

Psychology 240: Introduction to Social Psychology

Purdue University-Fall, 2007

Instructor: Professor Kipling D. Williams, PSYC 2166, 494-0845
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Webpage: <http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~kip/>
Course Webpage: <http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~kip/240/index.htm>

Class times: *Lecture:* Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:30am – 11:20pm; EE 170
Recitations:

01	M	12:30 – 1:20pm	PRCE 277	Laura VanderDrift
02	T	7:30 – 8:20am	PRCE 277	Jim Wirth
03	T	8:30 – 9:20am	PRCE 277	Jim Wirth
04	W	8:30 – 9:20am	PRCE 277	Zhansheng Chen
05	Th	7:30 – 8:20am	PRCE 277	Laura VanderDrift
06	Th	3:30 – 4:20pm	PRCE 277	Laura VanderDrift

Office hours: Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon, or by appointment. Please let me know if you plan to come in.

Text: Baumeister, R. F., & Bushman, B. (2007). *Social psychology and human nature*. NY: Thompson. *A limited number of study guides are available from the bookstore; buy one if you think you might need it. Or, you can purchase on on-line.*

TAs:

Zhansheng Chen	chen@psych.purdue.edu	494-6892	PSYC 2188	Off. hrs: Th 3:30-4:30pm
Laura VanderDrift	laura@psych.purdue.edu	494-6892	PSYC 2176	Off. hrs: T 11:30am-12:30pm
Jim Wirth	jwirth@psych.purdue.edu	494-6892	PSYC 2114	Off. hrs: T 1:30-2:30pm

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 need to attend lectures, recitations, 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, discussions of relevance of social psychology to daily news, and a major project. Recitation is designed to give you greater insight into the research process and applications, and to provide opportunities to discuss course material in smaller groups. TAs are advanced social psychology graduate students. They, and they alone, are responsible for your grading in their recitations.

Grading. Course grades will be based on 3 non-cumulative midterm exams (each worth 25%), and recitation participation, assignments and projects (totaling 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. *There are no extra credit opportunities.*

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

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

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Here are ways to get information about changes in this course. WebCT Vista web page, my class web page, email address: kip@psych.purdue.edu, and my office phone: 494-0845.

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 20, Mon	Introduction—Go over syllabus; answer questions	Chapter 1
Aug 22, Wed	Introduction <i>continued</i>	
Aug 27, Mon	Research Methods	
Aug 29, Wed*	Research Methods <i>continued (Ch 2 is not covered in lecture)</i>	Chapter 2
Sep 3, Mon	LABOR DAY	
Sep 5, Wed**	Research Methods <i>continued</i>	
Sep 10, Mon	The Self	Chapter 3
Sep 12, Wed	The Self <i>continued</i>	
Sep 17, Mon	Social Beliefs and Judgments	Chapter 5
Sep 19, Wed	Social Beliefs and Judgments <i>continued</i>	
Sep 24, Mon	Behavior and Attitudes	Chapter 7
Sep 26, Wed	Behavior and Attitudes <i>continued</i>	
Oct 1, Mon	***EXAM 1***	
Oct 3, Wed	Persuasion	Chapter 13
Oct 8, Mon	OCTOBER BREAK	
Oct 10, Wed	Persuasion <i>continued (SESP)</i>	
Oct 15, Mon	Conformity	
Oct 17, Wed	Obedience & Compliance	
Oct 22, Mon	Compliance <i>continued</i>	
Oct 24, Wed	Group Influence - Ostracism	Chapter 10 (skip 332-340)
Oct 29, Mon	Group Influence – Social Facilitation	Chapter 14
Oct 31, Wed	Group Influence –Social Loafing	
Nov 5, Mon	***EXAM 2*** (Amsterdam)	
Nov 7, Wed	Prejudice (Amsterdam)	Chapter 12
Nov 12, Mon	Prejudice <i>continued (Amsterdam)</i>	
Nov 14, Wed	Attraction and Intimacy	Ch 10: 332-340
Nov 19, Mon	Attraction and Intimacy (<i>continued</i>)	Chapter 11
Nov 21, Wed	THANKSGIVING VACATION	
Nov 26, Mon	Aggression	Chapter 9
Nov 28, Wed	Aggression (<i>continued</i>)	
Dec 3, Mon	Pro-Social Behavior	Chapter 8
Dec 5, Wed	Pro-Social Behavior <i>continued</i>	
Final Exam Day	***EXAM 3***	

*Aug 31 Last day to cancel a course assignment without it appearing on record

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