# Introduction to Social Psychology

**Psy 240; Fall 2007**  
**Purdue University**  
**Dr. Kipling Williams**

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## Overview: Syllabus

**Psychology 240: Introduction to Social Psychology**  
Purdue University-Fall, 2007  

**Instructor:** Professor Kipling D. Williams, PSYC 2166, 494-0845  
E-mail: kip@psych.purdue.edu  
Course Webpage: [http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~kip/](http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~kip/)  

**Class times:**  
- **Lecture:** Mondays & Wednesdays, 1030am – 1120pm; EE 170  
- **Review:** 2M 1:30-2:30pm PRCE277  
  02 T 7:30-8:30am PRCE277  
  03 T 12:30-1:30pm PRCE277  
  04 W 9:30-10:20am PRCE277  
  05 Th 7:30-8:30am PRCE277  
  06 Th 12:30-1:30pm PRCE277  
  07 F 11:30am-1130pm PRCE277  

**Office hours:** Thursdays: 930 a.m. – 12 noon, or by appointment. Please let me know if you plan to come in.  

**Text:**  
Brunswik, R. F., & Fishbein, 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  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TAs</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Office hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zhansheng Chen</td>
<td>494-6892</td>
<td>Off: Mon Th 330-430pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura VanderDrift</td>
<td>494-6892</td>
<td>Off: Mon Th 1130-1230pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Wirth</td>
<td>494-6892</td>
<td>Off: Mon Th 1130-230pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Course Webpage: http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~kip/240/index.htm

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Resistance:
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TAs:
Zhanheng Chen
laurad@psych.purdue.edu 494-6892 PSYC 2188 Off. hrs: Th 3:30-4:30pm
Laura VanderDelft
laurad@psych.purdue.edu 494-6892 PSYC 2176 Off. hrs: T 3:30-4:30pm
Jim Wirth
jwirth@psych.purdue.edu 494-6892 PSYC 2114 Off. hrs: T 1:30-2:30pm
Textbook: *Baumeister & Bushman, 1st Edition*

*Note:* The Study Guide is optional but you might want to purchase and, more importantly, use it.

http://www.amazon.com/Baumeister-Bushmans-Social-Psychology-Nature/dp/0534638368/ref=pd_sim_b_1/105-4260737-7390018

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01 M 12:30 – 1:20pm  
PRCE 277  
Kuai Chen  
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PRCE 277  
Jim Wirth  
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PRCE 277  
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Zhansheng Chen  
05 Th 7:30 – 8:20am  
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494-6892  
PSYC 2114  
Off hrs: Th 1:30-2:30pm
Overview: Syllabus continued

Course Objectives: The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the field of social psychology. There are three major sub-topics:
(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 exists in the field. (3) To encourage reflection about the implications of social psychological concepts 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 two cover these same topics, but lectures and tests overlap only about 50%. Consequently, you will need to attend lectures, recitations, and read the text to learn all of the exam material.

Recitation: 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 material, 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 sections.

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 - 90%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89 - 80%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79 - 70%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69 - 60%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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://www.english.purdue.edu/handouts/hunwrit/13plagiar.html](http://www.english.purdue.edu/handouts/hunwrit/13plagiar.html)

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to change that may be mentioned by a verbal announcement, or email, or e-mail. You are responsible for any changes in the event of a major campus emergency. Visit your instructor's course Web page, my class Web page, email address, kmp@purdue.edu, and my office phone: 494-8843.
Overview: Syllabus continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 16</td>
<td>Chapter 1: Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 23</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 30</td>
<td>Group Dynamics</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 6</td>
<td>Social Influence</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13</td>
<td>Social Influence and Attitudes</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 20</td>
<td>Social Influence and Attitudes</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 27</td>
<td>Other Resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Resources

- [http://www.socialpsychology.org](http://www.socialpsychology.org)
  - [http://www.socialpsychology.org/siteweek.htm](http://www.socialpsychology.org/siteweek.htm)