Social Psychology
SOP 4004 – Fall 2014
University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
This course is 100% on-line

Instructor: Amy Fleece, Ph.D.
Class Time: 100% online
Office Hours: Available by appointment in person at USF Sarasota-Manatee Campus, email or phone.
Course Website: https://my.usf.edu
Phone: (941) 920-0888
Email: afleece@sar.usf.edu (please include Social Psychology in the subject line)

Course Description and Purpose:
Description - A fundamental assumption of social psychology is that human behavior is a product of the social environment. As such, social psychology considers the ways in which the social environment affects, and is affected by, an individual's cognitions, emotions, and behavior. This course offers an overview of social psychological principles, concepts, theories, and methodologies. A range of topics is addressed, including social perception, conformity, group processes, prosocial behavior, aggression, prejudice, and applications of social psychology in the domains of health and law.

BA in Psychology Mission
The curriculum for a Psychology degree from USF Sarasota-Manatee prepares graduates for the many occupations (e.g., human services, community or public relations, administration, and advertising and market research) and post-graduate degree programs open to Psychology majors. By the time our majors are ready to graduate, they are equipped with two vital skill sets. First, our majors are familiar with numerous factors influencing behavior and mental processes, and the interactions among them. These factors range from the molecular (communication in the brain) to the cultural (human diversity). Second, our majors have developed the critical thinking skills necessary for the consumption and production of psychological research. These skills include writing and familiarity with the ethics of conducting psychological research. Students will have the opportunity to take a capstone course that allows them to demonstrate these competencies.

Course Intended Outcomes - Upon completion of this course students should be able to:
(1) Explain the social psychological approach to human behavior and contrast this to other scientific perspectives on human behavior.
(2) Explain and apply the main constructs, principles, theories, and methodologies of social psychology.
(3) Demonstrate knowledge of the principal content domains within social psychology, including key issues, research questions, and empirical findings.

**Instructional modality & communication.** In this 100% web-based course, all instruction, assignments and evaluation will be conducted online. Canvas (https://my.usf.edu) will be used to post course-related content, and for submission of student assignments. Course-related communication will be conducted via Canvas and students’ USF email accounts. Students are required to have regular access to the internet, enabling them to check Canvas and their USF email accounts at least 2 days per week throughout the semester.

This course fulfills a requirement for a Psychology degree.

**Prerequisite:** Psychological Science with a grade of “C” or better.

**Course Assignments:**
- Each week there will be several assignments.
  - Assigned Chapter for Reading
  - Topic to write about on Discussion Board (graded)
  - Chapter test (graded)
  - In addition there may be a PowerPoint lecture to view, a video to watch or other instructional material posted.
  - These must be completed in the week they are assigned. They will not be available at the end of the assigned week.
- Comprehensive Final Exam during Exam week
- Final Exam and Chapter Tests- The exam and chapter tests will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. They will be conducted online. They are open book and open notes but must be completed individually without assistance from others.
- You have one week to take each chapter test and three days to take the final exam. In the unlikely event that a student is unable to take a test anytime in the entire week, make up exams can only be scheduled after appropriate documentation has been provided to the professor (medical or other serious reason).
- **Discussion Board Assignments** – A discussion board (DB) assignment will be posted at the beginning of 14 of the instructional weeks. These assignments are included in the course to deepen understanding by encouraging students to discuss, think about, and apply course concepts to real life situations. Each DB assignment is worth 25 points and will be due on Canvas. **Your first post to the discussion is typically due at 10pm on Wednesday the same week. Your response to other students (typically 5) is due by Sunday at 10pm the same week.** Only the best 11 of 14 DB assignment grades will count towards the student’s final course grade. Please write original posts about content related to the topic of the week.
- **Chapter Tests** – An online chapter test will be posted at the beginning of 15 of the instructional weeks. These chapter tests are included in the
course to provide an incentive for keeping up with weekly reading assignments. Each chapter test (worth 25 points) is to be completed and submitted on Canvas by 10 pm on Sunday of the instructional week in question. There will be no specific time limit for these chapter tests. The student will be able to save and return to the chapter test throughout the week, as long as the chapter test is submitted by the deadline (Sunday at 10pm). Once submitted the student will not be able to return to the chapter test. The chapter tests will be open-book. Students may consult their textbook, notes and other course materials. After all the tests are due for the week you will have 1 day to view the correct answers to the chapter test. They are open book and open notes but must be completed individually without assistance from others. Only the best 12 of 15 chapter tests will count towards the student’s final course grade.

❖ Final Exam – There will be a comprehensive final exam worth 200 points administered via Canvas. This exam will be subject to a 90 minute time limit. The student may take the exam during any self selected continuous 90 minute period with no breaks. This exam will be available during final exam week between Tuesday, December 9 (12:01 am) and Thursday, December 11 (11:59pm). Students must complete the exam individually. The exam will be “open-book”. Students may consult their textbook, notes, and other course material while completing the exam. The exam will be cumulative covering topics addressed throughout the course.

Course Grading System:

Your grade will be calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Best 12 of 15 Chapter Tests-12 x 25 points (Syllabus test does count)</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>(39%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best 11 of 14 Discussion Board Assignments-11 x 25 pts</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>(35%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>(26%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>775</strong></td>
<td><strong>(100%)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading for the tests and the Final Exam: Good answers on this test will do more than cite the relevant point from the text or the lectures, good answers will apply the principles we have been studying and provide original concrete examples that don’t come directly from text or class notes. You may not be able to point to an exact example from the text for the correct answer. You need to be able to utilize and apply the information from the chapter and/or lectures to answer test questions correctly.

Grading for the discussion board assignments:

1. Post by the due date and time. Please see the schedule for discussion board due dates in the syllabus. Most weeks (except the first introduction week) have a due date and time of 10pm Wed for the response to my questions and 10pm Sunday for the response to typically 5 other students.
2. Take time to think about the questions posted and respond to them in your own words. Please do not just quote the text or you will lose points. Also, make sure you answer all the questions posted.
3. Make sure you respond to the correct number of people. If you only respond to 4 and the assignment is 5, points will be deducted. The first week is the biggest requirement for responses (typically 11). The remainder of the semester you respond to the number that is posted in the discussion assignment for the week (typically 5).

4. Please write original posts about content related to the topic of the week. This is graded. Please write your discussion comments as if they were formal psychological papers. It is recommend you write your post first in a word processing software that you can spell check before pasting into canvas and submitting. Please use full sentences and proper grammar in your discussion posts.

Final Grades will be based on the scale below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97 – 100%</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93 – 96%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 – 92%</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87 – 89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 – 86%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 – 82%</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77 – 79%</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73 – 76%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 – 72%</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67 – 69%</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63 – 66%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 – 62%</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 – 59%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Text:
You can get the textbook in the bookstores. You must have this book from the very first day of class. We hit the ground running!

First Day Attendance: First day attendance is required at USF. For the purpose of this online course first day attendance will consist of you completing the first discussion board post due Saturday, Aug 30 by 8am. This indicates your intent to participate in this course. You may be dropped if you do not complete this assignment. If you are added to the class after this date, please email the professor that you were added late and intend to take the course.

Late assignments: Chapter tests, discussion board contributions and final exams submitted after the deadline will not be awarded any points. Technical difficulties must be addressed with the IT helpdesk and are not an excuse for
late submission. It is in your best interest to complete the assignments before the last day so you have time to deal with technical difficulties if they arise.

Canvas use: Canvas will be used for course related materials, announcements, discussion boards, Chapter Tests and the Final Exam. If this is your first time on the site or you are a new USF student, click on: http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/Academics/DE/current_students.php for tutorials.

Questions: Please post your general class questions on the Q&A section of the class discussion board. I will answer them there. If you have general class questions, please check the Q&A section first before emailing or posting a new question. After checking the Q&A section, please feel free to email me or post a new question. If I receive a number of questions on the same topic, I will add the topic to the Q&A section.

Internet access, software & hardware: You need to access Canvas at least 2 times per week to complete the assignments. Regular access to the internet and a computer with word-processing capabilities are required for participation in this course. Students must check the course Canvas site and their USF email account at least several times each week throughout the term. As some instructional materials may include an audio component, students should have access to a computer or internet station with speakers or headphones.

Technical issues: It is recommended by the helpdesk to use Firefox or Safari as your internet browser. Course participants may find that security settings and other characteristics of the computer they use may obstruct access to USF Library contents (e.g., catalog, databases), as well as lecture presentations, files, and internet links posted on the course Canvas site library catalog, databases) via internet. It is important that students trouble-shoot and solve these problems at the beginning of the course. Sources of technical support offered by USF are listed below.

Technical support: For technical support students should consult the following USF resources:
Canvas Support is available through USFSM E-Learning staff from 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday.
Please call or email Carlos Montoya | cmmontoya@sar.usf.edu | 941-359-4295
The USF Tampa IT Helpdesk provides 24 hour support for CANVAS. Please call 813-974-1222 or email: help@usf.edu if you need assistance outside of USFSM’s E-Learning hours.
Additionally, CANVAS tutorials can be found in the Student Quickstart Guide at http://guides.instructure.com/m/8470.
It is expected that all students will have access to this site and therefore will be responsible for assignments/materials posted on Canvas. Please check the site a minimum of 2 times per week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Textbook Chapter and Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Overview/Introduction (Chapter 1)</td>
<td>Reading: Syllabus and Chapter 1 Syllabus Test (yes, this counts! – due Sun. 8/31 at 10pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 25 – Aug. 31</td>
<td>Syllabus Test</td>
<td>Discussion Board Assignment – Introduction (for first day attendance, complete first DB post by Wed 10pm 8/27, respond to others by Fri, post your answer by Sun.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>Chapter 2 Discussion Board Assignment (part 1 due Wed. Part 2 due Sun. Sept. at 10pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 1 - 7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter Test (covers Chapters 1 &amp; 2) Sun. at 10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Social Cognition</td>
<td>Chapter 3 Chapter Test (Chap. 3 by Sun) &amp; Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed.-part 1 and Sun. – part 2 at 10pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 8 -14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Social Perception</td>
<td>Chapter 4 Chapter Test (Chap. 4 by Sun.) &amp; Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed – part 1 and Sun. part 2 at 10pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 15 - 21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>The Self</td>
<td>Chapter 5 Chapter Test (Chap. 5 by Sun) &amp; Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed.-part 1 and Sun. part 2 at 10pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 21 - 28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>The Need to Justify our Actions</td>
<td>Chapter 6 Chapter Test (Chap 6 by)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 29 to Oct 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week 7   | Oct 6 - 12 | Attitudes and Attitude Change | Chapter 7  
Chapter Test (Chap 7 by Sun.) & Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed – part 1 and Sun. – part 2 at 10pm) |
|----------|------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Week 8   | Oct. 13 - 19 | Conformity                   | Chapter 8  
Chapter Test (Chap 8 by Sun.) & Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed – part 1 and Sun. – part 2 at 10pm) |
| Week 9   | Oct. 20 - 26 | Group Processes               | Chapter 9  
Chapter Test (Chap 9 by Sun.) & Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed – part 1 and Sun. – part 2 at 10pm) |
| Week 10  | Oct. 27 – Nov. 2 | Interpersonal Attraction   | Chapter 10  
Chapter Test (Chap 10 by Sun.) & Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed – part 1 and Sun. – part 2 at 10pm) |
| **November 1** |            | *Last day to drop with a “W”; no academic penalty, no refund* |  |
| Week 11  | Nov. 3 - 9   | Prosocial Behavior: Why Do people Help? | Chapter 11  
Chapter Test (Chap 11 by Sun.) & Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed – part 1 and Sun. – part 2 at 10pm) |
| Week 12  | Nov. 10 - 16 | Aggression: Why Do We Hurt Other People? | Chapter 12  
Chapter Test (Chap 11 by Sun.) & Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed part 1 and Sun. part 2 at 10pm) |
| Week 13  | Nov. 17 - 23 | Prejudice: Causes and Cures   | Chapter 13  
Chapter Test (Chap 13 by Sun.) & Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed – part 1 and Sun. – part 2 at 10pm) |
Week 14  
Nov. 24 – Nov. 30  
Nov 27-28  
Thanksgiving Holiday – no classes, USF closed  
Making a Difference with Social Psychology  
Read SPiA 1  
Chapter Test (SPiA 1 by Sun.)  
No Discussion Board Assignment because of Thanksgiving Break

Week 15  
Dec. 1 - 7  
Social Psychology & Health  
Read SPiA 2  
Chapter Test (SPiA 2 by Sun.) & Discussion Board Assignment (due Wed. part 1 and Sun. part 2 at 10pm)

Finals Week  
Dec. 9 - 11  
Comprehensive Final Exam (take between Tues. Dec. 9 and Thurs. Dec. 11)  
Take between Tues. Dec. 9 and Thurs. Dec. 11

Extra Credit: May be available if online psychology experiments are conducted on the USF Sarasota/Manatee campus. I will let you know (via canvas) if these become available and what they are worth in points.

Academic Honesty: The University considers any form of plagiarism or cheating on exams, projects, or papers to be unacceptable behavior. Please be sure to review the university’s policy in the catalog, USFSM Undergraduate Catalog or USFSM Graduate Catalog and the USF Student Code of Conduct. Cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated. The policy in the Department of Psychology is that, in general, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the chair, who will, following the appropriate procedures, recommend disciplinary action.

The University of South Florida has an account with an automated plagiarism detection service which allows student assignments be checked for plagiarism. I reserve the right to ask students to submit their assignments to Turnitin through Canvas. Assignments are compared automatically with a database of journal articles, web articles, and previously submitted papers. The instructor receives a report showing exactly how a student’s paper was plagiarized.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), prior to submitting work to Turnitin, students are requested to delete any personal information (e.g., name, address, telephone) from the work being submitted. This protects students from having personal information disclosed to vendors or other outside agencies.
USF Sarasota-Manatee Policies and Procedures

Academic Dishonesty
The University considers any form of plagiarism or cheating on exams, projects, or papers to be unacceptable behavior. Please be sure to review the university’s policy in the USFSM Catalog and the USF Student Code of Conduct. Current and archived catalogs may be found at: http://usfsm.edu/academics/ and the USF Student Code of Conduct can be found at http://www.sa.usf.edu/srr/page.asp?id=88

Academic Disruption
The University does not tolerate behavior that disrupts the learning process. The policy for addressing academic disruption is included with Academic Dishonesty in the USFSM Catalog and the USF Student Code of Conduct. Current and archived catalogs may be found at: http://usfsm.edu/academics/ and the USF Student Code of Conduct can be found at http://www.sa.usf.edu/srr/page.asp?id=88

Contingency Plans
In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for USFSM to suspend normal operations. During this time, USFSM may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Canvas, Elluminate, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It’s the responsibility of the student to monitor Canvas site for each class for course specific communication, and the main USFSM and College websites, emails, and MoBull messages for important general information. The USF hotline at 1 (800) 992-4231 is updated with pre-recorded information during an emergency. See the Campus Police Website for further information. The USF hotline at 1 (800) 992-4231 is updated with pre-recorded information during an emergency.

Disabilities Accommodation
Students are responsible for registering with the Office of Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) in order to receive academic accommodations. Reasonable notice must be given to the SDS office (typically 5 working days) for accommodations to be arranged. It is
the responsibility of the student to provide each instructor with a copy of the official Memo of Accommodation. Contact Information: Disability Coordinator: 359-4714; email: disabilityservices@sar.usf.edu and website: http://usfsm.edu/disability-services/

**Fire Alarm Instructions**
At the beginning of each semester please note the emergency exit maps posted in each classroom. These signs are marked with the primary evacuation route (red) and secondary evacuation route (orange) in case the building needs to be evacuated. See information available on the USFSM student and faculty webpages at www.usfsm.edu

**Religious Observances**
The University recognizes the right of students and faculty to observe major religious holidays. Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent from class for a major religious observance must provide notice of the date(s) to the instructor, in writing, by the second week of classes.

**Emergency Preparedness**
It is strongly recommended that you become familiar with the USF Sarasota-Manatee Emergency Action Plan on the Safety Preparedness See information available on the USFSM student and faculty webpages at www.usfsm.edu

**Web Portal Information**
Every newly enrolled USF student receives an official USF e-mail account. Students receive official USF correspondence and Canvas course information via that address. Therefore it is the student’s responsibility to check their USF email regularly.

**Instructor Copyright**
Students may not sell notes or other course materials.