

SOC 245 THE INDIVIDUAL IN SOCIETY FALL, 2014

.....

COURSE SCHEDULE:

AUG. 27 WED	OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE
29 FRI	CLASS WILL NOT MEET
SEP. 1 MON	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
3 WED	CONFORMITY
5 FRI	CONFORMITY
8 MON	NARCISSISM DISCUSSION
10 WED	CONFORMITY
12 FRI	COGNITIVE DISSONANCE
15 MON	COGNITIVE DISSONANCE
17 WED	DISCUSSION - CONFORMITY IN COLLEGE
19 FRI	QUIZ #1
22 MON	PAPER TOPIC APPOINTMENTS
24 WED	PAPER TOPIC APPOINTMENTS
26 FRI	PAPER TOPIC APPOINTMENTS
29 MON	TELEVISION AND DEMOCRACY
OCT. 1 WED	TELEVISION AND DEMOCRACY
3 FRI	CLASS WILL NOT MEET
6 MON	SCREEN MEDIA AND SOCIAL VALUES
8 WED	DISCUSSION - "THE DUMBEST GENERATION"?
10 FRI	AGGRESSION
13 MON	FALL BREAK
15 WED	CLASS WILL NOT MEET
17 FRI	AGGRESSION
20 MON	QUIZ #2
22 WED	METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES IN PSYCHOLOGY
24 FRI	METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES IN PSYCHOLOGY
27 MON	PAPER TOPIC APPOINTMENTS
29 WED	PAPER TOPIC APPOINTMENTS
31 FRI	PAPER TOPIC APPOINTMENTS
NOV. 3 MON	ATTRACTION
5 WED	ATTRACTION
7 FRI	PREJUDICE

10 MON PREJUDICE
12 WED QUIZ #3
14 FRI DISCUSSION DAY

17 MON PAPER PRESENTATIONS
19 WED PAPER PRESENTATIONS
21 FRI PAPER PRESENTATIONS

24 MON PAPER PRESENTATIONS
26 WED THANKSGIVING BREAK
28 FRI THANKSGIVING BREAK

DEC. 1 MON PAPER PRESENTATIONS
3 WED PAPER PRESENTATIONS
5 FRI PAPER PRESENTATIONS

8 MON PAPER PRESENTATIONS

.....
This is an introductory course to the field of social psychology. The theme of the course and of the discipline is that of “social influence.” This course assumes no prior knowledge of the field.
.....

READING ASSIGNMENTS FROM THE SOCIAL ANIMAL BY ELLIOTT ARONSON:

QUIZ #1: CHAPTERS 1,2, 5
QUIZ #2: CHAPTERS 3, 4, 6
QUIZ #3: CHAPTERS 7, 8, 9

You will be able to make more informed and more frequent contributions to class discussions if you have read the textbook and other assigned materials before the topics are discussed in class. Ten percent of your total grade will be determined by your in-class participation. It is the quality, rather than the quantity of your contributions that matter.
.....

GRADING POLICY:

Three exams each count 20 points	60 points
Term paper quality	20 points
Paper presentation	10 points
In-class participation	<u>10 points</u>
	100 points total

The exams are entirely essay. Spelling, logical organization, and sentence structure will be taken into account in the grading of your essays. The plus/minus grading system will be employed in this course. Select your paper topic early and begin the research necessary to create a term paper of high quality.

INSTRUCTOR: MICHAEL McQUAIDE, Ph.D.
OFFICE: 306 SENEY HALL
OFFICE HOURS: IT IS BEST TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT
CONTACT: mmcquai@emory.edu phone: 48321

PURPOSE:

This course will provide each student to increase their understanding of:

- the role of conformity in social life
- the relevance of altruism in society
- distinctions among varieties of responses to social influence
- the need for self-justification and rationalization
- the emphasis placed on self-esteem in American life
- the increasing relevance of digital technology as a source of social influence
- the increasing concern over screen media's impact on childhood and social standards of conduct
- the scholarship on human attraction and its relevance for social life
- causes and consequences of prejudice
- causes and consequences of aggression
- the role of screen media in the creation of aggression
- the importance of methodological issues for the social sciences

AND

Demonstrate increasing skill in written communication

Demonstrate increasing skill in oral communication

EXPECTED RESULTS:

Prior to the completion of the course, each student will have opportunities to demonstrate their comprehension of concepts and competence in the goals state above.

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES:

Each student will undergo a series of three closed book, timed, in-class written examination that will consist of essay questions over both the required readings in the textbook and materials assigned, and material covered in class. Each student will write and present a term paper on a relevant topic within the field of social psychology. Each student's exams and term paper will be judged against standards of logical and accurately organized material, and precise use of language. The oral presentation will be judged by its clarity, precision, and style of presentation.

USE OF ASSESSMENT FINDINGS:

Each exam and term paper is carefully read and graded. Constructive comments are written concerning each answer or section of the term paper. References to the text and lectures is made to encourage close

reading and note-taking skills. Each exam is thoroughly discussed and correct answers are presented to the class. Individual appointments are required and are available on a regular basis to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of all forms of writing.

THE HONOR CODE;

All aspects of the course are governed by the Oxford College Honor Code as articulated in the current Oxford College catalog.