

Master Syllabus
SOP 3004 Social Psychology
Department of Psychology
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL

Course Prerequisites and/or Corequisites (if any)

PSY 1012 General Psychology

Course Lecture-Lab-Credit and/or Contact Hours

Lecture Course, 3 credit hours

Includes Lab? ___ Yes X No

Lab Fee? ___ Yes X No

Special Facility or Equipment Needs

No specified facility or special equipment required; textbooks and other student materials to be specified by instructor.

Recommendations for Teaching Assistants

There is typically one TA for each section of the course.

Course Objectives

To be provided by working group.

Course Outline of Topics (Sequence & specifics may vary by instructor)

- I. Introduction
 - A. What is social psychology?
 - B. Historical perspective
 - C. Research methods in social psychology
 - D. Relation to other areas of psychology
 - E. Relation to other areas of science

- II. The social self
 - A. Self-concept
 - B. Self-esteem
 - C. Self-serving biases
 - D. Self-presentation
 - E. Self-regulation

- III. Attitudes, beliefs, and values
 - A. Nature of attitudes (functions, dimensions)
 - B. Attitude consistency
 - C. Link between attitudes and behavior
 - D. Attitude change (persuasion)
 - E. Central vs. peripheral routes
 - F. Cognitive dissonance theory

- IV. Social judgment
 - A. Attribution
 - B. Impression formation
 - C. Evaluation
 - D. Dimensions of social judgment
 - E. Biases in social judgment
 - F. Automatic and controlled processing
- V. Stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination
 - A. Stereotypes
 - B. Prejudice
 - C. Self-fulfilling prophecy
 - D. Sexism
 - E. Racism
 - F. Implicit attitudes
- VI. Social influence
 - A. Conformity
 - B. Normative versus informational influence
 - C. Compliance
 - D. Influence tactics
 - E. Obedience to authority
- VII. Group processes
 - A. Social facilitation
 - B. Social loafing
 - C. Group structure (roles, leadership)
 - D. Deindividuation
 - E. Group polarization
 - F. Groupthink
- VIII. Attraction and close relationships
 - A. Familiarity
 - B. Physical attractiveness
 - C. Social exchange
 - D. Mate selection
 - E. Gender differences
 - F. Relationship dissolution
- IX. Aggression and conflict
 - A. Evolutionary bases
 - B. Frustration and aggression
 - C. Situational influences
 - D. Cultural and gender differences
 - E. Media effects
 - F. Intimate partner violence
- X. Cooperation and altruism
 - A. Evolutionary perspective
 - B. Altruism versus egoism

- C. Mixed-motive situations (e.g., Prisoner's dilemma)
- D. Bystander intervention
- E. Gender differences

Course Learning Objectives

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the following concepts through their performance on course examinations:

1. Major theoretical frameworks in social psychology
 - a. Social learning
 - b. Cognitive
 - c. Evolutionary
 - d. Cultural
 - e. Complex systems
2. An understanding of core findings and theories in specific core areas:
 - a. Self-concept
 - b. Attitudes, beliefs, and values
 - c. Social judgment and person perception
 - d. Self-regulation
 - e. Self-presentation
 - f. Social influence
 - g. Stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination
 - h. Social interaction and affiliation
 - i. Attraction and close relationships
 - j. Aggression and conflict
 - k. Cooperation and altruism
 - l. Group dynamics
 - m. Ingroup-outgroup relations
3. Knowledge of scientific methodology and its use in the testing of social psychological theories
 - a. Correlation
 - b. Field study
 - c. Experiment
 - d. Quasi-experiment
 - e. Emerging approaches (neuroscience, computer simulation)
 - f. Ethical issues in research