

Psychology 837
Social Psychology & Cultural Diversity
Course Syllabus

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Course Objectives

Welcome to Social Psychology & Cultural Diversity! The purpose of this course is to introduce you to this specialization of psychology that investigates how people are influenced by their social environment and culture. By the end of the course, my goal is that all students will be able to:

1. Apply theories and findings in social psychology to their specialty area
 2. Critique and discuss research in social psychology
 3. Understand the roots of culture and be able to anticipate cross-cultural differences within their specialty area
 4. Synthesize knowledge of social and cultural psychology into a literature review
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Readings

There is no textbook for this course. Readings will consist of research articles and literature reviews that will be kept in a binder. All articles will be provided for you as PDF files. You will also be encouraged to do further reading in your area of specialization for the purpose of the literature review you will write.

Grading

The total number of possible points in this course is 200. Your grades will be based on 8 article reviews (5 points each; 40 points total), two discussions (30 points each; 60 points total), and a literature review (100 points). Keep track of how much you earn as we progress through the course. Your grade will be based on the percentage scale below (there will be no curves).

100-90 = A

89-80 = B

79-70 = C

69-60 = D

59-0 = F

Article Reviews

You will be asked to complete reviews for 8 of the articles (for a total of 40 points). For each review, you will be asked to pick one article or chapter from each topic section (see Course Schedule for topics), summarize the main points and/or findings, and answer some questions about how it relates to your area of psychology. The more information you gather for these reviews, the easier it will be to write your paper. You will not have to write article reviews on the topics you are scheduled to discuss (see below for discussion details).

Paper

Throughout this course we will focus on writing a literature review paper. The paper will follow APA guidelines, and will be based on a technique or procedure from your specialty area. You will be asked to structure your paper according to the following outline:

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|------|---|---|------------------------------|
| I. | Introduction: statement of purpose | } | Draft due
Monday, July 13 |
| II. | Technique / procedure in your area of interest
a. Previous research findings
b. What we still don't understand | | |
| III. | Social psychology applications
a. Understanding the procedure using social psychology
b. Improving the procedure using social psychology | } | Draft due
Monday, July 20 |
| IV. | Cross-cultural challenges
a. What cross-cultural differences would you expect to find?
b. Resolving problems related to these differences | | |
| V. | Conclusions: why is it important to consider these points? | } | Draft due
Monday, July 27 |

Although there is no limit as to how long a literature review can be, you should be prepared to write a 15-20 page paper (including references and title page). You should also be prepared to write drafts of each section of the paper and revise it several times (see Course Schedule for due dates on section drafts and the final paper; although the drafts will not be graded, including them with your final paper is worth 15 points total). If you turn in the original draft of your paper, you run the risk of getting a poor grade. *The final paper will be worth 100 points, and is due on August 6.*

Discussions

You and a partner will be asked to spend 45 minutes discussing, summarizing and engaging the class in an activity that is relevant to two topics you have signed up for. Although this time should mostly involve small group and class discussion, you are also required to engage the class in a 5-10 minute activity and briefly summarize the main elements of each reading. As long as you touch on all three readings, and allow some time for discussion, you have lots of options. The discussions are worth 30 points each.

Academic Accommodations

If you are registered with the Office of Services for Individuals with Disabilities, please obtain your accommodation letters from the OSID and present them to the course instructor to discuss any academic accommodations you need. If you believe you need accommodation and are not registered with the OSID, please contact the Office in Student Services Building Room 361 by e-mail at disserv@eku.edu or by telephone at (859) 622-2933 V/TDD. Upon individual request, this syllabus can be made available in an alternative format.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings
June 29	Introduction	NONE
June 30	Culture	Triandis (2005) Nisbett (2004) Cohen (2009)
July 1	Personality & Environment	McCrae & Costa (1991) Helson, Jones, & Kwan (2002) Cross & Markus (1999)
July 2	Self-Concept & Self-Change	Markus (1977) Tice (1992) Markus & Kitayama (1991)
July 6	Social Identities	Crocker & Major (1989) Cross & Madson (1997) Costa, Terraciano, & McCrae (2001)
July 7	Social Cognition	Jussim (1986) Bargh & Chartrand (1999) Hong, Morris, Chiu, & Benet-Martinez (2000)
July 8	Social Influence & Group Behaviors	Cialdini & Goldstein (2004) Postmes, Spears, & Cihangir (2001) Bond & Smith (1996)
July 9	PAPER MEETINGS	NONE
July 13	Attitudes & Persuasion	Edwards (1990) Cacioppo, Petty, Kao, & Rodriguez (1986) Brumbaugh (2002)
July 14	Autonomy Motives	Deci & Ryan (2000) Gore & Cross (2006) Iyengar & Lepper (1999)
July 15	Stability Motives	Festinger & Carlsmith (1959) Steele, Spencer, & Lynch (1993) Kitayama, Snibbe, & Markus (2004)
July 16	FILM & PAPER MEETINGS	NONE
July 20	Impression Management	Bem & McConnell (1970) Schlenker & Weigold (1992) Hornsey & Jetten (2005)
July 21	Close Relationships	Murray, Holmes, & Griffin (1996) Gore, Cross, & Morris (2006) Adams, Anderson, & Adonu (2004)
July 22	Antisocial Behaviors	Anderson & Bushman (2002) Stucke & Sporer (2002) Bond (2004)
July 23	Prosocial Behaviors	Cialdini, et al (1987) Garcia, Weaver, Moskowitz, & Darley (2002) Miller, Bersoff, & Harwood (1990)
July 27	Attribution & Emotions	Weiner (1995) DeGree & Snyder (1985) Choi, Nisbett, & Norenzayan (1999)
July 28	Psychological Well-Being	Rosenblatt et al. (1989) Taylor & Brown (1988) Heine, Lehman, Markus, & Kitayama (1999)
July 29	Health & Stress	Weinstein, Rothman, & Sutton (1998) Rothman & Salovey (1997) Landrine & Klonoff (2004)
July 30	FILM & PAPER MEETINGS	NONE

BOLD DATE = Section of paper is due. The week of **August 3-August 6** is to be used to revise and turn in your paper. Please submit all previous drafts and checklists with your final draft. The deadline for final draft is **August 6**.