

## **Social Psychology**

PSYC 251B

Spring 2016

M/W 2:20-3:50pm

Life Science 307

Instructor: Dr. Gili Freedman

Office: Life Sciences 531B

Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:45-4:45 and Wednesdays 1:00-2:00 (& by appointment)

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### **About the Instructor**

I am a visiting assistant professor in social psychology here at Roanoke College, and I am very excited to be guiding you in an exploration of social psychology. I hope that you will each take the time to visit my office and chat with me!

### **Course Description**

How do other people influence the way we think, feel, and act? In this course, students will explore the field of social psychology and learn how to apply social psychological theories and concepts to everyday life. Topics will include how we perceive others, how others perceive us, group dynamics, attitudes, persuasion, social influence, and close relationships.

### **Learning Goals**

The main goal of this course is for you to learn to think like a social psychologist. Specifically, by the end of the course you will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of social psychological theories
- Explain and evaluate social psychological methods and experiments
- Critically evaluate empirical articles on social psychology
- Apply social psychology to everyday life

### **Readings**

- Smith, E. R., Mackie, D. M., & Claypool, H. M. (2015). Social psychology (4th ed.). New York: Psychology Press.
- Additional readings are (or will be) available on INQUIRE.

## Assignments and Grading

**Course Requirements:** All assignments listed here are required to complete the course. Learning outcomes are achieved through a variety of assignments.

- Ψ **Participation (8%):** This class will be more successful to the degree that each of you engage with the material and come to class every day prepared and excited to learn. Therefore, 8% of your grade will reflect your participation as assessed by your attendance, in-class contribution (discussion, activities, etc.), respectful attitude toward fellow students and the professor, and overall level of effort and interest throughout the semester.
- Ψ **Video Project (20%):** In small groups, you will make 3-minute videos about a specific topic from the course. Details will be provided in class.
- Ψ **3 Journal Entries (27%):** You will write 3 journal entries in which you apply what you have learned to your experiences in life. Details will be provided in class.
- Ψ **3 Exams (45%):** You will complete 3 exams throughout the semester. The exams will cover assigned readings, topics covered during in-class discussions, lectures, and videos, and information from the homework assignments. The exams will consist of multiple-choice and short answer questions. The third exam will be during finals week and will be non-cumulative.

- The final exam period for this class is on **Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-5:00pm.**

Assessment	Points Possible	Percentage of Course Grade
Participation	40	8%
Journal Entries	135	27%
Entry 1	45	9%
Entry 2	45	9%
Entry 3	45	9%
Video Project	100	20%
Exams	225	45%
Exam 1	75	15%
Exam 2	75	15%
Exam 3	75	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Final Grades

Your final grade will be determined by adding all points earned. Letter grade cutoffs are as follows:

Final Grade	Percentage	Points
A	92-100%	460-500
A-	90-91%	450-459
B+	88-89%	440-449
B	82-87%	410-439
B-	80-81%	400-409
C+	78-79%	390-399
C	72-77%	360-389
C-	70-71%	350-359
D+	68-69%	340-349
D	62-67%	310-339
D-	60-61%	300-309
F	0-59%	0-299

Week	Date	Content Material	Readings	Assignment Due
1	M 1/18	Introduction to the Course		
	W 1/20	What is Social Psychology?	<i>I</i> : Hastdorf & Cantril (1954)	
2	M 1/25	History of Social Psychology	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 1	
	W 1/27	<b>NO CLASS</b>		
3	M 2/1	Quiet Rage	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 2	
	W 2/3	Perceiving Individuals I	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 3	
4	M 2/8	Perceiving Individuals II	<i>I</i> : Kenrick & Gutierres (1980)	
	W 2/10	Perceiving Groups I	<i>I</i> : Sherif (1956)	
5	M 2/15	Perceiving Groups II	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 5	<b>Journal 1</b>
	W 2/17	<b>Exam 1</b>		
6	M 2/22	The Self I	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 4	
	W 2/24	The Self II	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 6	
7	M 2/29	<b>Video Library Day I</b>		
	W 3/2	Attitudes I	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 7	
<b>SPRING BREAK!</b>				
8	M 3/14	Attitudes II	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 8	<b>Journal 2</b>
	W 3/16	Attitudes III	<i>I</i> : Aronson & Mills (1959)	
9	M 3/21	<b>Exam 2</b>		
	W 3/23	<b>Video Library Day II</b>		<b>Storyboard Due!</b>
10	M 3/28	Social Influence I	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 9	
	W 3/30	Social Influence II	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 10	
11	M 4/4	Group Processes I	<i>I</i> : Milgram (1963)	
	W 4/6	Group Processes II	<i>SP</i> : Chapter 11	
12	M 4/11	12 Angry Men		<b>Journal 3</b>
	W 4/13	Attraction and Close Relationships	<i>I</i> : Dutton & Aron (1974)	
13	M 4/18	Reality TV	<i>I</i> : Darley & Batson (1973)	
	W 4/20	<b>Videos!</b>		<b>Video Project Due at 9:00am</b>
Tuesday, May 3 <sup>rd</sup> from 2:00-5:00pm <b>Exam 3</b>				

*I = Inquire*

*SP = Social Psychology, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition*

**\*This is a tentative schedule and may be changed to accommodate the needs of the class.\***

## Class Policies

### Attendance Policy

Students are expected to come to class having reviewed the assigned material with questions to ask and ready to participate. Students will be responsible for all material covered and all announcements made, even if not in attendance. Lectures and discussions will often contain information beyond the text, thus it is recommended that students avoid absences. Attendance will be taken through in-class activities. Although these activities will not be graded, participation is (see above). If you miss class you cannot receive participation points for that day. Your two lowest activity grades will be dropped. Since activities are graded for completion, this allows you to miss 2 classes without penalty. Therefore, there are no excused vs. unexcused absences. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain any missed information from fellow classmates; in-class activities, however, cannot be made up.

### Expected Amount of Work

This course expects you to spend at least 12 hours of work each week inside and outside of class.

### Missing Assessments

Exams: If you are absent on an exam day for a medical emergency, contact me as soon as possible within 24 hours of the exam to see if the absence can be excused. If your absence is excused, you can take a makeup exam as soon as you return to campus. However, the exam may be given to you as an essay. If you have an unexcused absence on the exam day, you will receive a zero on that exam.

### Late Assessments

I will accept journal entries up to 24 hours late but they will receive a full letter grade penalty (i.e., a B- would become a C-).

The video assignment will not be accepted past the due date/time.

### Technology Policy

This class is designed to be one of learning, inclusion, and discussion. Use of cell phones during class disrupts that atmosphere and is therefore prohibited. **Cell phones must either be off or on silent (NOT on vibrate)**. If you are expecting an emergency call during class, you must tell me at the beginning of class and for that class period only your phone may be on vibrate. If you get the emergency call, you should leave class as quietly as possible to take it.

**I'm requesting that you do NOT use laptop computers in class.** For the reasoning behind this policy, see <http://www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2014/12/30/this-year-im-resolving-to-ban-laptops-from-my-classroom/>.

If you have concerns with this policy, feel free to come talk to me about it. If there are reasons to make exceptions, I'm happy to do that.

**Grade Disputes:** I am willing to discuss grade(s) with you during office hours or by appointment. However, in order to be considered, you must submit any formal grade disputes to me in writing and within one week of receiving the grade. With the exception of calculation errors, no grade changes will be made to students' final grade at the end of the semester.

**Office of Disability Support Services:** I am happy to work with you to make sure that every student is on an equal playing field. If you need accommodations (or think you might) to perform your best, please talk to me at the beginning of the semester. The Office of Disability Support Services, located in the Goode-Pasfield Center for Learning and Teaching in Fintel Library, provides reasonable

accommodations to students with identified disabilities. Reasonable accommodations are provided based on the diagnosed disability and the recommendations of the professional evaluator. In order to be considered for disability services, students must identify themselves to the Office of Disability Support Services. Students requesting accommodations are required to provide specific current documentation of their disabilities. Please contact Dr. Bill Tenbrunsel, Director of the Center for Learning & Teaching, at 540-375-2247 or e-mail [tenbruns@roanoke.edu](mailto:tenbruns@roanoke.edu).

If you are on record with the College's Office of Disability Support Services as having academic or physical needs requiring accommodations, please schedule an appointment with Dr. Tenbrunsel as soon as possible. You need to discuss your accommodations with him before they can be implemented. Also, please note that arrangements for extended time on exams, testing, and quizzes in a distraction-reduced environment must be made with the Center for Learning & Teaching at least 2 business days (M-F) *before every exam*.

**Academic Integrity:** (<http://www.roanoke.edu/portal/registrar/studenthandbook.pdf>)

I am very serious about academic integrity. This class is a learning community and you jeopardize both your own learning and the sense of community when you fail to uphold your academic integrity.

Roanoke College is a learning community, which places immense value upon academic integrity. It is students' responsibility to review, understand, and abide by the academic integrity policy as defined and outlined in the brochure *Academic Integrity at Roanoke College*. It is the professor's responsibility to report those who are suspected of such acts to the Academic Integrity Council.

Academic integrity violations include (but are not limited to) using unauthorized materials or devices such as cheat sheets or electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, tablets, laptops) during an examination, providing and/or receiving unauthorized assistance during an examination or on an independent assignment, allowing others to conduct research for you or prepare your work, plagiarism (*please carefully review this section in your handbook and see me if you have any questions*), and/or falsifying or inventing any information or citations in an academic exercise.

### **Student Resources:**

**The Goode-Pasfield Center for Learning and Teaching** (Fintel Library)

**Writing Center** - Roanoke College's Writing Center, located on the lower level of Fintel Library, offers writing tutorials focused on written and oral communication for students working on writing assignments/projects in any field. Writers at all levels of competence may visit the Writing Center at any point in their process, from brainstorming to drafting to editing, to talk with trained peer tutors in informal, one-on-one sessions. The Writing Center is open Sunday through Thursday from 4 to 9 pm. Simply stop in, or schedule an appointment by going to [www.roanoke.edu/writingcenter](http://www.roanoke.edu/writingcenter), where our schedule of writing workshops and creative writing playshops is also posted. Questions? Email [writingcenter@roanoke.edu](mailto:writingcenter@roanoke.edu) or call 375-4949. Like our Facebook page for updates!

**Subject Tutoring** - Subject tutoring is a CRLA Nationally Certified Program located on the lower-level of Fintel library in room 005. Subject Tutoring offers individual appointments in 30-minute intervals for Lab Sciences, Modern Languages, Math & CPSC, Social Sciences, and Business & Economics. Hours are Sunday - Thursday 4 p.m. - 9 p.m. For a list of tutorials or to make an appointment, go to [www.roanoke.edu/tutoring](http://www.roanoke.edu/tutoring).