Course Information

Course Description
Social psychology is the scientific study of how people’s thoughts, feelings, and behavior are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of other people. Some key questions that social psychologists are interested in are: How do our cognitions or other people influence our behaviors? How are perceptions of events influenced by the situation? How do we define the self in relation to others? How do ideologies and attitudes influence our behavior? or How do stress and social support affect our health?

A primary goal of this course is to introduce you to theoretical perspectives, research methods, empirical findings, and practical applications in social psychology. This course will provide an overview of social psychological theory and research in a variety of areas, including social perception (e.g., perceiving oneself and others, stereotyping and discrimination), social influence (e.g., conformity, group processes), and social relations (e.g., helping others, aggression), and we will apply social psychological principles to issues of health and well-being.

Course Credits
This course is worth 3 credit hours (3-0).

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses
PSY 2301 or SOC 2301.

Prerequisite Skills
Using the Blackboard Learning Management System, accessing Internet websites, using ASU Library resources, and proficiency with creating and submitting files (e.g., .docx files, .pdf files) generated from commonly used programs, such as Microsoft Word.
Student Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Define and describe major concepts, theories, and important historical research in social psychology</td>
<td>Chapter Summaries, Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrate familiarity with and knowledge of social psychological research methods and topics</td>
<td>Exams, Enrichment Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apply social psychological principles and concepts to everyday personal experiences and current events</td>
<td>Enrichment Assignments, Reflection Paper</td>
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Course Delivery
This is an online course that will be delivered via the Blackboard Learning Management System. The course site can be accessed at [ASU's Blackboard Learning Management System](https://www.asu.edu).

Required Texts and Materials


Lecture slides will reflect content associated with each broad topic covered in the readings, but slides will not cover all reading content and may cover added content. Readings are part of your self-directed learning in this course.

Technology Requirements
To participate in one of ASU’s distance education programs, you need this technology:
- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OS X 10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these web browsers: internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam

Topic Outline
Week 1: Syllabus and Course Introduction, Assignment 1
Week 2: Research Methods and The Self in Social Psychology
Week 3: Perceiving The Self and Others, Assignment 2
Week 4: Stereotyping and Discrimination, Exam 1
Week 5: Group Processes
Week 6: Helping and Harming Others
Week 7: Social Psychology and Health, Assignment 3
Week 8: Course Wrap-Up, Exam 2, Final Paper
Communication

I will always try to respond to email, telephone, and/or Blackboard messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday to Friday; weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Written communication via Blackboard: Course-related questions should be posted on the “Help/General Questions” board in the Discussion section of Blackboard. This should be your first line of communication with me and with the course, except for personal/private issues.

Written communication via email: All private communication should be done exclusively through your ASU email address; check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In all email communications, please include “PSY 2319” at the beginning of the subject line so that I may quickly identify class emails and respond as soon as possible.

Virtual communication: Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Zoom, Blackboard Collaborate, Skype, etc. Virtual office hours will be conducted via Zoom; see the “Office Hours” tab on our Blackboard course to attend Virtual Office Hours.

Online Etiquette: Online classes require more effortful communication. It is important to remember that we will not have the non-verbal cues that occur in a face-to-face classroom. Please reach out and communicate with me so that I can help you be successful in this course. To make this experience go smoothly, remember that you are responsible for initiating contact and being direct, persistent, and vocal when you do not understand something.

When communicating in this course, the following guidelines should be kept in mind:
- Offensive language or rudeness are not tolerated. Discuss ideas, not people.
- When responding to others, refer to the original message’s contents to avoid confusion.
- Be specific and clear, especially when asking questions.
- Use standard punctuation and capitalization.
- Make allowances for possible misunderstandings.
- Communicate with me frequently! I am very excited to get to know you.

Grading

Evaluation and Grades
Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Points of Total Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Summaries (10 x 10 points)</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrichment Assignments (3 x 50 points)</td>
<td>150 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2 x 100 points)</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Paper (1 x 50 points)</td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>500 points</td>
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Grading System
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- **A** = 450-500 points
- **B** = 400-449 points
- **C** = 350-399 points
- **D** = 300-349 points
- **F** = 0-299 points (Grades are not rounded up)

Teaching Strategies
Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material with their peers.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions
*Please note: Rubrics for all assignments and activities are located at the end of this syllabus.*

**Chapter Summaries (100 points):** There will be 10 brief summaries/discussions during the course, one for each chapter we cover from your textbook, each worth 10 points. These are meant to get you chatting with your classmates and reflecting on content learned during each week. For each chapter, you will post a brief discussion post. Each post will consist of three parts, roughly one sentence each: (1) summarizing in your own words one concept/theory from the chapter that you found most interesting and why, (2) describing one concept/theory that you found confusing or felt you needed or wanted more information about, and (3) replying to one classmate’s post to help them with the concept/theory they wanted more information about. These should be quick, fun summaries of your readings. They also should provide a chance for you to “chat” with others by sharing your knowledge with your classmates on the topics you feel more comfortable with, while hearing from your classmates on their knowledge of the topics you might want some help with or some more information about. Please see the “Chapter Summary Discussions” tab on Blackboard for more details and to submit your posts.

**Enrichment Assignments (150 points):** There will be three assignments, each worth 50 points, meant to get you thinking about yourself and your perceptions of others. If you complete each assignment thoughtfully and fully and submit it on time, you should receive full credit. The assignments are roughly outlined below. Instructions for each assignment will appear under the “Enrichment Assignments” tab on Blackboard during the week each assignment is scheduled.

**Assignment 1: Self-Regulated Learning Skills Development (50 points).** Download the Self-Regulated Learning Assignment Instructions document from Blackboard. In the
document, there is a link to a website for the Self-Regulated Learning Lab, where you can read about different skills to help you be successful at some of the self-directed learning that occurs in online courses. First, watch the introductory video titled “What is Self-Regulated Learning?” Next, review the links under the left-side headings for Metacognition, Motivation, and Learning Strategies. Finally, follow the instructions to create a submission outlining your strategies and plans for the semester.

**Assignment 2: Self-Perception Assessment (50 points).** Download the Self-Perception Assignment Instructions document from Blackboard. In the document, there are several questionnaires that are used by social psychologists to understand people’s social experiences and self-concepts. Answer the questionnaires and calculate your score for each measure. At the end of each measure, answer the question “What psychological construct do you think this questionnaire is assessing?” and define the construct (using the textbook or other course materials) that you think each questionnaire is measuring.

**Assignment 3: Celebrity Case Study (50 points).** Download the Case Study Assignment Instructions document from Blackboard. Select a narrow topic in social psychology; for example, “stigma” is a topic within the broad area of intergroup relations. With your topic in mind, select a famous person to conduct a case study about. Collect at least three news headlines about this person that fit with the goals of your case study and write a summary about how this person is fitting for a case study on your topic.

**Exams (200 points):** There will be two exams, each worth 100 points. Exams will be comprised of multiple-choice questions drawn from your textbook readings and lecture slides. Each exam will reflect content from the topics covered before it; exams will not be cumulative. Exams can be found under the “Exams” tab on Blackboard.

**Respondus Lockdown Browser.** All exams must be accessed with software called Respondus Lockdown Browser (RLB). This software is already loaded in computer labs on campus, but if you want to take tests from other locations, you will need to download the software onto the computer where you take the test. The Respondus Lockdown Browser software is located on Blackboard. Go to your Blackboard "Support" tab, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click the "Download Lockdown Browser" link, and follow the download instructions.

**Reflection Paper (50 points):** Your final writing assignment will be a reflection on one of the major social psychological theories/concepts covered during the course and will focus on either (1) how you might apply your newly obtained knowledge of that theory/concept to your everyday life or (2) how you may have previously encountered experiences relevant to the theory/concept you select. The paper should be 2-3 pages in length, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12-point font, with one-inch margins. More details about this paper will be posted under the “Reflection Paper” tab on Blackboard following Exam 1.
Assignment Submission

All assignments MUST be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at ashley.araiza@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue. This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy

Late work and missed assignments are not accepted. The course is set up in weekly modules. The week begins on Saturday and ends on Friday. Assignment due dates are shown on the Course Schedule below and posted on Blackboard. When possible, try to work a bit ahead in the course in case you have unforeseen circumstances that prevent you from completing tasks on time. If you have extenuating circumstances, please contact me ASAP. Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the original due date.

General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

Student Responsibility and Attendance

This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time. There are readings which you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities (i.e., discussion boards, course projects, reflective logs, etc.). Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions which reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate. Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week on average.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.
Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website.

The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.
Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Syllabus Changes

I may make changes as necessary to this syllabus, the course content, and/or the course schedule. If changes become necessary during the course, I will notify you by email or course announcements on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to check daily for such communications about the course.

Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form
Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).
For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

**Course Schedule**

*ALL READINGS, CHAPTER SUMMARIES, ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS, AND PAPERS ARE DUE BY 11:59PM ON THE LAST DATE LISTED FOR THE WEEK IN WHICH THEY ARE CONTAINED.* For example, Assignment 2 (Week 3) is due by 11:59pm on Friday 9/10, which is the end date listed for Week 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Dates</th>
<th>Topic/Assignments/Assessments Due</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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</table>
| **Week 1**       | **Topic: Introduction to the Course and Social Psychology**  
Assignment 1: Self-Regulated Learning Skills Development  
Introduction to Social Psychology / Ch. 1 Summary | Syllabus Chapter 1 |
| 8/23 – 8/27      |                                                                                               |          |
| **Week 2**       | **Topic: Research Methods and The Self in Social Psychology**  
Research Methods in Social Psychology / Ch. 2 Summary  
Social Cognition (The Social Self) / Ch. 3 Summary | Chapter 2  
Chapter 3 |
| 8/28 – 9/3       |                                                                                               |          |
| **Week 3**       | **Topic: Perceiving The Self and Others**  
Assignment 2: Self-Perception Assessment  
Person Perception (Perceiving Others) / Ch. 4 Summary | Chapter 4 |
| 9/4 – 9/10       |                                                                                               |          |
| **Week 4**       | **Topic: Stereotyping and Discrimination**  
Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination / Ch. 5 Summary  
Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) | Chapter 5 |
| 9/11 – 9/17      |                                                                                               |          |
| **Week 5**       | **Topic: Group Processes**  
Conformity / Ch. 7 Summary  
Group Processes / Ch. 8 Summary | Chapter 7  
Chapter 8 |
| 9/18 – 9/24      |                                                                                               |          |
| **Week 6**       | **Topic: Helping and Harming Others**  
Altruism / Ch. 10 Summary  
Aggression / Ch. 11 Summary | Chapter 10  
Chapter 11 |
| 9/25 – 10/1      |                                                                                               |          |
| **Week 7**       | **Topic: Social Psychology and Health**  
Applications of Social Psychology to Health / Ch. 14 Summary  
Assignment 3: Celebrity Case Study | Chapter 14 |
| 10/2 – 10/8      |                                                                                               |          |
| **Week 8**       | **Topic: Course Wrap-Up**  
Exam 2 (Chapters 7, 8, 10, 11, 14)  
Reflection Paper |          |
| 10/9 – 10/15     |                                                                                               |          |

**Grading Rubrics**

Grading rubrics will be included in assignment instructions inside of the Blackboard Learning Management System, when applicable.
**Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course**

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences.

Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion. The most essential SLOs related to this course are:

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)
2. Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
3. Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing

**End of Syllabus**

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1. [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/)
2. [https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/](https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/)
4. [https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/)
5. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)
7. [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)
8. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)