SYLLABUS Fall 2025
Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-12:20

Course Information:
PSYC 3306.001 SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Instructor Information:
Eric Stocks, Ph.D.
Office: HPR 255
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 – 10:45 am, or by appointment
Email: estocks@uttyler.edu

Course Catalog Description: Theories, methods, and applications of social psychology. Effects of social influences on perception, learning, motivation, and the development of values and attitudes. Emphasis on conformity, prejudice, aggression and persuasion techniques.

Student Learning Outcomes: As a result of this course, the successful student will:

Achieve content knowledge of social-psychological influences on thoughts, feelings, and behavior. The student will also develop skills to critically read, analyze, and interpret research findings in social psychology, and to analyze group activities from a social-psychological point of view. The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the scientific study of how and why the grounding of human experience in particular social and cultural "worlds" influences behavior, cognition, emotion, motivation, perception, and values. Toward this end, we will discuss a variety of topics including social influence and conformity, the social construction and construal of the "self," person perception and social cognition, stereotyping and prejudice, attraction and close relationships, and the social motives underlying both helping and aggression. The format of the course will be a mix of lecture, group discussion, and in-class demonstrations such that students will have an opportunity to actively engage the material covered in the course.

UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY ASSESSMENT:
5.0 Social: Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in clinical and social psychology.

5.1 Assessment: Students in PSYC 3306: Social Psychology will take a final exam wholly comprised of items related to social psychology. The instructor will score the exam. 80% of students to achieve a 70% or higher on the Last Exam.

Evaluation and Grading:
Exams: Your course grade will be based on **three non-cumulative exams**, each worth 100 points, attendance, and the definitions projects (see note below). **Be warned: I do not allow make-up exams!** In the event that you miss one of the regularly scheduled exams, you will be given an opportunity to replace it by taking a **cumulative final exam** at the end of the semester. Only those students who have missed a regularly scheduled exam will be allowed to take the cumulative final exam. Please read the "Course Policies" on Blackboard for more information. Exams will be administered ONLINE.

Definitions Project: Each student will also be required to complete the definitions project for each unit on selected key terms, hypotheses, and theories from the text or lecture notes. A copy of this project is to be submitted online on the due dates (see dates below) and is worth 30 points per set. Each set contains 10 terms, of which you will be required to complete all 10 (1 point for the textbook definition of the concept, 1 point for a definition of the concept in your own words, and 1 point for an example of the concept from your own life: *3 points X 10 concepts = 30 points per set*).

The purpose of this project is very simple: (a) constructing your own definitions and examples of social psychological concepts, hypotheses, and theories will further your understanding of the field, (b) it will also give you a great deal of practice "seeing" the world in terms of social psychological principles, and (c) when completed, each set will provide a detailed study guide for the exams. As an added bonus, when all sets are completed, you will have created a nicely organized, detailed summary of social psychology's major constructs and theories for future reference.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. In the event of excessive absenteeism, **I reserve the right to lower your final course grade by one or more letters. Specifically, missing more than 25% of class meetings will reduce your grade by one letter. Missing more than 35% of the class meetings will result in an automatic F in the course.** Please read the "Course Policies" on Blackboard for more information.

Extra Credit: There will be at least one opportunity to earn extra credit during the semester. Details will be announced later.

Grade Details:		**Course Grade:**
Exam 1 = 100 points	**Definitions Sets @ 30 points each**	**A = 351 - 390**
Exam 2 = 100 points	**3 sets total (3 sets X 30 points) = 90 points**	**B = 312 - 350**
Exam 2 = 100 points		**C = 273 - 311**
300 points	**Total Points in the Course: Exams (300) + Definitions (90) = 390**	**D = 234 - 272**
		F = 233 or less

Required Texts: **Kassin, Fein, & Markus (2021).** *Social Psychology*. 11th ed. NY, NY: Wadsworth.
Note: You can buy the 10th edition instead, if you'd like. It is almost identical to the 11th edition.

Class Meeting Schedule: Below is the list of dates for the lecture. Note that we meet TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS EACH WEEK. Prior to attending the Tuesday lecture each week, you should complete the assignments listed for each unit (e.g., watching the video clips). The due dates for the **definitions projects are listed below, and must be submitted by 11:00 on the due date**

DATE **TOPIC** **READING ASSIGNMENT**

Part 1:

History, Theory, & Methodology in Social Psychology

Week of:

8/25: Course Overview and Introduction to Social Psychology

9/1: Historical Overview of Social Psychology (Unit 1) **Readings: Ch. 1**

9/8: Theory & Methodology in Social Psychology (Unit 2) **Readings: Ch. 2**

Self & Social Cognition

9/15: Social Perception I: Constructing & Perceiving the Self (Unit 3) **Readings: Ch. 3**

9/22: Social Perception II: Perceiving Others (Unit 4) **Readings: Ch. 4**

9/29: Social Perception III: Perceiving Groups, Review for Exam #1(Unit 5) **Readings: Ch. 5**

→ **9/30 (Tuesday): Definitions Set 1 Due**

→ **10/2 (Thursday): Exam #1 – administered ONLINE**

Part 2:

Attitudes, Attraction, Conformity & Other Group Processes

10/6: Attitudes (Unit 6) **Readings: Ch. 6 10**

10/13: Conformity & Social Norms (Unit 7) **Readings: Ch. 7**

10/20: Group Dynamics (Unit 8) **Readings: Ch. 8**

10/27**:** Psychology of Religion, Review for Exam #2 (Unit 9) **Readings: Lecture Notes**

→ **10/28 (Tuesday): Definitions Set 2 Due**

→ **10/30 (Thursday): Exam #2– administered ONLINE**

Part 3:

Social Emotion & Motivation

11/3: Close Relationships & Interpersonal Attraction (Unit 10) **Readings: Ch. 9**

11/10: Social Emotions and Motivation I: Prosocial Behavior (Unit 11) **Readings: Ch. 10**

11/17: Social Emotions and Motivation II: Aggression (Unit 12) **Readings: Ch. 11**

11/24: No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday

12/1: Moral Motivation, Review for Exam #3 (Unit 13) **Readings: Lecture Notes**

→ **12/2 (Tuesday): Definitions Set 3 Due**

→ **12/4 (Thursday): Exam #3– administered ONLINE**

12/5: Make-up Cumulative Final Exam will be held (ONLY FOR STUDENTS MISSING A REGULAR EXAM)

University Policies

Students Rights and Responsibilities
To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:
http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibillities.php

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies
Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.
Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.
The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:
• Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
• Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
• Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
• Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
• Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

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State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).
Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement:
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation:
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct
Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.
(i) "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
- copying from another student's test paper;
- using during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or information about an unadministered test, test key, homework solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;

• taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of U. T. Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and,
• misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
(ii) "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.
(iii) "Collusion" includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

CEP Mission
The mission of the CEP is to prepare competent and passionate professionals in the fields of education, psychology, and counseling; to advance knowledge and expertise; and to impact these fields locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.

CEP Vision
The CEP will be a global leader in responding to needs in the fields of education, psychology, and counseling, with a focus on the East Texas region, by creating innovative academic and scholarly pathways and partnerships.