

## PSY 220-01 Social Psychology Spring 2007

Instructor: Dr. S. Beyer, Associate Professor of Psychology

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Office hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 12:00 – 1:00 pm and by appointment

Textbook: "Social Psychology, 11th ed." by Baron & Byrne

Study guide: Study Guide for Baron, Byrne, & Branscombe's "Social Psychology".

e-mail: [beyer@uwp.edu](mailto:beyer@uwp.edu) When contacting me by e-mail include your name and the course in which you are enrolled in the subject area of the e-mail. This is especially important if you don't have a university e-mail account and/or you are including an attachment. Otherwise you run the risk of having your e-mail deleted by my junk e-mail filter.

### COURSE CONTENT AND OBJECTIVES

Social psychology is the scientific study of the behavior, thoughts, and feelings of an individual (or groups of individuals) as s/he influences, and is influenced by, other persons. Knowledge of social psychology increases your understanding of psychology and also provides insight into how you affect and are affected by other people. (What could be more important?) We will cover a broad spectrum of both research and theories on a multitude of social psychological topics. Besides learning about important findings in Social Psychology, this course is designed to teach you how research is conducted in the scientific field of Social Psychology. You will also develop an increased awareness of social psychological processes occurring in and affecting your daily life.

### CLASS SCHEDULE

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
The Field of Social Psychology; Research Methods	Ch. 1
Social Perception	Ch. 3
Social Cognition	Ch. 2
Attitudes	Ch. 4
The Self	Ch. 5
Interpersonal Attraction	Ch. 7
Close Relationships	Ch. 8
Prejudice	Ch. 6
Gender	
Prosocial Behavior	Ch. 10
Aggression	Ch. 11
Social Influence	Ch. 9
Social Psychology in Action	Module A (pp. 519-536)

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

You will need your UW-Parkside e-mail account and password to access required class material on D2L (<https://uwp.courses.wisconsin.edu>). I post PowerPoint slides, study questions, final grades, and other class materials on D2L. Check your e-mail regularly, as I routinely send e-mails to students.

Course grades are based on four exams, an optional final, two short papers, and attendance and class participation. The readings for each week and firm exam dates are announced in class. Therefore, regular attendance is important.

**Exams:** The exams make up **80%** of your grade. The **tentative** dates for the exams are listed below. Firm dates for each exam and the covered topics will be announced at least one week in advance. The exams consist of multiple-choice questions and cover material from the textbook **and** class lectures (including videos). Rote memorization of material will not result in a high grade. You are expected to demonstrate that you can apply the learned material. There will be **no make-up exams** for any reason. If you took all of the four exams, the final is optional and can be used to improve your grade: Your score on the final can be substituted for the lowest score on the other four exams. If you missed one of the first four exams, the final is **MANDATORY**. Any student who misses more than one exam for **any** reason will fail the class. If you come in late for an exam, you will not be allowed to take the exam if any student has finished the exam already and left the classroom.

**Short papers:** Each of the two short papers (no more than three TYPED, double-spaced pages in length) will examine a current or past event in terms of concepts learned in class. For example, you could analyze the events that took place on September 11, 2001 in terms of a theory of helping behavior. The goal is to demonstrate that you can apply social psychological concepts, principles, and theories to real-life events. Use your newly acquired social psychological vocabulary in these papers. The short papers are each worth **8%** of your grade. Sample papers are available in the Psychology office (MOL 275). **Bonus:** The most insightful paper will earn **2 extra percentage points added to the overall grade!**

**Policy on late papers:** Late papers will be penalized by subtracting a full letter grade from the attained grade for **EACH** day that the paper is late. Each day of a weekend counts as a full day. The student is responsible for ensuring that a late paper receives proper credit when received, by handing the paper to me personally, or having the secretary put the date of receipt on the paper before putting it in my mailbox. Failure to do so will result in the paper being counted as handed in whenever I find it.

**Attendance and participation:** Attendance and participation make up **4%** of your grade. Coming to class late or leaving early will adversely affect your grade, as will disruptive or uncooperative behavior. Asking pertinent questions and contributing to class discussions will improve your grade.

A percentage between 90 and 100 will yield an	A- to A
A percentage between 80 and 89 will yield a	B- to B+
A percentage between 70 and 79 will yield a	C- to C+
A percentage between 60 and 69 will yield a	D- to D+
Less than a percentage of 60 will yield an	F

### **STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Plagiarism and other forms of cheating are unacceptable. Students who are caught cheating will receive a failing grade for the course and will be reported to the university for appropriate disciplinary action.

### **POLICY ON CLASSROOM DISRUPTIONS**

As a courtesy to me and your fellow students, please turn off the ringers on all cell phones, pagers, PDAs, and other electronic equipment during class time.

### **IMPORTANT DATES (TENTATIVE)**

<b>Exam 1:</b>	<b>February 12</b>
<b>First short paper:</b>	<b>March 5</b>
<b>Exam 2:</b>	<b>March 9</b>
<b>Exam 3:</b>	<b>April 11</b>
<b>Second short paper:</b>	<b>May 2</b>
<b>Exam 4:</b>	<b>May 4</b>
<b>Final:</b>	<b>May 7, 8:00am</b>