

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
SO 213
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
FALL 2018
Department of Social Sciences
Instructor: Dr. John Bradford

Instructor: Dr. John Bradford
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Required Text: *NONE!* (Use PowerPoint slides)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Welcome to Social Psychology! This course seeks to answer some of the most fundamental questions of social science, questions such as: ‘Why do people do what they do? What are the unintended and intended consequences of these actions? Why do people act differently in the presence of other people than they would have individually? What is the nature and mechanism of social influence?’ Social Psychologists have attempted to answer these fascinating questions with equally fascinating studies and experiments. In this course, you will be introduced to some of what social scientists have learned about how we behave and why. A lot of this will certainly challenge our own understanding of our selves and shed new light on sociological issues ranging from the micro world of personal relationships to the macro world of the global economy and international politics.

GRADING SUMMARY (300 points)

1. Quizzes **100 pts** (5x20pts each)
2. MIDTERM **100 pts** (or zero)
3. FINAL EXAM **100 pts or 200 pts**

Rule: if your Final Exam score is higher than your midterm, I drop your midterm and count your final exam as 200 pts; if your midterm score is higher than your final exam score, each is worth 100 pts.

At the end of the course, all course points are added up and translated into the final letter grade that will appear on your transcript using the following key:
A= 90- 100%. B= 89- 80%. C=79-70%. D = 69-60%. F= 59-0%

GRADING DETAILS

Quizzes/Assignments

Throughout the semester I will give short quizzes and/or Assignments, usually consisting of multiple choice and/or fill in the blank questions. **Sometimes, these will be short writing assignments or problem solving exercises to be turned in at a later date.** Each quiz/assignments will be worth approximately 20 pts. You will take a total of 5 quizzes, for a total of 100 pts.

You may take each Quiz TWO TIMES. I will take the highest score. Quizzes are due on selected Sundays BY MIDNIGHT.

Exams

Your total exam grade will be determined in one of two ways: 1) by equally weighting your midterm and final or by counting only the final exam. In the second case, the comprehensive final exam will count for 200 points, or 100% of your total grade, and the midterm will be disregarded. Final scores will be determined by the method of calculation that yields the highest score. **The final exam is comprehensive and will cover material going back to the beginning of the semester.** Students who therefore perform poorly on early examinations can compensate for their poor performance by performing well on the final. Students who score low on the final exam, by contrast, will (partially) offset their poor performance late in the semester by weighting all of their exam scores equally.

Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD)

Mississippi Valley State University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with a documented disability. If you feel you are eligible to receive accommodations for a covered disability (medical, physical, psychiatric, learning, vision, hearing, etc.) and would like to request it for this course, you must be registered with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) program administered by University College. It is recommended that you visit the Disabilities Office located inside the Social Sciences Building in Room 105 to register for the program at the beginning of each semester.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Mr. Billy Benson, Jr. via phone or email at 662-254-3005 or billy.benson@mvsu.edu.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (I reserve the right to alter this schedule at any time)

Monday - Sunday			ESTIMATED TIME
WEEK 1 Aug. 20 - 26	<u>LECTURE 1:</u> INTRODUCTION		150 mins
WEEK 2 Aug 27 – Sept 2	<u>LECTURE 2:</u> HUMAN NATURE	QUIZ 1 (due Sunday Sept 2)	150 mins
WEEK 3 Sept 4 – 9	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – MONDAY SEPT 4TH <u>LECTURE 3:</u> 4 FAMOUS EXPERIMENTS (Milgram)		150 mins
WEEK 4 Sept 10 - 16	<u>LECTURE 3:</u> 4 FAMOUS EXPERIMENTS (Zimbardo)		150 mins
WEEK 5 Sept 17 - 23	<u>LECTURE 4:</u> ATTRIBUTION THEORY	QUIZ 2 (due Sunday Sept 23)	150 mins
WEEK 6 Sept 24 – 30	REVIEW		150 mins
WEEK 7 Oct 1 - 5	MIDTERM EXAM *** DUE FRIDAY Oct 5 th ***	MIDTERM (100 PTS)	150 mins
WEEK 8 Oct 8 – 14	<u>LECTURE 5:</u> HAPPINESS & EMOTIONS		150 mins
WEEK 9 Oct 15 - 21	<u>LECTURE 6:</u> UNCONSCIOUS INFLUENCE	QUIZ 3 (due Sunday Oct 21)	150 mins
WEEK 10 Oct 22 - 28	<u>LECTURE 7:</u> PRIMING & INFLUENCE		150 mins
WEEK 11 Oct 29 – Nov 4	<u>LECTURE 8:</u> COGNITIVE DISSONANCE	QUIZ 4 (due Sunday Nov 4)	150 mins
WEEK 12 Nov 5 - 11	<u>LECTURE 9:</u> PREJUDICE – pt 1		150 mins
WEEK 13 Nov 12 - 18	<u>LECTURE 9:</u> PREJUDICE – pt 2	QUIZ 5 (due Sunday Nov 18)	150 mins
Nov 19-25	FALL BREAK ***NOV 20TH – NOV 24TH		
Week 14 Nov 26 – Dec 2	REVIEW		150 mins
Nov 3-7	***FINAL EXAMS <i>(Final Exam due Friday Dec 7th at midnight)</i>	FINAL EXAM (100 or 200 PTS)	150 mins
			TOTAL 2,400 mins

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic integrity includes a commitment to the values of honesty, trustworthiness, fairness, respect and responsibility. Academic integrity is violated by any dishonest act that is committed in an academic context. Honesty and integrity are essential values of the Mississippi Valley State University's mission to pursue truth and knowledge. Therefore, Mississippi Valley State University will not tolerate academic dishonest in any form and will impose sanctions if clearly demonstrated. Academic dishonesty erodes the quality and value of degree conferred.

Although the faculty is responsible for establishing standards for moral and academic excellence in teaching and learning, these standards can be reached only with the cooperation and support of students. Students are expected, therefore, to accept responsibility for maintaining honesty and integrity in all acts inside and outside the classroom, studio or laboratory.

For a detailed description of sanctions and appeal procedures consult Student Handbook and/or Undergraduate Catalog.