

# Psychology 308A: Social Psychology

Winter Term 2

Section 005: Tuesday/Thursdays, 2-3:30pm, Buchanan A101

**Professor:** Dr. Jason Martens

**Email:** martensj@psych.ubc.ca

**Office hours:** By appointment, but best to chat before or after class

**Teaching Assistants:** Ryan Dwyer, ryandwyer@psych.ubc.ca & Siba Ghrear, siba.grear@psych.ubc.ca

Contact your TAs for course related questions. Only contact Dr. Martens if you first contact them and they were unable to address your question.

## Course description

Students will explore psychological processes that occur in groups and their influence on the individual. Topics will include social beliefs, self-esteem, prejudice, aggression, interpersonal attraction and intimate relationships, attitudes and behaviour, persuasion, conformity, and decision-making.

## Textbook

*Required:* Greenberg, J., Schmader, T., Arndt, J., & Landau, M. (2015). *Social psychology: The science of everyday life*. (1st edition).

- You can purchase the textbook in hardcover, loose-leaf, or any other version you prefer. The textbook will be available from the UBC bookstore.

Students should plan on reading the assigned chapter before coming to class. Taking notes during class is essential to succeed in the course. Lectures will cover key topics from the readings, but additional information not included in the textbooks will also be included.

**\*\*If you miss a class, contact a classmate to get their notes. I won't be able to go over with you what you missed, so this is a good time to exchange emails/phone numbers with your neighbours!\*\***

## Evaluation

**Exams:** Students will complete two non-cumulative midterms worth 25% and 30%, which will consist of multiple choice and short essay questions. Exams will include material from assigned readings and class lecture. The final will be worth 45% and scheduled during final exam period (**April 12-27**). It will be cumulative and in a similar format as the midterms.

Jan 28: Midterm 1, 25%

- Chapters 1, 2, 3, & 4, and associated lectures

Mar 10: Midterm 2, 30%

- Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9, and associated lectures

Scheduled by registrar: Final exam, 45%

- Focus on chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, & 15, but will include all material from the course

**Miss a midterm exam?** If you foresee missing a midterm exam, let your instructor know ahead of time. If you miss a midterm exam and have a valid reason (e.g., medical issue), your instructor will omit the exam and your other exams will be worth proportionately more, but only with proof (e.g., a doctor's note). Your instructor will only omit a maximum of 1 midterm exam per term. If you think you might miss more than 1 midterm exam for a valid reason, you should consider taking the course at another time. If you miss a midterm exam for an unsatisfactory reason (e.g., slept in, went on vacation, had a job interview, etc.) you will get a zero on the exam. Missed midterm exams will not be rescheduled. You *must* complete the final exam.

**Bonus marks:** Students can take part in research for an additional 3%. Participate in studies that are posted on <http://hsp.psych.ubc.ca/>. If you plan on participating, please register in this online system as soon as you can. You can also earn credit by completing pretesting survey that will make you eligible for a wider variety of studies. All of your credits for study participation will be added to your final course grade, after any scaling that may have been applied. As an alternative to participation in psychology subject pool experiments, you may complete a library-writing project. More information is provided here: <http://psych.ubc.ca/internal/human-subject-pool/>

There might be other instances to acquire bonus marks, but this decision will be made by your instructor as the course progresses. Any additional options will be discussed in class.

**Tentative Class Schedule** \*subject to change at professor's discretion

<b><u>Week</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Topic</u></b>	<b><u>Assigned Reading</u></b>
<b>1</b>	Tuesday, January 5	Overview & Introduction	
	Thursday, January 7	Overview & Introduction	Chapter 1 & 2
<b>2</b>	Tuesday, January 12	Methodology	Chapter 1
	Thursday, January 14	Methodology	Chapter 1
<b>3</b>	Tuesday, January 19	Social Cognition	Chapter 3
	Thursday, January 21	Social Cognition	Chapter 3
<b>4</b>	Tuesday, January 26	Social Perception	Chapter 4
	Thursday, January 28	<b>Midterm 1</b>	Chapters 1-4 & lectures
<b>5</b>	Tuesday, February 2	Social Influence	Chapter 7
	Thursday, February 4	Social Influence	Chapter 7
<b>6</b>	Tuesday, February 9	Persuasion	Chapter 8
	Thursday, February 11	Persuasion	Chapter 8
<b>7</b>	Tuesday, February 16	<b>NO CLASS (reading break)</b>	
	Thursday, February 18	<b>NO CLASS (reading break)</b>	
<b>8</b>	Tuesday, February 23	Group Processes	Chapter 9
	Thursday, February 25	Group Processes	Chapter 9
<b>9</b>	Tuesday, March 1	The Self	Chapter 5
	Thursday, March 3	The Self	Chapter 5
<b>10</b>	Tuesday, March 8	Self-Motivation	Chapter 6
	Thursday, March 10	<b>Midterm 2</b>	Chapters 5-9 & lectures
<b>11</b>	Tuesday, March 15	Prejudice	Chapter 10 & 11
	Thursday, March 17	Prejudice	Chapter 10 & 11
<b>12</b>	Tuesday, March 22	Aggression	Chapter 12
	Thursday, March 24	Aggression	Chapter 12
<b>13</b>	Tuesday, March 29	Prosocial Behaviour	Chapter 13
	Thursday, March 31	Prosocial Behaviour	Chapter 13
<b>14</b>	Tuesday, April 5	Attraction & Relationships	Chapter 14 & 15
	Thursday, April 7	Attraction & Relationships	Chapter 14 & 15
<b>FINAL</b>	April 12-27	<b>Final Exam</b>	Cumulative, but focus on chapters 10-15 & lectures

**Important dates:**

- Last day to drop without "W", January 18
- Last day to withdraw with "W", February 12
- Final exam period, April 12-27

## Departmental Policy on Distributions of Grades in all Psychology Classes

All psychology courses are required to meet the grade distributions as described below. This is done in order to “maintain equality among sections and conformity to University, Faculty, and Department norms”. Thus scaling of grades may take place. If the grades are scaled, any extra credits that are earned through study participation will be added to your grades after the scaling. Because of the potential need for scaling, “students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed by the faculty, department, or school. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.”

### Psyc 300 and 400-level courses

<b>Class Performance</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Standard Deviation</b>
Good class	70	13
Average class	68	13
Weak class	66	13

Academic Dishonesty: Please review the UBC Calendar "Academic regulations" for the university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty. Also visit [www.arts.ubc.ca](http://www.arts.ubc.ca) and go to the students' section for useful information on avoiding plagiarism and on correct documentation. The Department of Psychology is currently implementing software designed to detect cheating on multiple choice exams. This software will be used to analyze the response patterns of all students taking these exams, and suspicious parties will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by the guidelines of the University.

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Disability Resource Centre. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let your instructor know in advance, preferably in the first week of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss their commitments with the instructor before the drop date.

Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The examination remains the property of the university.