PSY621 Social Psychology
(3 credit hours)
Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course is intended to provide a graduate-level survey of the content, theories, research paradigms, and findings of the field of social psychology. After completing this course students will understand the types of questions social psychologists address and the current state of knowledge in the field. The class will be conducted in a lecture/discussion format

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Expand the student's working definition of social psychology.
2. Explore, assess, and apply social psychology concepts in the major areas of social psychological research through peer-reviewed data.
3. Expand understanding of the influence of others on our perceptions of self, other people, and social groups.
4. Apply social psychology concepts, theories and research in real-life applications

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

There are no required resources for this course. All course materials are included as links within the course.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the Tiffin University Library.

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each**

week. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).

2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.

3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Wednesdays.**

4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Saturdays, and**

5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Sundays.**

Learning Activities

During this course, you will have two categories of assignments, discussions, and projects. Discussion assignments are divided into posts and responses. Post topics include compare and contrast, personal perspectives, current events, and devil advocate exercises. Your responses to your cohorts will require you to analyze their posts and use social psychology theories to support your responses. The goal of the discussion assignments is to encourage critical thinking about the proposed theories and their real-world application.

Project assignments include reflections on videos, diagramming behavior adoption, and a research proposal. The diagraming projects in Week 2 and 4 are designed to allow you to visualize how individuals make behavioral decisions based on social influences and cues. Visualizing these processes is a powerful way of illustrating the complexity of individual behavioral decisions and will provide you with a deeper insight into the course material.

Your final project, which you will start during Weeks 3 and 4, will be a proposal to study a "gap" in current social psychology research. These proposals are standard in Master level capstone projects and Ph.D.-level dissertations. Completing this type of project requires you to be inquisitive and to critically think about the current state of social psychology theories, application, and direction of research to identify areas of research that others have not studied and that are likely to improve the existing body of knowledge.

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General Questions/Comments/Feedback:
online@tiffin.edu

Grading and Points Distribution

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Discussions Activity 1.1 (N/A) Activity 1.2 (30)	**Discussions** Activity 2.1 (30)	**Discussion** Activity 3.1 (30)	**Discussion** Activity 4.1 (30)	**Discussion** Activity 5.1 (30)	**Discussion** Activity 6.1 (50)	**Discussion** Activity 7.1 (30)	**230**
Assignment Activity 1.3 (70)	**Assignment** Activity 2.3 (70)	**Assignment** Activity 3.2 (70) Activity 3.3 (70)	**Assignment** Activity 4.2 (70)	**Assignment** Activity 5.2 (70) Activity 5.3 (70)	**Assignment** Activity 6.2 (50)		**540**
						Assignment Final Proposal Activity 7.2 (230)	**230**
100	**100**	**170**	**100**	**170**	**100**	**260**	**1000**

Grading Scale

A: 90-100% | B: 80-89% | C: 70-79% | F: <69%

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Start Here

☐ MON: Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers - Initial Post

Week 1: Welcome to Social Psychology

☐ WED: Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers - Secondary Post

☐ WED: Activity 1.2 Discussion: Studying Sociology and Social Psychology - Initial Post

☐ SAT: Activity 1.2 Discussion: Studying Sociology and Social Psychology - Secondary Post

☐ SUN: Activity 1.3 Assignment: Social Psychology Theory Comparison

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Week 2: Nature vs. Nurture

☐ WED: Activity 2.1 Discussion: Nature vs. Nurture - Initial Post

☐ SAT: Activity 2.1 Discussion: Nature vs. Nurture - Secondary Post

☐ SUN: Activity 2.2 Assignment: Forming Behaviors

Week 3: Identity Development

☐ WED: Activity 3.1 Discussion: Attribution Error - Initial Post

☐ SAT: Activity 3.1 Discussion: Attribution Error - Secondary Post

☐ SUN: Activity 3.2 Week 7: Research Gap Proposal - The Problem

☐ SUN: Activity 3.3 Assignment: Individual Perspective and Morality

Week 4: Group Motivated Behavior

☐ WED: Activity 4.1 Discussion: Group Behavior - Initial Post

☐ SAT: Activity 4.1 Discussion: Group Behavior - Secondary Post

☐ SUN: Activity 4.2 Assignment: Decision Model Flowchart

Week 5: Social Engineering

☐ WED: Activity 5.1 Discussion: Politics and Behavior - Initial Post

☐ SAT: Activity 5.1 Discussion: Politics and Behavior - Secondary Post

☐ SUN: Activity 5.2 Assignment: Social Media Isolation Position Paper

☐ SUN: Activity 5.3 Assignment: Exposure and Behavioral Change

Week 6: Social Psychology Across Time

☐ WED: Activity 6.1 Discussion: Historical Trauma and Generational Transference - Initial Post

☐ SAT: Activity 6.1 Discussion: Historical Trauma and Generational Transference - Secondary Post

☐ SUN: Activity 6.2 Assignment: To study or not?

Week 7: Social Psychology and the Pandemic

☐ WED: Activity 7.1 Discussion: The COVID Pandemic - Initial Post

☐ THU: Activity 7.2 Assignment: Research Gap Proposal

☐ SAT: Activity 7.1 Discussion: The COVID Pandemic - Secondary Post

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Tips for Success

Successful online learning requires a good deal of self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge and review one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery and constructiveness. Your course is a place for you to stretch and grow as you benefit from the expertise, knowledge, experience and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge, understanding and application.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

For More Information:

Be sure to review the Support, Policies, and Procedures addendum.

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