PSY-350 – Social Psychology--- Fall 2019

Instructor Information

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Course Information

Required Text:

Aronson, E., Wilson, T.D., Akert, R.M., & Sommers, S.R. (2016).   *Social Psychology, 9th ed.* Pearson Publishers. ISBN: 978-0-13-393654. The *8th Edition* is also acceptable, but does not have Sommers' writings in it: ISBN: 978-0205796625

Course Prerequisites
A Sophomore Standing.

Catalog Description
A general introduction to social psychology for majors and non-majors in psychology. The psychology of how people think about and relate to others. Topics include love, altruism, aggression, conformity, behavior in groups, leadership, intergroup conflict, prejudice and persuasion. Old GEN ED C/SB.

Course Content Discipline:
PSYCHOLOGY

This course is in alignment with the General Education Goals & Objectives
http://www.wku.edu/gened/goals_and_objectives.php.

Course Objectives & Overview:

Upon completion of this course, the student shall be able to:	How the student will develop the learning outcomes	How the student will be assessed on these learning outcomes
1. Use critical and logical thinking of the introductory concepts of social psychology.	Readings, mini-lectures & video demonstrations, course discussions.	4 exams, weekly discussion forums and critical thinking assignments.
2. Demonstrate a proficiency in reading, writing and speaking in regard to assessing social psychological situations.	Readings, mini-lectures & video demonstrations, course discussions.	4 exams, weekly discussion forums and critical thinking assignments.
3. Apply the ability to understand basic statistical skills and concepts of psychological research through the use of the scientific method.	Readings, mini-lectures & video demonstrations, course discussions.	4 exams, weekly discussion forums and critical thinking assignments.
4. Develop an informed acquaintance with the major achievements of social psychological historical figures and how they've influenced today's field.	Readings, mini-lectures & video demonstrations, course discussions.	4 exams, weekly discussion forums and critical thinking assignments.
5. Apply cultural contributions to social perception, cognition, the understanding of self, attitudes, conformity and group processes.	Readings, mini-lectures & video demonstrations, course discussions.	4 exams, weekly discussion forums and critical thinking assignments.
6. Explain and apply an understanding of society and human behavior of the person and its social environment.	Readings, mini-lectures & video demonstrations, course discussions.	4 exams, weekly discussion forums and critical thinking assignments.

Student Disability Services

In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services in Downing University Center A-200. The phone number is 270-745-5004; TTY is 270-745-3030. Per university policy, please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the OFSDS.

1. **Student Disability Services** (http://www.wku.edu/sds/) provides services to students with disabilities: WKU's policy on web accessibility is located at (http://www.wku.edu/eoo/section508/pnlsection508.php). For more at the same website select ADA Services from the top menu and choose Policy and Procedure.
2. The **Counseling & Testing Center** provides counseling for students face-to-face: (http://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/) but also their Outreach Services offers a "Here to Help" Web form where you can ask questions online and have them answered. They also have a 24-hour Help Line for emergencies: 270- 843-4357

ADA Accommodation Statement

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu . Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf and

Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

Attendance & Participation

For the online class, students must complete a "task" each week during the semester. This may take the form of an online discussion posting and response, a critical thinking assignment, or an exam. Students who do not log in and complete a task during the scheduled week will be recorded as absent.

Policies related to attendance are available in the Undergraduate Catalog under Academic Information/University Attendance Policy. This includes issues like enrollment, excessive absenteeism, absences that may be justifiable, and dropping for non-attendance during the first week of classes.

http://www .wku.edu/undergraduatecatalog/documents/academic_information.pdf

Grading

There will be 16 weeks of coursework in the online environment. The assignments will be a combination of online discussion forums in which the student is responsible for initiating a thoughtful and substantive discussion post, as well as responding to 2 other students, critical thinking writing assignments, and 4 online exams.

Item Description	Point Value
Exams (4 @ 60 points each)	240
Discussions (7 @ 20 points each)	140
Critical Thinking Writing Assignments (4 @ 100	400

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Item Description	Point Value
points each)	
Total value:	**780 points**

Grades will be distributed **STRICTLY** based on the following scale:

Letter Grade:	Point Distribution:
A	702-780
B	624-701
C	546-623
D	468-545
F	0-467

Email

Email is not answered on a 24/7 timeframe; rather, it is answered during standard business hours only. Most emails are answered with 24 hours, except on weekends. Additionally, it is answered in the order it is received. Please do not wait to the last minute to make requests or ask questions via email, as they may not be answered according to your time constraints. Email messages not composed in a professional manner (proper capitalization, punctuation, format, etc.) will be deleted without response.

Assignments

All work is due by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on the day assigned on the course syllabus. All coursework (except the final projects in the course) will be due on Sundays throughout the term. Any items not submitted prior to the due date will not be accepted. No late assignments will be accepted in the course without prior approval. Waiting until the last minute is STRONGLY DISCOURAGED. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this policy. Please review the guidelines and grading rubric for critical thinking assignments under the course link for information.

Course Schedule

Date(s)	Chapter	Assignments
Week 1	1	Read chapter 1: Introducing Psychology **Week 1 Discussion Question**
Week 2	2	Read chapter 2: Methodology **Critical Thinking Writing Assignment**
Week 3	3	Read chapter 3: Social Cognition **Exam 1**
Week 4	4	Read chapter 4: Social Perception **Week 4 Discussion Question**
Week 5	5	Read chapter 5: The Self **Week 5 Discussion Question**
Week 6	6	Read chapter 6: The Need to Justify our Actions **Critical Thinking Writing Assignment 2**
Week 7	7	Read chapter 7: Attitudes and Attitude Changes **Exam 2**
Week 8	8	Read chapter 8: Conformity **Week 8 Discussion Question**
Week 9	9	Read chapter 9: Group Processes **Critical Thinking Writing Assignment 3**
Week 10	10	Read chapter 10: Interpersonal Attraction **Week 10 Discussion Question**
Week 11	11	Read chapter 11: Prosocial Behavior **Exam 3**
Week 12	12	Read chapter 12: Aggression **Week 12 Discussion Question**
Week 13	13	Read chapter 13: Prejudice **Week 14 Discussion Question**
Week 14	14	**Thanksgiving Week-No Assignments**
Week 15	SPA 1-2	Read SPA 1 & 2: Social Psychology: Making a Difference, Sustainable Futures and Social Psychology and Health **Critical Thinking Writing Assignment 4**
Week 16	SPA 3	Read SPA 3: Social Psychology and the Law **Exam 4/Final Exam: Due by December 13, 2019**

5ᵗʰ Week Assessment of First Year Undergraduates
Per the WKU Undergraduate Advising Handbook:

"**Fifth Week Freshmen Assessment Program**: During the 5th week of each semester all faculty and staff who are teaching 100 level courses are required to enter in 5th Week Assessment information on students in their class. Information provided will notify AARC if students are passing or failing their courses as well as excessive absences. AARC disseminates to selected offices on campus to attempt to provide help to these students early in the semester. Marks entered by faculty and staff can now be seen on TopNet by students and advisors."

Student Advising http://www.wku.edu/advising/academic-advising-handbook.php

The Learning Center
Should you require academic assistance with your WKU courses, The Learning Center (located in the Downing University Center, A330) provides free supplemental education programs for all currently enrolled WKU students. TLC @ DUC offers certified, one-on-one tutoring in over 200 subjects by appointment, walk in, or online. TLC is a also a quiet study area, with side rooms designated for peer to peer tutoring, and offers a thirty-two machine Dell computer lab to complete academic coursework. Additionally, TLC has three satellite locations. Each satellite is a quiet study center and is equipped with a small computer lab. These satellites are located in Douglas Keen Hall, McCormack Hall, and Pearce Ford Tower. For more information, or to schedule a tutoring appointment, please call TLC at (270) 745-6254. http://www.wku.edu/tlc

Student Supports
Technical Support:

1. WKU Students can call 270-745-7000 for technical support with Blackboard or computer problems. Other information is located at Information Technology (IT: http://www.wku.edu/it/) or by following the IT Helpdesk link in the left menu bar.

Academic Supports

1. The Learning Center has offers online tutoring in select subjects to help students succeed in their academic work. Begin with this service if you are seeking help: (http://www.wku.edu/tlc/) and look for online tutoring.
2. Various disciplines also provide more specialized tutoring services (e.g., the Writing Center) and the link below provides a list and map to locations. Some may offer phone or online help, such as the Writing Center. Others do not: (http://www.wku.edu/teaching/booklets/tutoringhandout.pdf)
3. WKU Center for Literacy Assistance: The WKU Center for Literacy is located in Gary A. Ransdell Hall 2066. At the Center for Literacy, students can receive assistance in developing strategies to help **reading/studying to learn** and **writing for evidence and argument**. The Center for Literacy offers both individual and small group sessions throughout the semester. More information about the WKU Center for Literacy can be found on the website: http://www.wku.edu/literacycenter/

Research Tools

1. WKU Libraries provide help with many research tools and writing tasks. You will find a link in the Blackboard left menu or click here: (http://www.wku.edu/library/). There is a librarian assigned to your subject area. Just contact the library to find out who your liaison is. The orientation from the Distance Learning Website (below) includes a guide to using the library.
   a. WKU Libraries' Regional Campus section provides services by mail to distance students, such as interlibrary loan, reserves, etc.
   b. Research Guides for specific majors have been developed by the WKU libraries and can be found at: (http://libguides.wku.edu/)
2. Son of Citation Machine: This tool helps format citations in appropriate styles (http://citationmachine.net/)
3. Kentucky Virtual Library provides virtual resources to students attending Kentucky schools: (http://www.kyvl.org/)

Student Support of Special Interest for Online Students
1. The Distance Learning website located at (http://www.wku.edu/online) provides a Distance Learning Support Directory listing offices on campus that provide support to distance students, including technical support. Other resources provided include:
   a. The Orientation for Online Learners located at (http://www.wku.edu/online/orientation) provides a complete overview of technology required in online classes, and features tutorials on Blackboard, setting up a WKU email account, accessing TopNet (WKUs student information and registration system), course registration, study skills, time management, writing and other academic skills, and even directions to campus and how to get a parking permit should you need to visit.
   b. Are you ready to be an online student? Visit "Is Distance Learning for me?" at (http://www.wku.edu/online/orientation/for-me.php) to see how prepared you are to be an online student. You'll find a quiz over your level of Readiness at (http://www.wku.edu/online/readiness-quiz.php).
   c. Join an Online Blackboard Community for Distance Learners at WKU. The community provides a download library of free plug-ins and discounted software, a link to technical support, and a university support directory. To join, email learn.online@wku.edu with the subject line Online Community. There are also Facebook, Flickr and YouTube communities found by going to the Distance Learning orientation (above) and selecting Social Networking from the Resources.
2. WKUReal: Reaching Each Adult Learner (http://www.wku.edu/real/) is a program to assist adult students (also known as nontraditional students) at WKU.