

# PSYC\*2310-02, Course Outline: Fall 2021

## General Information

DUE to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic some courses are being offered virtually and some face to face. **This course is offered using the Face-to-Face format and using the Alternate-Delivery-Synchronous (AD-S) format.** The course has set day, time, and location of class. These classes can be attended virtually (synchronously, via Zoom), and all course work can be completed virtually. Students are strongly encouraged to participate virtually. In-person attendance will never be required. The course is scheduled for exclusively virtual attendance until Sept 28.

**Course Title:** Social Psychology

### **Course Description:**

This course introduces students to the field of social psychology. Major topics introduced will include: social influence, social cognition, attitude, stereotype and prejudice, the self, attraction and interpersonal relationships, group processes and intergroup relations. The course also aims for students to use the knowledge acquired to think critically about how their actions and those of others are influenced by social forces. In addition, the course aims to introduce students to the role of culture in shaping thoughts and behaviour and to provide them an opportunity to appreciate diverse perspectives.

**Credit Weight:** 0.5

**Academic Department (or campus):** Department of Psychology

**Semester Offering:** F21

**Class Schedule and Location:** M/W/F 8:30 AM – 9:20 AM, ROZH 101, 9 Sept 2021 – 17 Dec 2021

## **Instructor Information**

Instructor Name: Dr. Adam Sparks

Instructor Email: [asparks@uoguelph.ca](mailto:asparks@uoguelph.ca)

Office location and office hours: Open drop-in office hours via Zoom (accessed through CourseLink), Monday & Wednesday 12:30-1:20

## **GTA Information**

GTA Name: Craig Leonard

GTA Email: [cleona02@uoguelph.ca](mailto:cleona02@uoguelph.ca)

GTA office location and office hours: TBA

GTA Name: Laureen Owaga

GTA Email: [lowaga@uoguelph.ca](mailto:lowaga@uoguelph.ca)

GTA office location and office hours: TBA

## Course Content

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

1. Achieve a general familiarity with the academic field of Social Psychology
  - a) prominent topics
  - b) common research methods
  - c) connections to other scientific areas
2. Develop ability to consume and use scientific information: presenting, discussing, criticizing, integrating, etc.
3. Thinking critically about how and why we influence each other's behavior
4. Asking good questions
5. Connecting theory and evidence

### Lecture Content:

- Our class meeting times might be called "lectures," but very little of our time together will involve the instructor delivering formal lectures.
- Much of our meeting time will be spent with small groups of students working together, using online tools to collaborate.
  - These work sessions will focus on development of skills that will be directly assessed in quizzes, exams, and assignments.
  - Readings and quizzes due before each meeting will prepare students to productively contribute to small group collaboration.
  - Instructor and/or Teaching Assistants will guide these meeting sessions, answer student questions, provide live feedback to groups, etc.
- Some meetings may feature a guest expert joining us virtually to present their work, and/or answer our questions about their research and about their views on course topics.

### Course Assignments and Tests:

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Quizzes (x34)	prior to each lecture except for our first meeting	50% (or 25% or 0%)	1, 3, 5
Assignments (x3)	#1: 6 October #2: 1 November #3: 26 November	10% 15% 25%	2, 4, 5
Midterm Exam (optional)	Available 22 -25 Oct	0% (or 25%)	1, 3, 5
Final Exam	15 December	0% (or 25%)	1, 3, 5

### Additional Notes:

Best 25 (out of 34) quizzes will be used for the Quiz portion of the final mark. Make-up quizzes will not be available, so using your best 25 scores allows substantial flexibility against illness or other personal disruptions of your ability to complete quizzes on time.

The Quiz portion will count 50% towards final grade, unless Midterm and/or Final Exam scores are higher. Each exam score that exceeds the total quiz mark can replace half of the total quiz mark. Note that the Final Exam is mandatory, in that you must formally submit it in order to receive a final grade in the course (otherwise, policy mandates that an incomplete must be assigned). The formal submission of the Final Exam can include a simple acknowledgment that you are satisfied with your Quiz scores and do not wish to complete the rest of the exam.

Skipping the quizzes and “betting everything” on the Exams is not recommended. Quizzes are intended to help you make steady progress towards learning goals, and to prepare you to participate productively during class meetings. Exams will be very challenging cumulative reviews of all material, and should be treated as an opportunity to demonstrate that your progress towards our learning outcomes has substantially improved compared to your quiz performance.

For each Assignment, you will work with a group to achieve an in-depth understanding of a primary research paper. Details will be available on CourseLink.

**Final examination date and time:** 15 December 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM

**Final exam weighting:** 0 – 25% (if final exam score is better than quiz score, final exam grade replaces half of the quiz grade)

Examination Regulations

## **Course Resources**

**Required Texts:** Texts used in this course are open-source and freely available online.

Principles of Social Psychology - 1st International Edition

Together: The Science of Social Psychology

### **Other Resources:**

Students need regular access to a computer with reliable internet access, including during class meetings. Students will be expected to engage with audio and video resources, create and upload text documents, download and view pdf files, successfully log in and navigate Google Docs, CourseLink, MS Teams, and Zoom, and navigate quizzes and other pages on the UG Gryph system.

## **Course Policies**

## **Grading Policies**

### [Undergraduate Grading Procedures](#)

Quizzes must be submitted online via Courselink prior to the start of each class meeting in order to receive a mark; there are no make-up quizzes.

The optional mid-term exam will be available via Courselink over a period of several days. You must complete it during this window for your mid-term mark to be eligible to replace half of your quiz grade.

Assignments submitted online via Courselink by the posted due dates can expect to receive the most timely feedback on their work, which will be useful for subsequent assignments. Due dates for assignments can be automatically extended by one week without penalty; assignments will be penalized 10% per day beyond this one week extension. No Assignments will be accepted after December 3.

Instructors and Teaching Assistants sometimes make errors when grading – such mistakes can result in marks that are inappropriately low or high. Requests for re-grading any quiz or assignment must be made to the instructor via email, including a specific explanation for why a higher grade is merited. The written request process is intended to result in communication focusing on a dispassionate, critical analysis of specific issues. The instructor will personally re-grade the entire assignment/quiz, not just the disputed portion(s), and the new grade will stand, whether higher or lower than the original grade. Since your mark can thus go either up or down, please think carefully about regrade requests. For group assignments, all group members must approve a regrade request, since everyone's grade could potentially go down.

#### **Course Policy on Group Work:**

Assignments are all group projects; one person may submit on behalf of the group. Quizzes must be submitted individually, but students are welcome to work together. Exams (which are optional) must be completed alone.

#### **Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:**

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted, they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

## **University Policies**

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

[Return to Campuses - Preparing for Your Safe Return](#)

[Return to Campuses - Classroom Spaces](#)

Please note, these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives

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**Disclaimer:** Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the [COVID-19 Website](#) and circulated by email.

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### **Academic Consideration**

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g. final exam or major assignment).

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. This is not necessary for missed quizzes; several are automatically dropped to accommodate these types of disruptions.

See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for [Academic Consideration](#).

### **Academic Misconduct**

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar: [Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

## **Accessibility**

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 54335 or email [accessibility@uoguelph.ca](mailto:accessibility@uoguelph.ca) or the [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

## **Course Evaluation Information**

Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](#) .

## **Drop date**

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is Dec. 03, 2021. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#).

Instructors must provide [meaningful and constructive feedback, at minimum 20% of the final course grade, prior to the 40th class day](#). By November 5, 67% of quizzes will have been completed and graded (representing 33% of the overall course grade), and the optional midterm will have been completed and graded (representing 25% of overall course grade if better than quiz score). Assignment 1 will have been completed and graded (representing 10% of the overall course grade).

[Current Undergraduate Calendar](#)

## **Additional Course Information**

By enrolling and participating in this course, whether face-to-face or online, students agree to behave honourably and with academic integrity.

Inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated. Examples of inappropriate behaviour include:

- Inflammatory, threatening, discriminatory, or harassing messages in any virtual or in-person class spaces;
- Using obscene or offensive language;

- Copying or presenting someone else's work as your own, including by not adequately contributing to your group assignments, and including by using someone's quiz answers without having adequately contributed to the work that generated those answers;
- Adapting information without using proper citations or references;
- Buying or selling assignments;
- Using the course website to promote profit-driven products or services;
- Attempting to compromise the security or functionality of the learning management system

Course instructors are allowed to use software to help in detecting plagiarism or unauthorized copying of student assignments. Plagiarism is one of the most common types of academic misconduct on our campus. Plagiarism involves students using the work, ideas and/or the exact wording of other people or sources without giving proper credit to others for the work, ideas and/or words in their papers. Students can unintentionally commit misconduct because they do not know how to reference outside sources properly or because they don't check their work carefully enough before handing it in. Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

In this course, your instructor may use Turnitin.com to detect possible plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to prevent plagiarism in the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences.

A major benefit of using Turnitin is that students will be able to educate and empower themselves in preventing misconduct. In this course, you may screen your own assignments through Turnitin as many times as you wish before the due date. You will be able to see and print reports that show you exactly where you have properly and improperly referenced the outside sources and materials in your assignment.