mon	Conformity	Chapter 6
Oct 18, Wed	Obedience & Compliance	
Oct 23, Mon	Compliance <i>continued</i>	
Oct 25, Wed	Group Influence - Ostracism	Chapter 8
Oct 30, Mon	Group Influence – Social Facilitation	
Nov 1, Wed	Group Influence –Social Loafing	
Nov 6, Mon	***EXAM 2***	
Nov 8, Wed	Attraction and Intimacy	Chapter 11
Nov 13, Mon	Attraction and Intimacy <i>(continued)</i>	
Nov 15, Wed	Aggression	Chapter 10
Nov 20, Mon	Aggression <i>continued</i>	
Nov 22, Wed	THANKSGIVING VACATION	
Nov 27, Mon	Prejudice <i>(guest speaker)</i>	Chapter 9
Nov 29, Wed	Prejudice <i>continued</i>	
Dec 4, Wed	Pro-Social Behavior	Chapter 12
Dec 6, Wed	Pro-Social Behavior <i>continued</i>	
Final Exam Day	***EXAM 3***	

**Last day to cancel a course assignment without a grade, for course additions, change of level or change of pass/not-pass option.*