

## Introduction to Social Psychology (830:135) Spring 2020

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Instructor and Contact	Andrew Abeyta, PhD; Andrew.abeyta@rutgers.edu
Office and Office Hours	342 Armitage; W 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, Tu 12:45 pm to 1:45 pm, or by appointment
Class Time and Day	Th from 6:00 pm to 8:50 pm in Armitage 121

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### Course Description and Goals

Social psychology is an exciting field that has implications for how people navigate their social world (not just psychologists). This class is meant as an introduction to the major areas and themes of social psychology. The goals of this class are as follows:

- 1.To identify, understand social psychological theory and concepts.
  - 2.To apply insights from social psychology to understand society/current events, your social life, culture and diverse perspectives, human conflict/prejudice, and success in your career.
  - 3.To gain a working understanding of the scientific method and psychological research methods.
  - 4.To enhance students' ability to think critically about and to be smart consumers of scientific research.
  - 5.To enhance student's ability to discuss and communicate social psychological research
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### Course Policies

**Communication:** I will utilize Canvas and Rutgers email to communicate. Students should check them regularly. I respond to emails as promptly as I can, but send a gentle reminder if I do not respond within 24 hours. If you email in the evening (after 5pm) I will not respond until the following day, and I will not return email on weekends.

**Office Hours:** Please visit me during my office hours if there is something you do not understand or if you just want to chat about the class. If you are unable to attend my office hours, please e-mail me to schedule an appointment.

**Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to come to every class period on time, to play an active role in their learning. Contact me ASAP if you encounter life circumstances that severely interfere with your ability to attend. I am always happy to help students make plans to succeed in my classes. Students should be reading and studying the textbook and lecture slides daily (made available on Canvas).

**Electronic Devices:** Cell phones, computers, tablets, etc. should only be used during specified times. If your use becomes distracting, you will be told to knock it off and may be asked to leave class. Use of assistive technology is of course acceptable with proper documentation through the Office of Disabilities Services.

**Children in Class:** I ask that all students work with me to create a welcoming environment that is respectful of all forms of diversity, including diversity in parenting status. All exclusively breastfeeding babies are welcome in class as often as is necessary to support the breastfeeding relationship. I never want students to feel like they have to choose between feeding their baby and continuing their education. For older children and babies, I understand that minor illnesses and unforeseen disruptions in childcare often put parents in the position of having to choose between missing class to stay home with a child and leaving him or her with someone you or the child does not feel comfortable with. While this is not meant to be a long-term childcare solution, occasionally bringing a child to class in order to cover gaps in care is perfectly acceptable. In all cases where babies and children come to class, I ask that you sit close to the door so that you may step outside until your child's need has been met. Non-parents in the class, please reserve seats near the door for your parenting classmates. Finally, I understand that the struggles of balancing school, childcare, and often another job are exhausting! I hope that you will feel comfortable disclosing your student-parent status to me. This is the first step in my being able to help you if any special needs that arise. While I maintain the same high expectations for all student in my classes regardless of parenting status, I am happy to problem solve with you in a way that makes you feel supported.

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### Rutgers Policies and Resources

**Academic Integrity:** Students are expected to submit their own work throughout this course. Cheating, plagiarizing, and other misconduct will result in a failing grade on the assignment and the student may face other disciplinary actions as specified by the university. Appropriate documentation of sources using APA Style is necessary to avoid plagiarism in all written assignments. Violations of Rutgers' Academic Integrity Policy will be subject to penalties. For further information regarding Rutgers' policies: <https://deanofstudents.camden.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity>

**Code of Conduct:** Rutgers University-Camden seeks a community that is free from violence, threats, and intimidation. You are expected adhere to Student Code of Conduct: <https://deanofstudents.camden.rutgers.edu/student-conduct>

**RaptorCares:** The Raptor Cares Report (<https://deanofstudents.camden.rutgers.edu/reporting>) connects you to our Dean of Students Office, who can assist with a variety of concerns: medical, financial, mental health, or any life issue that impacts your academic performance. You can share a concern for yourself, a classmate or a friend.

**Office of Military and Veterans Affairs:** The Office of Military and Veterans Affairs can assist our military and veteran students with benefits, deployment issues and much more. Contact: Fred Davis 856-225-2791 [frdavis@camden.rutgers.edu](mailto:frdavis@camden.rutgers.edu)

**Disability Services:** Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>

If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form at <https://webapps.rutgers.edu/student-ods/forms/registration>. For more information go to the following link: <https://success.camden.rutgers.edu/disability-services>

**Support for Undocumented and Immigrant Students:** The Rutgers Immigrant Community Assistance Project (RICAP) provides free and confidential immigration legal consultations and direct representation to enrolled students. For more information or an appointment, contact Jason Hernandez, Esq., at 856-225-2302 or [jason.c.hernandez@rutgers.edu](mailto:jason.c.hernandez@rutgers.edu). The Rutgers Office of Undocumented Student Services provides one-on-one case management and helps undocumented students access campus resources (financial aid, career services, health services, etc.). For more information or an appointment, please contact Yuriana García Telle: [y.garcia@rutgers.edu](mailto:y.garcia@rutgers.edu).

**Tutoring and Writing Help:** Additional tutoring and writing help is offered for this course through the Rutgers-Camden Learning Center. Tutoring is by appointment only and is available Monday-Thursday 9 am – 7 pm and Friday 9 am – 5 pm. For more information and/or to schedule an appointment go to: [learn.camden.rutgers.edu](http://learn.camden.rutgers.edu)

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### Required Textbook

Greenberg, J., Schmader, T., Arndt, J., & Landau, M. (2017). *Social psychology: The science of everyday life* (second edition). Worth Publishers: New York.

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### Assignments and Grading

Grading will be based on the total points you earn out of 100 (xxx/100). If you want to appeal a grade you must submit a typed formal appeal to me. Final grades are assigned as follows:

Points	Letter Grade
89.5-100	A
84.5-89.4	B+
79.5-84.4	B
74.5-79.4	C+
69.5-74.4	C
59.5-69.4	D
0-59.4	F

**Homework Assignments (18 points, 18% of grade):** Students will complete 6 homework assignments (due dates are listed on the schedule below). Instructions for homework assignments will be posted on Canvas. Pay attention to homework assignments because they inspire short answer exam questions. You may use the book and other sources to inform your responses, but your answers must be your own words. If you copy a definition word-for-word or reword a definition or sentence, the text must be in quotes and you must credit the original source with correct American Psychological Association (APA) citation and reference format. Information about APA citation and reference format can be found on the internet. Failure to adequately credit sources is a violation of the Rutgers Academic Integrity policy and will result in a no credit on the assignment.

**Assignment submission:** Homework assignments must be submitted electronically via the course's Canvas page, no exceptions. Email or hardcopy submissions will not be accepted. Documents must be submitted as a Microsoft Word document (.doc or .docx files) or as a PDF, no exceptions. Microsoft Word is available in computer labs on campus. Additionally, Rutgers students can download Microsoft Word for free from the Rutgers Office of Information Technology. Instructions can be found at the following link: <https://oit-nb.rutgers.edu/node/460>

**Late Assignments:** All students face challenges in route to a college education. Whether medical, personal, or financial, unforeseen events can be distracting and/or get in the way of turning in assignment on time. I believe strongly in empowering student to overcome obstacles. Because of this I have 2 policies for late work.

**1.The Life Happens Window:** All assignments will have a due date. Due dates are listed on the schedule below and on the Canvas page. Assignments are due at the start of class (6:00 pm) on the date listed. If life happens and you are unable to turn in the assignment before the due date, you may submit the assignment WITHOUT PENALTY during the Life Happens Window. The Life Happens Window closes two days after assignment due date. Assignments will not be accepted once the life happens window closes, unless you have requested and received an extension from me.

**2. Extensions beyond the Life Happens Window:** For an extension beyond the Life Happens Window, you must reach out to me to request an extension in advance of the Life Happens Window closing. You DO NOT need to provide a reason for the extension and/or share personal details you do not feel comfortable sharing. Simply send me a quick email saying you need an extension, and we will work together to set a new deadline. I will not accept extension requests after the life happens window has closed.

**Reading Quizzes (16 points; 16% of grade):** Students will complete quizzes over content in the textbook, on days reading is due (see schedule). Quizzes are multiple choice and completed online during the first 10 minutes of class. BE ON TIME. I will not wait for late people and class will start promptly 10 minutes after scheduled start. Please bring a device (smartphone, tablet, laptop) to complete quizzes. If you do not have a compatible device, let me know ASAP and we will come up with a solution. **Pay attention to quiz questions, because they will appear on exams.** There will be 10 quizzes, but you only need to earn points for 8. Thus, you can miss up to 2 quizzes without it negatively impacting your grade. **Make-ups will not be allowed. Points earned beyond 16 are extra-credit.**

**Applied Psychology Experience (6 points; 6% of grade):** Our class will be partnering with a course called Special Topics in Psychology: Violence Against Women. Violence Against Women is an Engaged Civic Learning course. Students taking Violence Against Women are tasked with implementing an empirically supported training program. The training program applies concepts we will be learning about in class on how to maximize helping behavior. Students in our class will earn points for being participants in the training program. Additionally, homework assignment 6 will focus on learning about the research supporting the training program. The training program will address topics related to interpersonal and sexual violence. If this is experience is something that you do not wish to participate in, for whatever reason, you can complete an alternate assignment. Please notify me ASAP if you would like to complete the alternate assignment. The training program takes 1 hour and 15 minutes and will be on April 9, 2020. Students will be split up into one of two training session. Details will be forthcoming. Overall, this is a great opportunity for students taking intro social psych to see how social psychology can be applied to make a positive difference.

**Exams (60 points; 60% of grade):** Students will be evaluated based on their performance on 2 exams. There will be 3 non-cumulative exams offered (including the final). This means students are able to miss 1 exam (including the final) without penalty. Because of this, students are not allowed to take exams early or make-up missed exams. Please refer to the course schedule before making travel arrangements.

### Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading Due	Assignment Due
1/23	Social Psychology and Research Methods		
1/30	Human Motives and Adaptations	CH 1-2	
2/6	Social Cognition	CH 3 - 4	
2/13	The Self	CH 5	HW 1
2/20	Self-motives	CH 6	HW 2
2/27	<b>Exam 1</b>		
3/5	Social influences and Persuasion	CH7-CH8	
3/12	Groups and Prejudice	CH9 - 10	HW 3
3/19	Spring Break		
3/26	Consequences of Prejudice	CH 11	HW 4
4/2	<b>Exam 2</b>		
4/9	Applied Experience Day		
4/16	Prosocial behavior	CH13	
4/23	Aggression	CH 12	HW 5
4/30	Attraction and Close Relationships	CH14 - CH15	HW 6
5/7	<b>Exam 3 (6:00 pm to 9:00 pm)</b>		