Social Psychology

**Who:** Heather Armstrong, PhD « instructor »

Email: heather.armstrong@ubc.ca

Office Hours: before/after class or by appointment

Teaching Assistant: TBD Email: TBD

**What:** Theory and research of individual social behaviour; attitudes; social motivation; group interaction; socialization; prejudice.

**When:** Tuesdays, 6-9pm

**Where:** Chemistry D300

**Why:** To have a better understanding of how and why people (including ourselves!) think and behave in social situations.
Format  Material will be presented primarily in lecture format with class discussion. Additionally, in-class group discussions and exercises will occur. Because of this, attendance is STRONGLY recommended to all classes. Additionally, there are two group presentation classes where attendance is REQUIRED. Skeleton slides will be posted on canvas.ubc.ca.

Text  Social Psychology, 6th Canadian Edition by Aronson, Wilson, Fehr, & Akert

This textbook is available online and in the bookstore. It is available on reserve at the library.

Journal Articles  Articles for class discussion will be posted on Canvas.

It is expected that you will have read the text and the articles before class.

Attendance

Attendance is required for the successful completion of this course. If you miss a class which is not supported by a medical certificate or other documented and justifiable excuse, it is your responsibility to get class notes from a classmate. Neither the professor nor the TA will be able to provide class notes for unexcused absences.

Language Quality

Language quality is important and will factor into your mark for exams and assignments. If you would like additional support for your writing style and language quality, please consult the UBC Learning Commons http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/improve-your-writing/
Your Grade

25% Exam 1  25% Exam 2  
25% Paper*  
25% Group Assignment

HSP CREDIT
You can earn up to 3% credit for participating in the Human Subjects Pool. *Note: You MUST sign up by September 30

* Hard copy must be handed in at the BEGINNING of class on November 20th. Late assignments will not be accepted without a medical note.

YOUR GRADES MAY BE SCALED IN LINE WITH DEPARTEMENTAL POLICY.

Guidelines for Determining Standard Deviations and Grade Distributions

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Performance</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>% As</th>
<th>% As + Bs</th>
<th>% Fail</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>11</td>
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The exams are NOT cumulative. The exams will have multiple choice and long-answer questions. They will be based on the textbook, articles, lecture materials, in-class discussion, and any supplemental material posted on Canvas. Because of this, it is strongly encouraged that you attend lectures and check the website on a regular basis.

If you experience a medical emergency and are unable to write an exam you must inform me BEFORE the scheduled exam time and provide a doctor’s note. There will be no makeup midterm. If you miss the midterm because of a medical emergency, your final exam, paper, and group activity will make up your grade.

Student cards will be checked at the exams. It is your responsibility to ensure you have your student card or other acceptable form of ID present on the day of the exam.
## Schedule

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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| September 4<sup>th</sup> | Syllabus, Introduction, and Methods  
*Chapters 1 & 2*          |
| September 11<sup>th</sup>  | Social Cognition  
*Chapter 3*                   |
| September 18<sup>th</sup>  | Social Perception  
*Chapter 4*                   |
| September 25<sup>th</sup>  | The Self  
*Chapter 5*                   |
| October 2<sup>nd</sup>     | Attitudes and Attitude Change  
*Chapter 6*                   |
| October 9<sup>th</sup>     | *Group Presentations*                                     |
| October 16<sup>th</sup>    | MIDTERM                                                   |
| October 23<sup>rd</sup>    | Interpersonal Attraction and Close Relationships  
*Chapter 9*                   |
| October 30<sup>th</sup>    | Conformity  
*Chapter 7*                   |
| November 6<sup>th</sup>    | Group Processes  
*Chapter 8*                   |
| November 13<sup>th</sup>   | Prosocial Behaviour  
*Chapter 10*                   |
| November 20<sup>th</sup>   | *TERM PAPER DUE*  
Aggression and Prejudice  
*Chapters 11 & 12*               |
| November 27<sup>th</sup>   | *Group Presentations*                                     |
| December 4-19<sup>th</sup> | FINAL EXAM PERIOD                                         |
Psychology Department’s Position on Academic Misconduct

Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct are very serious concerns of the University, and the Department of Psychology has taken steps to alleviate them. In the first place, the Department has implemented software that can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams by analyzing the patterns of students’ responses. In addition, the Department subscribes to TurnItIn – a service designed to detect and deter plagiarism. All materials (term papers, lab reports, UBC Dept. of Psychology 5 Sessional Lecturers Handbook etc.) that students submit for grading will be scanned and compared to over 4.5 billion pages of content located on the Internet or in TurnItIn’s own proprietary databases. The results of these comparisons are compiled into customized “Originality Reports” containing several sensitive measures of plagiarism; instructors receive copies of these reports for every student in their class. In all cases of suspected academic misconduct the parties involved will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by the guidelines of the University. Strong evidence of cheating or plagiarism may result in a zero credit for the work in question. According to the University Act (section 61), the President of UBC has the right to impose harsher penalties including (but not limited to) a failing grade for the course, suspension from the University, cancellation of scholarships, or a notation added to a student’s transcript. All graded work in this course, unless otherwise specified, is to be original work done independently by individuals. If you have any questions as to whether or not what you are doing is even a borderline case of academic misconduct, please consult your instructor. For details on pertinent University policies and procedures, please see Chapter 5 in the UBC Calendar (http://students.ubc.ca/calendar) and read the University’s Policy 69 (available at http://universitycounsel.ubc.ca/files/2010/08/policy69.pdf).