

**Syllabus
Social Psychology
Spring 2023**

Professor Info		Course Info	
Professor:	Nicholas Maxwell, PhD	Course #:	PSYC 3503, Sec. 201
Office:	OD 118	Time:	9:00am – 9:50am MWF
email:	nicholas.maxwell@msutexas.edu	Location:	PY 102
		Office Hours:	MW 1:00pm – 3:00pm; R 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Required Texts:

Social Psychology by Saul Kassin, Steven Fein, & Hazel Rose Markus (11th Edition) (2021)

Throughout the semester, I will post various readings on D2L. It is your responsibility to have read the required articles *before* the appropriate class meeting. I will make announcements in class regarding when readings will be due.

Course Objectives:

After completing this course, you will have a greater understanding of:

1. Core areas of Social Psychology Research, including self-concept, conformity, aggression, and interpersonal relationships.
2. How social psychologists conduct research, including their methodology and an overview of key historical studies.
3. Current trends and future directions in Social Psychology research

Attendance and Make-Up Exam Policy:

If you do miss class, you will be responsible for the material you missed when absent. Class attendance is ***required***. Each student is allowed ***four*** absences without penalty. Each additional absence will result in a 10% reduction in the students' final grade. Students will be responsible for the material they miss when absent. Students with ***more than five absences*** will be dropped from the course with a failing grade.

Excused-Absences: The ***only*** absences that will not be counted are absences for a mandatory, university-sponsored event or religious holiday. Written notification must be provided to the professor at least two days prior to the day of the event. Absences for religious holidays must be cleared through the Dean of Students. Students must inform the instructor of religious holiday absences by the 15th day of class.

No make-up exams will be given ***except in the case of an emergency***, such as a serious illness, a serious accident, or a death in the family ***OR*** in the case of a previously excused absence (see *Attendance* section above for what qualifies as an *excused absence*).

*You must verify your emergency with documentation. *You must contact me via email no later than 24 hours after the missed exam!** If you miss an exam without a valid excuse, you will receive a zero for the assignment.

Course Requirements:

1. **Exams:** Students will complete ***five*** exams during the semester. Each exam will be worth ***100*** points.
2. **Article Responses:** Students will complete four article responses throughout the semester. These will be two-page response papers that 1) summarize the article's content and 2) integrate information from the lectures, readings, and student's personal experiences. Your response must meet both requirements to receive full credit (i.e., submissions that only summarize the article will only receive half credit). Each article response is worth ***50*** points. ***Readings will be posted on D2L.*** Article responses are due by 11:59pm on their respective due dates (see schedule). Late responses will automatically be docked five points for each day it is late.
3. **Quizzes:** Students will complete four quizzes throughout the semester. These quizzes will be conducted at random and are designed to help prepare you for later exams. Quizzes are ***extra credit*** and will be worth up to five points, which will be added to your *next* exam grade (i.e., the exam covering the same content as the quiz). ***Make-up quizzes will not be accepted. No other extra credit opportunities will be given out!***

Grades:

Your final grade in the course will be calculated based on ***700*** total points.

700-630:	A
629-560:	B
549-490:	C
489-420:	D
< 420:	F

Email Policy:

You are required to use your MSU Texas email accounts for this class. I will not send emails to any other email accounts. I will also not send out class information to any other email address other than your university email account. ***Before emailing me about your question, make sure that your question has not been answered/addressed in the syllabus or elsewhere!*** When emailing me, please put the course number (PSYC 3503) AND section number (Sec. 201) in the subject line. This will immediately let me know which class you are in so I can respond faster.

I will try my best to get back to you within 24-hours (during the week) or within 3 days (weekends, holidays, if you decide to email me at 10:00pm on Friday...)

Cell Phones:

Unless you anticipate that you might receive an emergency communication, please turn off your cell phones in class. If you receive an ***emergency*** phone call or text in class, please excuse yourself and quietly leave the classroom to take the message.

Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Academic Dishonesty is defined as cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or

the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct: [Office of Student Conduct](#)

Cheating will not be tolerated. Any evidence of cheating on exams or written assignments will result in dismissal from this class with a grade of "F" and referral to the Dean of Students. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, using unauthorized notes of any kind during an exam, looking on another's exam, allowing another student to look on your exam, plagiarism, and self-plagiarism.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L):

This course utilizes the MSU D2L program for assignment submission. Relevant course materials will also be posted on D2L. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program.

Disability Services:

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from Disability Support Services (DSS) during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation to a student until appropriate verification from DSS has been provided.

Midterm Grade Reports:

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the instructor for this class will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student's WebWorld account. ***Midterm progress reports will only be provided for students with a grade of C or less in the course.*** Midterm grades will not be reported on the students' transcripts, nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at the midpoint of the semester.

Change of Schedule:

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Important Dates

Last day for Spring 23 schedule changes: **1/20**

Deadline to file for *MAY* graduation: **2/20**

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W": **3/27**

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Course Schedule:

Important! The reading for each day is what's expected to have been read *prior* to that date. Please note that this schedule represents *the ideal semester!* Any deviations from this schedule (particularly as they pertain to assignment deadlines and exam dates) will be announced in class **AND** posted on D2L.

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
1/16 – 1/20	1/16	NO CLASS (MLK Day)		
	1/18	Course Overview/What is Social Psych?	Chapter 1	
	1/20	What is Social Psych?	Chapter 1	
1/23 – 1/27	1/23	Research Methods Crash Course!		
	1/25	Research Methods Crash Course!		
	1/27	Ethical Issues in Social Research	Chapter 2	
1/30 – 2/3	1/30	Ethical Issues in Social Research	Chapter 2	
	2/1	The Social Self	Chapter 3	
	2/3	The Social Self	Chapter 3	
2/6 – 2/10	2/6	The Social Self	Chapter 3	
	2/8	Exam 1	Chapters 1-3	Article Response 1: due 2/8 @ 11:59pm!
	2/10	Perceiving People	Chapter 4	
2/13 – 2/17	2/13	Perceiving People	Chapter 4	
	2/15	Perceiving People	Chapter 4	
	2/17	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination	Chapter 5	
2/20 – 2/24	2/20	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination	Chapter 5	
	2/22	Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination	Chapter 5	
	2/24	Attitudes/Social Influence	Chapter 6	
2/27 – 3/3	2/27	Attitudes/Social Influence	Chapter 6	
	3/1	Attitudes/Social Influence	Chapter 6	
	3/3	Exam 2	Chapters 4-6	Article Response 2: due 3/3 @ 11:59pm!

3/6 – 3/10	3/6	Conformity	Chapter 7	
	3/8	Conformity/Group Processes	Chapters 7-8	
	3/10	Group Processes	Chapter 8	
3/13 – 3/17	3/13	SPRING BREAK (NO CLASS)		
	3/15	SPRING BREAK (NO CLASS)		
	3/17	SPRING BREAK (NO CLASS)		
3/20 – 3/24	3/20	Group Processes	Chapter 8	
	3/22	Social Relations	Chapter 9	
	3/24	Social Relations	Chapter 9	
3/27 – 3/31	3/27	Social Relations	Chapter 9	
	3/29	EXAM 3	Chapters 7-9	Article Response #3 Due 3/29 @11:59pm!
	3/31	NO CLASS (MAXWELL GONE FOR CONFERENCE)		
4/3 – 4/7	4/3	Helping Others	Chapter 10	
	4/5	Helping Others	Chapter 10	
	4/7	NO CLASS (EASTER HOLIDAY)		
4/10 – 4/14	4/10	Helping Others	Chapters 10	
	4/12	Aggression	Chapter 11	
	4/14	Aggression	Chapter 11	
4/17 – 4/21	4/17	Aggression	Chapter 11	
	4/19	EXAM 4	Chapters 10-11	Article Response #4 Due 4/19 @11:59pm!
	4/21	Social Psych and Law	Chapter 12	
4/24 – 4/28	4/24	Social Psych and Law	Chapter 12	
	4/26	Social Psych and Business	Chapter 13	
	4/28	Social Psych and Business	Chapter 13	
5/1 – 5/5	5/1	Social Psych and Health	Chapter 14	

	5/3	Social Psych and Health	Chapter 14	
	5/4	EXAM 5	Chapters 12-14	No article response!