**SE
TU**

Ollscoil
Teicneolaíochta
an Oirdheiscirt

South East
Technological
University

Module Descriptor

Introduction to Social Psychology (Computing and Mathematics)

Introduction to Social Psychology (A13825)

Short Title: Intro to Social Psychology
Department: Applied Arts
Credits: 5 **Level:** Introductory

Description of Module / Aims

This module aims to: Introduce students to the main concepts and ideas in social psychology and develop their ability to apply these ideas to modern social issues.

Programmes

		stage/semester/status
PSYC-0109	BSc (Hons) in Software Systems Development (WD_KDEVP_B)	3 / 6 / E
PSYC-0109	BSc in Software Systems Development (WD_KCOMC_D)	3 / 6 / E
PSYC-0109	BA (Hons) (WD_HARTS_B)	1 / 2 /
PSYC-0119	BA (Hons) in Early Childhood Studies (WD_HECHS_B)	3 / 5 /
PSYC-0109	BA (Hons) in Psychology (WD_HPSYC_B)	1 / 2 / M
PSYC-0109	BA (Hons) in Psychology with Arts (International) (WD_HPSYI_B)	1 / 2 /
PSYC-0130	BA (Hons) in Social Care Practice (WD_HSOCR_B)	3 / 5 / M
	BA (Hons) in Social Science (WD_HSOSC_B)	1 / 2 / M
SOCI-0157	BA (Hons) in Applied Social Studies in Social Care (WD_HSOST_B)	3 / 5 /

Indicative Content

- Introduction and Overview
- Social Perception - self identity, attribution theory
- Social Cognition - schema, stereotypes and heuristics
- Group Influences
- Social Influence 1: Conformity, authority and Obedience (Asch, Milgram etc)
- Social Influence 2: Conformity, authority and Obedience (Zimbardo etc)
- Theories of Aggression
- Prosocial Behaviour
- Applications of Social Psychology
- Overview and Revision

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, a student will be able to:

1. Define key concepts and ideas in social psychology.
2. Examine core theories in social psychology.
3. Summarise research relating to the influence of the social environment on human behaviour.
4. Discuss theories of social and cultural influence.

Learning and Teaching Methods

- A two-hour lecture and a one-hour interactive tutorial per week.
- Lectures will take a formal theoretical format; emphasis is placed on making explicit relevant theory and research.
- The tutorial hour constitutes small group exercises based on the weekly lecture topic.
- Students are expected to attend lectures, prepare for and contribute to class discussions and activities.
- Video and audio resources will support tutorial work and aim to consolidate lecture material in parallel.

Learning Modes

Learning Type	F/T Hours	P/T Hours
Lecture	24	
Tutorial	12	
Independent Learning	99	

Assessment Methods

	Weighting	Outcomes Assessed
Final Written Examination	70%	1,2,3,4
Continuous Assessment	30%	
In-Class Assessment	30%	1,2

Assessment Criteria

Fail (0-39) Fails to address the question, key issues, and concepts. Poor writing and organisation; Evidence that basic material is misunderstood.

Pass (40-49) Limited consideration of main points and concepts addressed; Direct attempt at the question but some context lacking. Some understanding of how to structure and presentation of ideas; Limited evidence of the relevant texts and literature.

50–59 (2.2) A satisfactory answer but without the range of reading and interpretation deserving of a higher honours mark; Sparse or highly selective coverage of the relevant material. Assertions not suitably supported by argument or evidence; Limited discussion and reflection, but showing knowledge of the underpinning principles.

60-69 (2.1) A well-organised, well-written answer, demonstrating that the material is critically analysed; Evidence of reading beyond essential course material. Addressing and analysing the main points and showing evidence of a good grasp of the underpinning knowledge; some evidence of evaluation and synthesis of the relevant issues.

70% and over (1.1) Excellent answer that combines an exceptional degree of independent reading and thinking with a high degree of integration; A depth of insight into theoretical issues, demonstrating a concise and clear analytical style. Excellent level of critical analysis and originality of thought; excellent critical evaluation and synthesis of relevant issues, showing an ability to integrate and apply theory in a precise manner.

Essential Material(s)

- Aronson, E., T.D. Wilson and R.M. Akert. *Social Psychology* . 9. London: Pearson, 2017.
- Hogg, M.A. and G.M. Vaughan. *Social Psychology* . 8. London: Pearson, 2017.

Supplementary Material(s)

- Smith, P.B., R. Fischer, V.L. Vignoles and M. Harris Bond. *Understanding Social Psychology Across Cultures*. 2. London: Sage Publications, 2013.