



湖北工業大學  
HUBEI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

<b>Course Title</b>	Social Psychology
<b>Course Code</b>	PSYC 2511
<b>Semester</b>	Summer 2025
<b>Course Length</b>	5 Weeks, 60 Contact Hours
<b>Credits</b>	4
<b>Instructor</b>	TBA
<b>Office</b>	TBA
<b>Email</b>	TBA
<b>Prerequisite</b>	PSYC 1001 Introduction to Psychology I PSYC 1002 Introduction to Psychology II

### Course Description:

This course is an introduction to Social Psychology, which is the scientific study of how social contexts influence and shape individual behavior. Topics typically covered include the relation of self and culture, person perception, attitudes and their relation to behavior, attribution theory, persuasion, conformity and obedience, interpersonal attraction, social cognition, stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination, aggression, group dynamics, and intergroup relations.

### Course Goals:

Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate competency in the following general education core goals:

- **Critical thinking skills** – Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts, and constructing solutions.
- **Communication skills** – Students will demonstrate effective written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Teamwork** – Students will demonstrate the ability to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal and consider different points of view.
- **Social responsibility** – Students will demonstrate intercultural competency and civic knowledge by engaging effectively in local, regional, national, and global communities.

### Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- identify, explain, and distinguish among the major theoretical approaches and concepts in social psychology;

- demonstrate an understanding of the scientific approach as used in social psychology;
- demonstrate self-awareness of one's own attitudes, stereotypes, and prejudices;
- understand social interactions at both a personal, group, and a societal level;
- be knowledgeable about group behavior, conformity, attitude change, social influence, interpersonal attraction, aggression, and pro-social behaviors.

**Textbooks/Supplies/Materials/Equipment/ Technology or Technical Requirements:**

Douglas Kenrick, Steven L. Neuberg, Robert B. Cialdini, David Lundberg-Kenrick.  
*Social Psychology: Goals in Interaction*, 7th edition. Pearson.

**Course Requirements:**

**Class Participation & Engagement (10%)**

Active participation is a key element of this course. Participation will be evaluated based on both quantity and quality—engaging contributions that demonstrate critical thinking and application of social psychology concepts will be valued. Additionally, students will be required to complete brief in-class activities and group exercises to enhance engagement.

**Reflection Papers (20%)**

Throughout the semester, students will write four short reflection papers (approximately 2-3 pages each) responding to specific prompts related to course topics. These papers will encourage students to apply theoretical concepts to real-life situations or analyze personal experiences through a social psychological lens.

**Midterm Exam (20%)**

The midterm exam will consist of multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions covering all material from the first half of the course. The exam will assess students' factual knowledge, conceptual understanding, and ability to apply theories to various scenarios. A study guide will be provided to help students prepare.

**Research Paper (20%)**

Students will be required to write a 7–10-page research paper on a social psychology topic of their choice (subject to instructor approval). This paper must include a literature review of existing research, a discussion of key theories, and an application to a real-world issue. Students are expected to use at least five scholarly sources and adhere to proper academic writing standards (APA format). A draft will be submitted for feedback before the final paper is due.

**Final Exam (30%)**

The final exam will be cumulative, covering key theories, research findings, and applications of social psychology. The format will include a mix of multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions designed to test both knowledge retention and critical thinking skills. The final exam will emphasize the application of social psychology principles to real-world issues.

**Assessments: Activity**

Class Participation & Engagement

**Percent Contribution**

10%

Reflection Papers (4)	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Research Paper	20%
Final Exam	30%

**Grading:**

Final grades will be based on the sum of all possible course points as noted above.

Percentage of available points	Grade
90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
<60	F

**Course Schedule:**

*The schedule of activities is subject to change at the reasonable discretion of the instructor. Minor changes will be announced in class, and major ones provided in writing.*

PSYC 2511 Schedule		
Lecture	Topic	Readings
L1	Introduction to Social Psychology Major Theoretical Perspectives of Social Psychology	Ch. 1
L2	The Person and the Situation	Ch. 2
L3	Social Cognition: Understanding Ourselves and Others Managing Self-Image The Self in a Social World	Ch. 3
L4	Social Cognition (continued) The Social Thinker Conserving Mental Effort	Ch. 3
L5	Presenting the Self What Is Self-Presentation? Conveying Status and Power	Ch. 4 Reflection #1
L6	Attitudes and Persuasion The Nature of Attitudes What Is Persuasion?	Ch. 5
L7	Attitudes and Persuasion (continued) Being Consistent in One's Attitudes and Actions Gaining Social Approval	Ch. 5
L8	Social Influence: Conformity, Compliance, and Obedience Genes, Culture, and Gender	Ch. 6 Reflection #2
L9	Social Influence: Conformity, Compliance, and Obedience (continued) Social Beliefs and Judgments	Ch. 6
L10	Social Psychology and Clinical Psychology	Lecture Notes
L11	Affiliation and Friendship Getting Social Support Exchanging Material Benefits	Ch. 7
L12	Love and Romantic Relationships Defining Love and Romantic Attraction Establishing Family Bonds	Ch. 8

L13	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	Ch. 1-8
L14	Prosocial Behavior	Ch. 9
	The Goals of Prosocial Behavior	
	Improving Our Basic Welfare: Gaining Genetic and Material Benefits	
L15	Prosocial Behavior (continued)	Ch. 9
	Gaining Social Status and Approval	Reflection #3
	Managing Our Emotions and Moods	Research Paper
	Does Pure Altruism Exist?	Draft Due
L16	Aggression	Ch. 10
	Coping with Feelings of Annoyance	
	Gaining Material and Social Rewards	
L17	Aggression (continued)	Ch. 10
	Gaining or Maintaining Social Status	
	Protecting Oneself or Others	
	Reducing Violence	
L18	Prejudice, Stereotyping, and Discrimination	Ch. 11
	Planet Prejudice	
	Seeking Social Approval	
L19	Prejudice, Stereotyping, and Discrimination (continued)	Ch. 11
	Seeking Mental Efficiency	Reflection #4
	Reducing Prejudice, Stereotyping, and Discrimination	
L20	Groups	Ch. 12
	Making Accurate Decisions	
L21	Groups (continued)	Ch. 12
	Gaining Positions of Leadership	
L22	Social Dilemmas: Cooperation Versus Conflict	Ch. 13
	Defining Social Dilemmas	
	Gaining Immediate Satisfaction	
L23	Social Dilemmas: Cooperation Versus Conflict (continued)	Ch. 13
	Defending Ourselves and Valued Others	
	Conflict and peacemaking	
L24	Integrating Social Psychology	Ch. 14
	Combining the Different Perspectives	Research Paper
	Why Research Methods Matter	Due
L25	<b>Final Exam</b>	Ch. 1-14

### Accommodation Statement:

Academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow.

### Academic Integrity Statement

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in coursework may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

**Other Items:****Attendance and Expectations**

All students are required to attend every class, except in cases of illness, serious family concerns, or other major problems. We expect that students will arrive on time, be prepared to listen and participate as appropriate, and stay for the duration of a meeting rather than drift in or out casually. In short, we anticipate that students will show professors and fellow students maximum consideration by minimizing the disturbances that cause interruptions in the learning process. This means that punctuality is a must, that cellular phones be turned off, and that courtesy is the guiding principle in all exchanges among students and faculty. You will be responsible for the materials and ideas presented in the lecture.

**Assignment Due Dates**

All written assignments must be turned in at the time specified. Late assignments will not be accepted unless prior information has been obtained from the instructor. If you believe you have extenuating circumstances, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

**Make-Up Work**

The instructor will not provide students with class information or make-up assignments/quizzes/exams missed due to an unexcused absence. Absences will be excused and assignments/quizzes/exams may be made up only with written documentation of an authorized absence. Every effort should be made to avoid scheduling appointments during class. An excused student is responsible for requesting any missed information from the instructor and setting up any necessary appointments outside of class.

**Access, Special Needs and Disabilities**

Please notify the instructor at the start of the semester if you have any documented disabilities, a medical issue, or any special circumstances that require attention, and the school will be happy to assist.