

**Psychology 23:
Introduction to Social Psychology (Winter, 2015)**

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Social Psychology

This course is an introduction to social psychological theory and research. Specific topics include perception of self and others (e.g., attitudes, emotions), interpersonal relations (e.g., attraction, altruism, conformity, aggression), and group dynamics (e.g., decision making, intergroup conflict). Within those contexts, emphasis is placed on how we construe the situations around us and how those situations influence us in ways we may not realize.

Text

Aronson, E., Wilson, T. D., & Akert, R. M. (2013). *Social Psychology* (8th ed.). Pearson.

Class Meetings

Class will meet in Filene Auditorium MWF 11:15 -12:20, and during a few X-hours, on Tues, 12-12:50 pm.

Examinations

Grading will be based on three one-hour examinations: two exams during the regular term and a final exam. All exams will cover both the class meetings and the readings, and will include only the material subsequent to the previous exam (i.e., not cumulative). Each exam is worth 100 points and each contributes equally to your final grade. Due to the size of the class, the format of the exams will be multiple choice. The final exam will be given on March 14th at 8am in Filene Auditorium. The final will cover the material since Exam 2 (i.e., is not cumulative).

A student will **only** be excused from an exam on the basis of a written note from a dean, doctor, or supervisor of an official college-sponsored event being held off-campus that requires the student's absence. Any student seeking an excused absence from an exam must have my **prior** approval and is expected to take a make-up exam. The make-up exam will be scheduled at 9:00 am on the morning of the next scheduled class. If the student is unable to take the makeup because of illness or participation in college sponsored events, then he or she will be assigned, for the missed test, a score equal to his or her lowest earned score from the other exams. Such prorating may be done for only one exam; additional missed exams will be counted as unexcused. Any exam missed without an accepted excuse, as described above, will be given a score equal to chance performance (usually 25%) or two points below the lowest score earned by students who took the exams, whichever is lower. Incompletes can only be granted under very unusual circumstances and can only be granted upon the recommendation of a dean.

Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak to me and give me a copy of your accommodations form by the end of the second week of the term. All discussions will remain confidential, although the Director of Student Disabilities may be consulted if questions arise.

Course Supplements

There is a Canvas site for this course. This site contains a copy of this syllabus and the slides. In addition, you will find there a pdf entitled "How to do better in my classes" by Professor Jay Hull. This handout is a compilation of advice on how to do better on multiple choice exams. There are many study methods, and his advice may be

overkill for you. However, the average grade on his first exam increased once this advice was made available and our exams are similar.

No laptop policy

An increasing body of research finds that laptop note-taking impedes rather than facilitates learning, both for the note-taker (e.g., Mueller & Oppenheimer, 2014) and those sitting nearby (Sana, 2013). For this reason, there will no open laptops allowed in the classroom.

PSYC 23 Course Outline and Assigned Readings

Week	Days	Dates	Readings
1	M	1/5	Overview
	W	1/7	AWA 1, Mook
	F	1/9	AWA 2
2	M	1/12	AWA 2
	W	1/14	AWA 3
	F	1/16	AWA 3
3	M	1/19	No Class
	T(X)	1/20	AWA 4
	W	1/21	AWA 4
	F	1/23	AWA 5
4	M	1/26	AWA 5
	W	1/28	Exam 1
	F	1/30	AWA 6
5	M	2/2	AWA 6
	T(X)	2/3	Optional Exam Review
	W	2/4	AWA 8
	F	2/6	No Class
6	M	2/9	AWA 8
	T(X)	2/10	AWA 7
	W	2/11	AWA 7
	F	2/13	AWA 9
7	M	2/16	AWA 9
	W	2/18	EXAM 2
	F	2/20	No Class
8	M	2/23	AWA 10
	T(X)	2/24	Optional Exam Review
	W	2/25	AWA 10
	F	2/27	AWA 11
9	M	3/2	AWA 12
	T(X)	3/3	AWA 12
	W	3/4	AWA 13
	F	3/6	SPA 1-3
10	M	3/9	SPA 1-3
14	Sat	3/14 8:00 AM	FINAL (EXAM 3)