*SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY*

## SOP 3004 *(CRN 12080) (3 credits)*

## Fall 2016, GS 119, T TH 12:30 - 1:50

***Dr. R. Vallacher***

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*Office Hours:* **T TH 11:00 – 12:00 or by appointment**

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*Office Hours:* **M W 11:00 – 12:00 or by appointment**

Prerequisite: PSY 1012 General Psychology

Pre- or Co-requisite: PSY 3234 Experimental Design and Statistical Inference

***Required Text:***

Gilovich, T., Keltner, D., Chen, S., & Nisbett, R. R. *Social psychology* (3rd ed.). New York: W. W. Norton & Company. **(GKCN)**

***Optional Text:***

Wegner, D. M. & Vallacher, R. R. (1977). *Implicit psychology*: *An introduction to social cognition*. New York: Oxford University Press. **(WV)**

**Course Objectives**

This course will acquaint students with experimental social psychology—the scientific study of thought and behavior in interpersonal contexts. We will survey a variety of classic and contemporary theories that purport to explain important aspects of social thought and behavior, and in each case we will evaluate the theory by examining relevant research. The topics to be covered in this survey span a wide range, from those that are philosophical in nature (e.g., free will) to those that represent applied concerns (e.g., criminal justice) and from those that focus on individual functioning (e.g., self-concept) to those that focus on collective phenomena (e.g., group dynamics).

Students will learn what science has discovered about the foundations of human social experience, from *intrapersonal processes* such as attitudes and emotion to *interpersonal processes* such as social interaction and close relationships and *collective processes* such as group dynamics, cultural forces, and intergroup conflict. In each case, students will learn how these discoveries are made, verified, and expressed as theories.

**Course Description**

Class time will consist primarily of lectures and class discussions. To facilitate learning, however, video/film presentations and in-class demonstrations will be incorporated into lectures on occasion. Because of the extensive in-class involvement, class attendance is strongly encouraged and expected.

**Requirements and Grading**

The class lectures are intended to supplement the material presented in the required text—not to summarize the text material. *Students are thus expected to read the required text thoroughly on their own and to be responsible for this material whether or not it is discussed in class. Students are also expected to attend class regularly and to be responsible for the material covered in lecture, whether or not it is presented in the required text.*

Some of the lecture material will be drawn from the optional text. Students will be held responsible only for material in the optional texts that is presented in class lectures (i.e., material in the optional texts that is not presented in class will not be represented on the exams). The instructor will indicate where the lecture material is discussed in the optional text, and students are encouraged to read these sections of the optional text to ensure their mastery of the respective lecture material.

There will be three in-class exams and a comprehensive final exam. Each midterm exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions representing material covered in class (lectures, video/film presentations, in-class demonstrations) as well as in the required readings (text and pdf files). The tentative dates for the midterm exams are *October 1st, October 24th,* and *November 26th.* The final exam, consisting of 100 multiple-choice questions, will be given on *December 5th (Thursday), 10:30AM - 1*:*00PM* (per Spring Course Schedule).

Your final grade in the course will be based on the total points you earn on the exams, relative to the total points available (250). Your relative point total will be assigned a letter grade according to the following criteria:

**A = 90% or greater B = 78-81% C = 66-69% D = 54-57%**

##### A- = 86-89% B- = 74-77% C- = 62-65% D- = 51-53%

**B+ = 82-85% C+ = 70-73% D+ = 58-61% F = 50% or less**

Students will be provided opportunities for extra credit. Details regarding extra credit opportunities will be provided during the first week of class.

**Course Policies**

**1.**  If a student wishes to withdraw from this course, he or she must do so officially prior to University deadlines; no instructor-initiated withdrawals will be made.

**2.** Students are expected to attend class on a regular basis and to be responsible for material presented in class, whether or not this material is covered in the text.

**3.** Students are expected to read the text thoroughly on their own and to be responsible for this material, whether or not it is discussed in class.

**4.** Students are expected to arrive and be seated at the beginning of the class period (i.e., 12:30) and should not leave class until the class session has ended. If you anticipate having to leave before the end of a class session, you should notify the instructor or the teaching assistant prior to the beginning of the session.

**5.** No make-up exams are given in this course. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

**6.** Students may miss a maximum of one (1) midterm exam. This policy **DOES NOT** apply to the final exam. If a student misses an exam for reasons other than confirmed medical reasons, the missing score will be assigned the average score of his or her two remaining exams minus (-) 10%. If a student misses more than one exam, a score of "F" (i.e., 0 points) will be assigned, regardless of prior course performance. In the event that a student misses an exam because of medical problems, 10% will not be deducted from the average exam score if the student presents a note from an attending physician. This note must be received by the instructor within one week of the exam date.

**7.** All students must take the final exam. Failure to take the final exam will result in an assigned final grade of "F" for the entire semester, regardless of prior course performance.

Course Outline

*DATE: TOPIC: READ:*

8/27 Overview of Course GKCN: 1

8/29 The Scope of Social Psychology GKCN: 1

9/3 Social Psychology Theories GKCN: 1

9/5 Research Methods GKCN: 2

9/10 – 9/12 Self-Concept GKCN: 3; WV: 6

9/17 Personal Control online articles: in-mind.org

9/19 Emotion GKCN: 6

9/24 – 9/26 Attitudes and Behavior GKCN: 7

10/1 ***EXAM # 1***

10/3 – 10/8 Social Judgment GKCN: 3, 4; WV: 2, 3

10/10 Persuasion GKCN: 8

10/15 Social Influence GKCN: 9

10/17 – 10/22 Close Relationships GKCN: 10

10/24 ***EXAM # 2***

10/29 Aggression GKCN: 13

10/31 – 11/5 Group Dynamics GKCN: 12

11/7 – 11/12 Intergroup Conflict GKCN: 11; WV: 4

11/14 - 11/19 Cooperation and Altruism GKCN: 13

11/21 Political Psychology and Law GKCN: Module 4

11/26 ***EXAM # 3***

11/28 *NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Holiday)*

12/3 *REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM*

12/5 ***FINAL EXAM*** *(10:30 – 1:00)*

**Credit Hour Definition**

This course involves 50 minutes of in class instruction for each credit hour per week, and a minimum of two hours of out of class assignments each week for 15 weeks.To master the material covered in this course it is expected that the student will spend a minimum of two hours per week per credit hour on the out of classroom assignments.

**Code of Academic Integrity Policy Statement**

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University regulation 4.001 at

[*http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter 4/4.000\_Honor\_Code.pdf*](http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter%204/4.000_Honor_Code.pdf)

**Disability policy statement**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU’s campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at [www.fau.edu/sas/](http://www.fau.edu/sas/)

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center**

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student’s responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student’s final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

**Reasonable Accommodation Statement for Makeups**

Reasonable accommodation will be made for students participating in a religious observance or in University-approved activities, including athletic or scholastics teams, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities.