

# SYLLABUS

**SUBJECT** SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

**TEACHER** ANNA ENGLERT-BATOR

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course offers a broad introduction to social psychology, the scientific study of human social influence and interaction. We will explore the various ways people think about, affect, and relate to one another. The course will cover topics such as the social self-concept, social judgment, attitudes, persuasion, conformity, aggression, helping behavior, prejudice, and interpersonal relationships.

We will meet once a week for a 1 hour and 30 minute lecture. The lectures will focus on central themes in the assigned reading but I will usually introduce new topics not covered in the readings.

Films, videos, class demonstrations and discussions will supplement the lectures.

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The goal of this course is to improve understanding of social psychological explanations for social interaction and influence (people influence, and are influenced by the others around them).

Equally important is the goal of cultivating the skills for analyzing the social situations and events that people encounter in everyday life

## **GRADING POLICY**

Success in this course depends on attending class regularly, actively participating in class, and taking thorough notes.

**Tests:** There will be two extra mini tests during each term. Students will be informed about them at least 2 weeks in advance. They will be based on a recommended reading.

**Exam:** There will an exam at the end (test: multiple choice, true/false and open cloze)  
The exam will cover the text and lecture material.

## **TIMETABLE**

1. The nature of social psychology - introduction	2h
2. The Social Self	2h
3. Self-Esteem and Self-Serving Biases	2h
4. Attributions About Others	2h
5. Social Judgments	2h
6. Persuasion and Behavioral influences on attitudes	2h TEST
7. Social Influence – compliance, conformity, obedience	2h
8. Group Processes & The Influence of Groups on performance	2h
9. Social cognition & impression formation	2h
10. Stereotyping, Prejudice & Stigma	2h
11. Reducing Intergroup Conflict	2h
12. Aggression	2h TEST

13. Attraction, love and close relationship	2h
14. Pro-Social Behavior	2h
15. Application in life. Course summary and evaluation	2h

### **TEXTBOOK AND REQUIRED MATERIALS**

The core readings for the course will come from 2 textbooks and from short articles available on electronic reserves. Most of the reading will come from:

- Elliot Aronson, Timothy D. Wilson, & Robin M. Akert *Social Psychology (3rd Edition)*
- Kendrick, D. T., Neuberg, S. L., & Cialdini, R. B. (2005). *Social psychology: Unraveling the mystery (3rd ed.)*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon

The supplemental short papers are required and will be available online. Students can easily access them for reading and/or printing. Occasionally, additional supplemental readings may be distributed in class.

### **PREREQUISITES:**

Motivation and willingness to learn

*Anna Englert-Bator*