

Research in Social Psychology

Psychology 443, Sec. 01: Call #: 4013

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Class Meeting Time: Lecture: Tue Thurs: 3:00-3:50

Lab: Tue Thurs: 4:00 - 4:50

Class Meeting Location: Lecture: Muse B433

Lab: Washington 400

Office Hours: M-Th: 1:30-2:30

Also by appointment and just about any time you can catch me.

(The hours given above are tentative; they may be changed. All changes will be announced in class.)

Required Text:

Aronson, Elliot (2004). *The Social Animal*, ninth edition. NY, NY: Worth Publishers.

Also, you must have some kind of research methods book and some kind of statistics book.

Recommended Texts:

American Psychological Association. (2001). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (5th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Kirkpatrick, L. A., & Feeney, B. F., (2006) A simple guide to SPSS for Windows version 12.0 & 13.0. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Course Objectives:

The student will be engaged in a series of activities designed to develop understanding of concepts, theories, and research related to social psychology. Through lecture, class readings, discussions, conducting original research and other components for evaluation, the student will be acquainted with classic issues, current issue, research, and methodology in social psychology.

This course is designed to help you (1) develop a deeper understanding of the procedures for many basic research and statistical designs, (2) gain a better understanding of methodology and its relation to statistical analyses in reports of psychological research, (3) further develop your quantitative and analytic thinking skills, (4) further develop your research presentation skills, and (5) prepare you for graduate level courses in psychology and conducting research of your own. By learning how research is preformed, you will hopefully become a better consumer and producer of information

Class Mechanics :

Class sessions: Class attendance is not required (though it is a very good idea to come to class). *If you do not come to class, you remain responsible for all material covered in class and for any announcements made in class.* Part of the class before each exam will be given over to questions.

Evaluation:

The student's progress in meeting course objectives will be inferred from performance on the following numbered components.

1. Exams (200 pts): Exams will be multiple choice, short answer, and essay format. There will be two exams total, each covering approximately 1/2 of the material (i.e. the final is not cumulative). Exam questions will be based on readings and class discussions.

-University policy for Academic Dishonesty will be enforced (so do us both a favor and don't cheat).

-Students should bring their RU ID's with them to exams. You may be asked to present them.

-Students may not retain copies of the exam questions.

-Do not arrive at an exam late: once anyone has finished the exam and left, no one else may start the exam and a make-up will be administered on the scheduled make up day.

Make-up exams: If a student misses an exam and has an adequate *written* excuse, s/he may take a make-up exam. The instructor reserves the right to decide on the adequacy of excuses. A special test session will be used for giving all make-up exams. This will probably be Thurs., April 19th at 5:00 p.m. Details will be announced in class. If an exam is missed and no make-up is taken.

a zero will be given for that exam. *See me at once if you miss an exam for any reason, or when you anticipate missing an exam. You must see me, in person, in my office for this.*

2. Weekly Assignments (48 pts): Every week a 1 to 2 page Question Paper is due. The Question Paper should consist of 2 **thoughtful** questions that you write based on the reading that is assigned for that week (see Tentative Course Outline). In your questions be sure to include the following elements:

- A clear statement concerning the aspect(s) of the reading to which the question refers.
- A clear statement of the question.
- Your thoughts on how you could begin to answer the question.

A copy (keep one for your self to use during class) of your question paper is due at the beginning of class. 12 question papers are due before the end of the semester. Every Question paper is worth 4 points Late question papers will not be accepted.

3. Group Project: (100 pts)

As a class the students will design a study that employs observational methodology (See ZZS Ch. 4). Your grade on this project will consist of 4 components. Grades will be assigned at the group level: See the forthcoming Group Guide for details.

- I. **Study Proposal (15 pts): Due 1/30**
- II. **Study Protocol & Hypotheses (15 pts) : Due 2/22**
- III. **Data Collection and Analysis (20 pts) : Due 4/5**
- IV. **Final Report (50 pts): Due 4/26**

4. RU Undergraduate/Graduate Forum Presentation (50 points)

Each student will present their work at the Annual Radford University Undergraduate/Graduate Forum. Presentations can either take the form of Poster Presentations or Talks (10-15 minutes approximately). These presentations can be done individually or in groups. See the forthcoming Forum Presentation Guide for details.

NOTE For ALL written work:

1) In the extremely unlikely event that your paper is missing or has been accidentally lost or destroyed, make sure that you have a hard copy of the paper AND a backup disk in addition to the copy that you turn in. This is your record of having completed the assignment and will be used to replace the missing copy. If you do not have a backup, it will be your responsibility to complete the paper again.

2) All written work **must be typed and double spaced, with 1 inch margins and 12 pt typeface** and must conform to the style described in the fifth edition of *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Handwritten work and other work found unacceptable due to format, grammar, or lack of proofreading will not be accepted and will be returned for revision. Revisions submitted within one week of return, will be accepted with a 10% grade reduction. Revisions submitted after the one week deadline will be awarded 0 pts.

Summary of Evaluation:

Exams:	200 points
Weekly Assignments:	48 points
Group Project:	100 points
Forum Presentation:	50 points

Total	398 points

Grades: Grades are based on an absolute system with the minimum percentages for each letter grade as follows: D=60%, C=70%, B= 80%, A= 90%.

Special needs Students:

Any student with physical or learning disabilities in this course should contact the instructor the first week of the semester to discuss whatever accommodations are necessary to facilitate the student's learning and performance. It is the student's responsibility to contact me if you have special needs. I have no way of knowing what your needs are until you communicate them to me.

Lecture and Reading Outline:

This outline can only be an approximate guide, since dates for particular lecture topics are only approximations; material may be added or deleted. The dates and material for the exams will be as listed, however, unless changes are absolutely necessary. If changes affecting exams are made, they will be announced in class as soon as possible. Lecture dates in this outline are used to identify lecture topics to be covered on exams. On the class day immediately before an exam, there will be time for questions, etc.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapter No.</u>	<u>Lecture Topics</u>	<u>Lab Topics</u>
1/09 t	-	- Syllabus, introduction	- Intro to Wash 400
1/1 h	AF, AA, & A1	- What is Social Psychology	- Introduction to group projects
1/16 t	Art 1	- What is Social Psychology	- The Research Process
1/18 h	A9	- Social Psychology as a Science	- Work Day: Group Topic Development
1/23 t	Art 2	- Social Psychology as a Science	- Methodological Validity
1/25 h	A2	- Conformity	- Work Day: Proposal Development
1/30 t	A2 & Art 3	- Conformity	- Measurement Issues: Proposals Due (15 pts).
2/1 h	Art 4	- Obedience (Milgram Video)	- Meetings - Proposal Meetings with Dr. Aspelmeier
2/6 t	Art 5	- Obedience (Milgram Cont)/Compliance	- Measurement Issue Cont.
2/8 h	A2 & Art 6	- Helping	- Work Day: Protocol Development
2/13 t	A3	- Persuasion	- Issues of Data Collection - Experimentrix
2/15 h	Art 7	- Persuasion	- Work Day: Protocol Development
2/20 t	A4	- Social Cognition	- Meetings - Protocol Meetings
2/22 h	Art 8	- Social Cognition	- Meetings - Protocol Meetings: Protocols Due (15 pts)
2/27 t	Exam I	Exam I	Exam I
3/1 h	A4	- Attribution Theory	- Meetings - Protocol Final Approval/Revision
3/6 t	Art 9	- Attribution Theory	- Meetings - Protocol Final Approval/Revision
3/8 h	A5	- Self Justification/Cog Dissonance	- Work Day - Recruiting
3/13 t	No Class	- Spring Break	- no class
3/15 h	No Class	- Spring Break	- no class
3/20 t	Art 10	- Self Justification/Cog Dissonance	- Work Day - Data Collection
3/22 h	A6	- Aggression	- Work Day - Data Collection
3/27 t	Art 11	- Aggression	- Work Day - Data Entry
3/39 h	A7	- Prejudice	- Work Day - Data Entry
4/3 t	Art 12	- Prejudice	- Work Day - Data Analysis
4/5 h	-	- Prejudice	- Work Day - Data Analysis: Data Analysis Due 20 pts
4/10 t	A8	- Attraction and Affiliation	- Work Day - Poster preparations
4/12 h	Art 13	- Attraction and Affiliation	- Work Day - Poster preparations
4/17 t	A8	- Love & Intimate Relationships	- The Final Report (Forum)
4/19 h	Art 14	- Love & Intimate Relationships	- The Final Report (Forum) Forum Presentations 50pts
4/24 t	Wrap Up	-	- The Final Report
4/26 h	Wrap Up	-	- The Final Report Final report Due 50 pts
5/2 w	Final Exam	- 11:00 am Wed Muse B233 Final -	

Article 1 - Cartwright (1979)

Article 2 - Triplet (1898)

Article 3 - Asch (1955)

Article 4 - Milgram (1962)

Article ? - ?Helping? - Jerusalem to Jerico?

Article 7 - ? Sleeper Effect ?

Article 8 - ? Social Cognition? Kahneman & Tversky ? Fiske & Schemas? Markus -self Schema, Self-fulfilling prophesy,

Article 9 - Jones & Harris (1967) JESP 3 1-24- castro essays (Correspondence Bias)

Article 10 - Festinger & Carlsmith (1959) or Aronson & Mills (1959)

Article 11 - ?Aggression?

Article 12 - ?Prejudice?

Article 13 - ?Attraction?

Article 14 - ?Love & Intimate Relationships?