

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY Psychology 303

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Office Hours: M: 2-3; W: 11-12 or by appointment

Course Description: Psychology 303. Social Psychology.

In this course, we will explore, discuss, and evaluate the science of social psychology. We will examine a variety of topics pertaining to the myriad ways in which people behave within various social contexts. The class will include lecture material, group discussions/presentations, and in-class learning exercises. In addition to those outlined in the syllabus, there may be additional assignments throughout the semester.

Course Objectives: Primary course goals are

- To familiarize you with basic principles in social psychology
- To identify major theories and developments in the history of social psychology
- To introduce you to the empirical literature on the science of social behavior
- To enable you to better *apply* what you learn in class to actual examples, both in psychological research and in everyday life.

Required Texts:

Gilovich, T, Keltner, D., Chen, S., & Nisbett, R. E. (2013). *Social Psychology*. 3rd Ed. New York: Norton.

Submitting Assignments:

Unless otherwise specified, assignments are to be handed in during class (hard-copy where applicable) the day they are due at the beginning of class. **A 10% will be taken for every day an assignment is late.**

Class Policies and Attendance:

Morehouse College requires class attendance. As stated in the Morehouse Student Handbook, each student is allowed as many unexcused absences as there are credit hours. Because this is a 3-hour credit, only three unexcused absences is allowed and any assignments missed that day will automatically receive a '0'. Students who exceed the one allowed unexcused absence may be administratively dropped from the course or receive a failing grade in the course. Students will receive an unexcused absence for every three classes for which they are more than 10 minutes late. It is important to arrive in a timely manner to class out of respect for both the instructor and fellow classmates. I also expect that students will be courteous to others and to their professor and therefore not engage in conversation unrelated to class material or sleep in class. Finally, personal laptop and cell phone use are prohibited during class unless under extenuating circumstances which must be approved by the instructor in advance.

In the case of absence due to family emergency, medical excuse, official school business, military obligation, bereavement, court appearance, and/or conference with dean/faculty/staff, a student must present to the Vice President of Students services for verification. Valid written documentation must be submitted to justify class absences within **five (5) calendar days** of the class absence, and it is incumbent upon the student (not the instructor) to make up any work missed due to an officially excused absence.

Code of Conduct:

Students are expected to operate at the highest ethical levels of academic and personal integrity. Any form of academic dishonesty (including, but not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, strategies to obtain an advantage over other students or to disadvantage other students; falsifying data; duplicating work from another class; and/or aiding another student in these or other forms of academic dishonesty) will not be tolerated and will be handled according to the policies outlined in the College and Department Handbook. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of '0' for the assignment and may result in course failure.

Office of Disability Services (ODS):

As part of its commitment to equal opportunity in education for all students, Morehouse College offers services for those with documented disabilities. Students who have or who think they may have disabilities must register with the ODS in order to receive accommodations. Students currently registered with the ODS are required to present their Disability Services Accommodation Letter to faculty immediately upon receiving the accommodation. For further information, the ODS is located in 104 Sale Hall Annex and may be reached at (404) 215-2636.

Communication:

Email is the most efficient mode of communication with the instructor, and every attempt will be made to answer any communication from a student within 24 hours (excepting weekends and holidays). Proper email etiquette is required.

Evaluation:

Exams: There will be two examinations in this course. The format of these exams will generally consist of multiple choice, short answer, and/or brief essay questions. The midterm exam will be worth **15%** of the final grade; the final exam will be worth **20%** of the final grade. Early or make-up examinations will not be administered, except under catastrophic circumstances (e.g., death of a close relative, serious illness). There will be *no* exceptions to this policy. In the event of illness, you must supply appropriate medical documentation to the instructor. *Also, if you do not show up for an exam and/or fail to contact the instructor in advance, you will automatically be assigned a grade of zero for the exam.* Be certain to make appropriate arrangements in advance to avoid exam conflicts.

Quizzes: Throughout the semester, a total of five quizzes (5% each; 50 points each) will be administered based on the readings/class discussion and will make up a total of **25%** of the final grade.

Final paper and presentation: As you are reading assignments and taking notes during lectures, consider topic areas of interest to you in preparation for your final paper and presentation. The final presentation will consist of individual presentations on your topic area as well as a hypothetical way of testing this topic (e.g. experimentation; naturalistic observation). You will also be required to hand in a 8 -10 page paper summarizing your topic. Creativity is encouraged. Topics must be pre-approved by the instructor by the date outlined in the schedule, and final presentations and papers will constitute **20%** of the student's final grade.

Class participation: Students will be expected to actively contribute to both class discussion (this includes any in-class exercises or group activities), and class participation will constitute **20%** of the student's final grade. Please note that because it is expected and required, attendance will not be factored into the class participation score.

*Note: Grades will not be revised or changed except under conditions of clerical error, and there will be no extra credit offered in an effort to provide equitable grading conditions for all students.

Grading Summary:

Midterm Exam (15%)	150 points
Final Exam (20%)	200 points
Quizzes (25%)	250 points
Final Paper and Presentation (20%)	200 points
Class Participation (20%)	200 points

Total: 1000 points (**100%**)

Grading Scale:

A	94-above	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66
A-	90-93	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62
B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69	F	59-below

*Tentative Schedule

Notes: 1) *Readings are to be completed prior to the date listed on the syllabus.*

2) *All readings listed below are drawn from the Gilovich, Keltner, Chen & Nisbett (2013) textbook assigned for this class; however, other readings will be assigned throughout the semester.*

3) *The class schedule below represents a basic blueprint of the course trajectory; however, it is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.*

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
8/21/13	Course Intro		
8/23/13	Defining Social Psychology	Chpt 1, 5-22	
*8/26/13	Universals & Particularities	Chpt 1, finish	
8/28/13	Methods in Social Psych I	Chpt 2, 40-55	
8/30/13	Methods Cont'd & Ethics	Chpt 2, finish	
*9/2/13	Self-knowledge and Self-Esteem	Chpt 3, 64-89	
9/4/13	Control processes in the Self	Chpt 3, finish	
9/6/13	Quiz 1		Quiz
*9/9/13	Social Cognition I	Chpt 4, 106-124	
9/11/13	Social Cognition II	Chpt 4, finish	
9/13/13	Social Attribution I	Chpt 5, 152-171	
*9/16/13	Social Attribution II	Chpt 5, 171-finish	Quiz
9/18/13	Quiz 2		
9/20/13	Emotion	Chpt 6	
*9/23/13	Attitudes	Chpt 7, 238-257	
9/25/13	Self-perception	Chpt 7, finish	
9/27/13	Quiz 3		Quiz
*9/30/13	Persuasion I	Chpt 8, 272-294	
10/2/13	Persuasion II	Chpt 8, finish	
10/4/13	T.B.D.		
*10/7/13	Review		
10/9/13	Midterm		Midterm
10/11/13	T.B.D.		
*10/14/13	Social Influence I	Chpt 9, 308-327	Research Proposals Due
10/16/13	Social Influence II	Chpt 9, finish	
10/18/13	Relationships I	Chpt 10, 354-367	
*10/21/13	Relationships II	Chpt 10, finish	
10/23/13	Quiz 4		Quiz
10/25/13	Stereotypes, Prejudice, & Discrimination I	Chpt 11, 406-415	
*10/28/13	Stereotypes, Prejudice, & Discrimination II	Chpt 11, 414-442	IAT summary due
10/30/13	Stereotypes, Prejudice, & Discrimination III	Chpt 11, finish	
11/1/13	Group dynamics I	Chpt 12, 452-476	
*11/4/13	Group dynamics II	Chpt 12, finish	
11/6/13	Aggression I	Chpt 13, 496-513	
11/8/13	Aggression II	Chpt 13, finish	
*11/11/13	Prosocial Behavior	Chpt 14	
11/13/13	Quiz 5		Quiz

11/15/13	Presentations		Presentations
*11/18/13	Presentations		Presentations
11/20/13	Presentations		Presentations
11/22/13	Presentations		Presentations
*12/2/13	Presentations		Presentations
12/4/13	Last Day of Class—Semester Review		<i>Final paper due</i>
12/5-12/6/13			Senior Final Exams
12/9-12/13/13			Final Exams

*Subject to change at instructor's discretion.