

PSY 6303

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

SPRING 2022



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## **Instructor: Dr. Ashley Araiza**

**Email:** [ashley.araiza@angelo.edu](mailto:ashley.araiza@angelo.edu)

**Phone:** 325-486-6718

**Office:** Academic Building 104G / Zoom

**Office Hours:** MW 1:30pm-4:30pm or By Appointment

## **Course Information**

### **Course Description**

The goals of this course will be to introduce you to broad concepts and theories across Social Psychology through research and application. 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 other people influence our behaviors? How are perceptions of events influenced by the situation? How do ideologies and attitudes influence our behavior? or How do stressful social experiences affect our health?

Because this is a graduate-level course, we will examine social psychological principles and their applications through a research-focused lens by focusing both on learning broad concepts and exploring more specific details related to how social psychologists have used research to study those concepts.

### **Course Credits**

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

### **Prerequisite Skills**

Using the Blackboard (Bb) Learning Management System (LMS), 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.

### **Course Delivery**

This is an online course that will be delivered via the Blackboard LMS. The course site can be accessed at [ASU's Blackboard Learning Management System](#).

## Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcome By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:
Demonstrate familiarity with and knowledge of social psychological theories and concepts	Knowledge Checks, Discussion Leader
Analyze/evaluate social psychological research and think critically about social psychological concepts	Discussion-Board Activities, Discussion Leader
Apply social psychological principles and methods to understand and address issues in everyday life	Discussion-Board Activities, Research Proposal
Demonstrate the ability to clearly convey ideas through writing and collaboration	Discussion-Board Activities, Discussion Leader, Research Proposal

## Required Texts and Materials

Required Textbook: *Social Psychology* (11<sup>th</sup> edition). Kassin, S., Fein, S., & Markus, H.R. (2021). ISBN: 9780357122846

Required Articles: This is a graduate course; critically consuming and understanding research is vital to your learning and to your ability to deeply process information related to social psychology (and life, in general). Topic-relevant required readings will be posted on Blackboard.

## 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 OSX 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

Week 2: Introduction to Social Psychology

Week 3: Social Perception

Week 4: Group Processes

Week 5: Social Relations

Week 6: Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination

Week 7: Applications of Social Psychology to Health

Week 8: Research Proposals

## 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 through your ASU email address; check it frequently for announcements or changes. Please include “PSY 6303” in the subject line of all emails so that I can quickly identify students and respond ASAP.

**Virtual communication:** Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Zoom, Blackboard Collaborate, Skype, etc.

**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.

## Teaching Strategies

You are expected to be an active and self-regulated learner. It is a basic assumption that you will be involved **beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course**, for example, through discovering, processing, and applying course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, or discussing course materials with your peers outside of class.

## Grading

### Evaluation and Grades

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

Assessment	Points of Total Grade
Personal Introduction (1 x 5)	5 points
Self-Regulated Learning Assignment (1 x 10)	10 points
Knowledge Checks (9 x 10 points)	90 points
Discussion-Board Activities (5 x 15 points)	75 points
Discussion Leader (1 x 20 points)	20 points
Research Proposal (1 x 50; see below for more details)	50 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>250 points</b>

## 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 = 225-250 points

B = 200-224 points

C = 175-199 points

F = 0-174 points

## Assignment and Activity Descriptions

**\*When applicable, rubrics and further assignment instructions can be found on Blackboard.**

**Personal Introduction (5 points):** You will answer several questions about yourself using our discussion board titled “Personal Introductions.” The goal of this introductory post is for all of us to get to know each other and familiarize ourselves with using the class discussion board.

**Self-Regulated Learning Assignment (10 points):** This assignment is designed to help you learn about different skills for being successful at some of the self-directed learning that occurs in online courses. You’ll watch a short video about self-regulated learning, review different strategies related to learning and motivation, and answer several questions about the content.

**Knowledge Checks (90 points):** There will be 9 quizzes, one for each chapter we cover from your textbook, each worth 10 points. The quizzes are designed to check your knowledge on core concepts in social psychology, learned through the textbook and lectures. Quizzes will only reflect textbook and lecture content and will not reflect content from the additional readings.

**Discussion-Board Activities (75 points):** During Weeks 3-7, we will hold five class discussions (15 points each) for each of the 7 non-introductory textbook chapters we cover in the course (i.e., Chapters 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, and 14). Each week, you will respond to discussion prompts created by a pair of your classmates (i.e., our weekly “Discussion Leaders”). You will post one original response to each of two questions/prompts (5 points x 2 original responses), and you will respond to two classmates (2.5 points x 2 responses to classmates). **In each discussion week, the discussion board will open at 12:00PM Tuesday; your original posts will be due by 12:00PM Thursday; and your classmate responses will be due by 11:59PM Friday.**

**Discussion Leader (20 points):** Once during the semester, you and 1-2 of your peers will lead our class discussion. There will be five weeks of discussion posts during the semester, and you will sign up to lead discussion during one of those weeks. As discussion leaders, you and your peer(s) will develop two discussion prompts/questions (7.5 points x 2 questions = 15 points) based on your week’s readings of both the textbook and the additional required readings. When you are discussion leader, you are not required to respond to the questions write (as the other students will do), but you will still be required to respond to at least two of your classmates’ posts (2.5 points x 2 responses = 5 points). Prompts you develop with your peer(s) will need to be approved by me by the end of the day on Monday of your discussion week to ensure that the discussion board can open as scheduled at noon on Tuesday.

**Applied Research Proposal (50 points):** Your final paper in this course will be a well-developed research proposal. Any topic within Social Psychology is acceptable, but **your topic should address a real-world problem**. I will approve your topic through an early assignment related to this paper. In your proposal, you will be expected to introduce the topic, review relevant research literature, and clearly state a hypothesis, which should be logically derived from your introduction (i.e., the Introduction section, 5 points); describe a method to test your hypothesis (i.e., the Method section, 10 points); and then outline your expected results, as well as discuss practical implications of the possible results (i.e., the Expected Results and Conclusions section, 10 points). Your proposal will be formatted according to APA style, including an APA-style Title Page and Abstract, as well as APA-style in-text citations and a References section (5 points).

There will be four additional **Assignments** related to your proposal that you will submit earlier in the semester so that I can approve your paper topic (5 points), ensure that you are on the right track with the literature review in your Introduction section (5 points), and review an outline of your proposed study Method (5 points); you also will peer review (5 points) the proposal draft of one of your classmates.

### **Assignment Submission**

For this course, the week begins on Saturday and ends on Friday. **IN GENERAL, READINGS, DISCUSSION POSTS, ASSIGNMENTS, ETC. ARE DUE BY 11:59PM ON THE LAST DATE LISTED FOR THE WEEK IN WHICH THEY ARE CONTAINED.** For example, all readings and activities for Week 3 are due by 11:59pm on Friday 4/8, which is the end date for Week 3, as listed on the Course Schedule below. *\*Note that there will be some necessary deviations from this for assignments that have dependent assignments in the same week (e.g., Discussion Leading, Peer Review). All deviations will be made explicitly clear and announced via Blackboard/email.*

All assignments **MUST** be submitted through Blackboard. 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](mailto: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 me 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 without documentation of extenuating circumstances. The course is set up in folders for each week. 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 ahead in the course in case you have unforeseen circumstances that prevent you from completing tasks on time. If you have **documented** extenuating circumstances, please contact me ASAP. Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the due date.

# Course Schedule

*\*Course schedule is subject to change with proper notice*

Week/Dates	Topic/Assignments/Assessments Due	Readings
<b>Week 1</b> 3/21 – 3/25	<u>Topic: Syllabus and Course Introduction</u> Read: All Documents Under Week 1 on Bb Task: Sign up for Discussion Leading and Contact Peer(s) <b>Discussion Due: Personal Introduction Discussion Post</b> <b>Assignment Due: Self-Regulated Learning Skills Assignment</b>	Syllabus Bb Module 1
<b>Week 2</b> 3/26 – 4/1	<u>Topic: Introduction to Social Psychology</u> Review: Chapter 1 Slides / Chapter 2 Slides Read: Chapter 1 / Chapter 2 / Required Articles <b>Knowledge Checks Due: Chapter 1 / Chapter 2</b> <b>Assignment Due: Brief Proposal Idea Summary</b>	Chapter 1 Chapter 2 Bb Readings
<b>Week 3</b> 4/2 – 4/8	<u>Topic: Social Perception</u> Review: Chapter 3 Slides / Chapter 4 Slides Read: Chapter 3 / Chapter 4 / Required Articles <b>Knowledge Checks Due: Chapter 3 / Chapter 4</b> <b>Discussion Due: Discussion 1</b>	Chapter 3 Chapter 4 Bb Readings
<b>Week 4</b> 4/9 – 4/15	<u>Topic: Group Processes</u> Review: Chapter 8 Slides Read: Chapter 8 / Required Articles <b>Knowledge Checks Due: Chapter 8</b> <b>Discussion Due: Discussion 2</b> <b>Assignment Due: Literature Review Draft</b>	Chapter 8 Bb Readings
<b>Week 5</b> 4/16 – 4/22	<u>Topic: Social Relations</u> Review: Chapter 10 Slides / Chapter 11 Slides Read: Chapter 10 / Chapter 11 / Required Articles <b>Knowledge Checks Due: Chapter 10 / Chapter 11</b> <b>Discussion Due: Discussion 3</b>	Chapter 10 Chapter 11 Bb Readings
<b>Week 6</b> 4/23 – 4/29	<u>Topic: Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination</u> Review: Chapter 5 Slides Read: Chapter 5 / Required Articles <b>Knowledge Checks Due: Chapter 5</b> <b>Discussion Due: Discussion 4</b> <b>Assignment Due: Method Outline</b>	Chapter 5 Bb Readings
<b>Week 7</b> 4/30 – 5/6	<u>Topic: Applications of Social Psychology to Health</u> Review: Chapter 14 Slides Read: Chapter 14 / Required Articles <b>Knowledge Checks Due: Chapter 14</b> <b>Discussion Due: Discussion 5</b> <b>Assignment Due: Current Research Proposal Draft</b>	Chapter 14 Bb Readings
<b>Week 8</b> 5/7 – 5/13	<u>Topic: Research Proposals</u> <b>Assignment Due 5/10: Peer Review of Classmates Proposal</b> <b>Applied Research Proposal Due 5/13</b>	

## Grading Rubrics

Grading rubrics will be included in assignment instructions on the Blackboard LMS, when applicable.

## 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](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)<sup>2</sup>

## Student Responsibility and Attendance

This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be online at a certain time. There are readings you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. To complete this course successfully, you need to participate in all course activities. Students are also expected to submit all work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions that reflect integration of assigned materials with any outside readings, as appropriate. This class will require a minimum of 10-12 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](#).<sup>3</sup>

## 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](mailto:ADA@angelo.edu). For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).<sup>4</sup> 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](mailto: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](#)<sup>5</sup> for more information.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)<sup>6</sup> 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

## **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](#)<sup>8</sup> 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](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: [michelle.boone@angelo.edu](mailto: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).

## 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. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view
4. Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing

## End of Syllabus

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing\\_center/academic\\_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>