

Pasadena City College
Department of Psychology

Course: PSYC 23: Social Psychology Fall - 2017

Class Meeting: Tuesday & Thursday **Location:** Pasadena City College

Location: W 115

Time: 8:45 – 10:10 am

#74424

Instructor: Elijah Levy, Ph.D. I can be reached at my cell phone number (562) 230-3334 anytime.

If you anticipate being absent or miss class for an emergency, please contact me to make arrangements for assignments. I can be reached at the university through the following email address: ellevy1@pasadena.edu or at my personal email address: crazyhorse825@yahoo.com

I have been an adjunct faculty at University of Redlands since 1991 teaching in the undergraduate and graduate school of business. I also teach psychology courses to undergraduate students at Southern California University of Health Sciences in Whittier. I am the director of The Levy Launch, a consulting office providing corporate training and I publish literature on the American Mosaic, The Philosophical and Cultural Foundations of Heroism, Comparative World Religions, Creative Aging and How to Lead a Value Driven Life. For the last 20 years, I have been the director of Founders Outreach, a nonprofit center supporting the mentally ill through psychosocial rehabilitation programming. Lastly, I published a text titled "You, Me and Them" which covers intercultural awareness, bias reduction, tolerance and cultural diversity. I will refer students to my website: www.thelevylaunch.com to download articles when necessary during the course. In 2007, a colleague and I filmed a documentary on schizophrenia and mental illness titled "Beyond the Shadow of Mental Illness," I've written a book of poetry titled "Crisis in Meaning" and edited an anthology of poetry written by the mentally ill titled "Pages Left to Turn: Poetry by Restless Minds"

Text: Myers, David "Exploring Social Psychology" 7th edition

APA writing guideline – an abbreviated document reviewing APA format (students will receive a copy of this document from the instructor)

Course Description: In this course, students will understand the motives for goal directed, purposive behavior in the social context and how our social and psychological needs are met through our daily interactions. Students will be introduced to how human beings process information (cognitive) in the many social situations they operate in. The sociocultural context will be explored to identify the influence of ethnic and cultural elements on human behavior and students will understand how culture bound values such as time, emotional expression and the family structure determine observed social behavior. Further, we will study how our American culture fabric can tend to over-emphasize a value on sameness; and in contrast how many cultures share common systems of thinking and behaving to promote cultural self-preservation. In sum, we will learn, in empirical ways, how one's thoughts, feelings and behaviors is influenced by others sharing their social system. Theoretical formulations will enable us to understand and predict individual and social behavior grounded in the following theoretical perspectives: Sociocultural, Evolutionary, Social Learning and Social Cognitive. The task of learning to ask the right questions is the critical thinking component of the course. The instructor will, as much as possible, weave critical thinking into our interactive class discussions to deepen our understanding of content. By learning how to ask the right questions—we will more deeply understand the motive of human behavior.

Course Objectives: The objectives for this course include the following:

1. Exposing students to the scientific/theoretical explanations of individual and social behavior, examining social patterns of interaction within the individual and social settings
2. For students to appreciate the role of cultural influences on individual and social behavior
3. To expose students to the various methodologies sociologists use to study social behavior
4. For students to practice using theory to explain and predict human social behavior
5. To understand how social influence operates: compliance, conformity and obedience
6. Students will learn critical thinking to deepen their understanding of social behavior
7. For students to learn how the interaction between the individual and social situation influences behavior

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Using (and/or applying) basic terms, facts, principles, and theories from the field of social psychology, students will explain (and/or demonstrate their understanding of) behavior in a social context.
2. Using terminology and elements of the scientific method, students will compare and distinguish between scientific and non-scientific approaches to the study of social psychology, as well as evaluate the strength of evidence offered in support of a given hypothesis, theory or conclusion.
3. Given a topic in social psychology, students will demonstrate their ability to research and apply psychological concepts and theories to scientific and/or popular media in a written or oral report.

Attendance:

Attendance will be taken each class session. You will not be penalized for your first 2 absences.

Beginning with your 3rd absence and any absence after this one, you will lose 3 points for each class missed.

Exceptions may be made for medical emergencies and related issues – at the instructor's discretion.

You must arrive to class on time. If you are more than 15 minutes late you will lose two points.

Cell Phone and Lap Top Policy

Cell phones will be off or on vibrate during all class sessions to avoid distractions. Students should refrain from making or taking non-critical personal or business cell phone calls during class sessions. If a phone call must be taken, the student will exit the classroom.

If you are caught texting during class, I will take away your phone and return it to you at the end of class. You will also lose 3 participation points for the class.

Laptop use during class is limited to taking notes related to the lecture or class discussions and/or researching material directly requested by the instructor. Students will not use their laptops to surf the web, play games, read or generate personal or business email during class time. If you wish to use your lap top to follow the powerpoint slides, you must sit in the front row. If you are observed viewing anything other than the slides for the course, you will be asked to put your lap top away and you will lose 3 participation points for class.

Course Requirements and Expectations:

Attendance and Participation – 1 point max per class -- 32 classes = 32 max. points

Students must attend class and offer meaningful contributions during class discussions. I expect you to actively engage yourself with the material and class discussions each class. To earn your participation points, you must demonstrate critical thinking—ask the right questions that help us deepen our understanding of content and when necessary provide evidence to substantiate an assertion you articulate.

Learning Implications

You will have 4 Learning Implication papers to write and submit to me. These papers will be handwritten at the end of class and you will be asked to comment on what important concept you learned in class that day—and why it is important.

Course Schedule:

8-29-17	Tuesday	Introductions and Review of Syllabus Review of syllabus, course expectations, student questions Introduction to critical thinking, asking the right questions, identifying the issues, reasons and conclusions, discussion of weekly question/comment Read and be prepared to discuss Module 1 – Doing Social Psychology
8-31-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 2 – Did You Know it All Along? Learning Implication #1 Due: Written at end of class and submitted
9-5-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 2 and 3
9-7-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 3 – Self-Concept: Who Am I?
9-12-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 4 – Self-Serving Bias Quiz #1
9-14-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 5 – The Power of Positive Thinking
9-19-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 6–Fundamental Attribution Theory
9-21-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 7 – The Powers & Perils of Intuition

9-26-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 8 – Reasons for Unreason Quiz #2
9-28-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 9 – Behavior and Belief Learning Implication #2 due - written and submitted at end of class.
10-3-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 10 – Clinical Intuition
10-5-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 11 – Clinical Therapy: The Powers of Social Cognition
10-10-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 12 – Human Nature and Cultural Diversity
10-12-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 13 – Gender, Genes and Culture Quiz #3
10-17-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 14 – How Nice People Get Corrupted
10-19-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 15 - Two Routes to Persuasion
10-24-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 16 – Indoctrination and Innoculation
10-26-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 17 – The Mere Presence of Others Quiz #4 Learning Implication #3 due – written and submitted at end of class
10-31-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 18 – Many Hands Make Diminished Responsibility Midterm

11-2-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 19 – Doing Together What We Should Not Do Alone
11-7-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 20 – How Do Groups Intensify Decisions?
11-9-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 21 – Power to the Person Quiz #5
11-14-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 22 – The Reach of Prejudice
11-16-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 23 – The Roots of Prejudice
11-21-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 24 – The Nature and Nurture of Aggression
11-23-17	Thursday	NO CLASS THANKSGIVING
11-28-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 25 – Do the Media Influence Social Behavior
11-30-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 26 – Who Likes Whom? QUIZ #6 Learning Implication #4 due – written and submitted at end of class
12-5-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 27 – The Ups and Downs of Love
12-7-17	Thursday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 28: Causes of Conflict
12-12-17	Tuesday	Read and be prepared to discuss Module 29– Blessed are the Peacemakers
12-14-17	Thursday	FINAL from 8:00 – 10:00

Course Evaluation:

Attendance and Participation – 1 point max. each class x 32 classes = 32 points

Learning Implication Papers: 4 learning implication papers at 7 points each = 28 points

Quizzes: A total of 6 quizzes – each worth 10 points for total of = 60 points

Final Exam = 40 points

Midterm worth = 40 points

Total = 200 points

Total Points for Course = 200

A = 90%	180 - 200
B = 80%	160 - 179
C = 70%	140 - 159
D = 60%	120 - 139
F = 50%	120 and below

Academic Honesty:

The college policy on plagiarism will be enforced in this class—and you may receive a grade of F in the course if you plagiarize. All writing assignments you submit for this class needs to be your written work. Plagiarism is a serious academic violation with severe consequences. Please refer to the college policy for what constitutes plagiarism.