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### SOCI 382.01: Social Psychology and Social Structure

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## SOCI 382: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Autumn 2016

### Course Information

- a) Number: SOCI 382
- b) Title: Social Psychology
- c) Credits: 3

### Personal Information

- a) Instructor: John Domitrovich
- b) Telephone: (251-2337 home)
- c) Office hours: Monday (1-4 pm) in room 317 in the Social Sciences building
- d) email: [john\\_domitrovich@skc.edu](mailto:john_domitrovich@skc.edu)

### Required Materials

Required text is *Social Psychology* by David G. Myers; 2013; McGraw Hill; New York, N.Y. Reading material may be given out to students, and additional readings will be placed on Moodle. A number of videos will be required to be viewed by students throughout the quarter, and students will be held responsible for all video content.

### Course Description

Social psychology is a discipline that uses scientific methods in an attempt to understand and explain how the thoughts, feelings, and behavior of individuals are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of others.

### Course Objectives

#### 1) Knowledge Objectives:

- The student will demonstrate various concepts related to the use of the scientific method (variable, hypothesis, theory, correlation, experimental method, operationalization of variables).
- The student will demonstrate the process involved in stereotyping; and will explain the process of how we create/represent enemies through the creation of imagery/ stereotyping in line with cognitive dissonance theory.
- Student to become familiar with and demonstrate the knowledge of the meaning and importance of a host of social-psychological constructs (narcissism, self-monitoring, tolerance of ambiguity, TST, Sandra Bem's GRI, etc.) that will be related to a number of issues discussed in class.

- Student to demonstrate an understanding of, and the application of cognitive dissonance theory to a number of social contexts.

## 2) Value Objectives:

- 5) The student will assess their own adult attachment style and their locus of control orientation in order to understand how they interact with the social world around them.
- 6) Student will assess their own gender role schemas, and sexist attitudes, if they exist (ambivalent sexism inventory), and they will be able to apply the concepts gained in the demonstration of the cultural change that is occurring with respect to gender roles in American society.

## 3) Cultural Objectives:

- Student to demonstrate an understanding of the roles and importance of the third gender (Two Spirit) in Native American society.

## 4) Grading Objectives:

- There will be 7 quizzes on text chapter content/Moodle readings/lecture content. Each quiz will be worth 30 points and the quizzes will consist of multiple choice items and, at times, short essays (total 210 points). The lowest two quiz scores will be dropped in the final grading process.
- There will be 12 weekly assignments, with each assignment worth 20 points each (240 points). **All assignments are to be typed; between 1-2 pages in length; any external sources utilized must be specified on last page.**
- **A minimum of 70% of assignments (8) must be completed in order to receive a final grade**
- All assignments are due in class the week following the initial assignment. All late assignments will receive a maximum, "C" grade. If an assignment is not completed within a one week period (by the next class) from when it was due, the student will receive no credit on the assignment.
- **Students are asked to keep all copies of their completed/graded assignments until the end of the semester in order to protect their record of work.**

- **Grades will be based on the following points:**

495-550 =A (.90)  
440-494= B (.80)  
385-439= C (.70)  
330-384=D (.60)  
Less than 330=F

## 5) Class Policies

Students will be expected to keep up on all reading, including the instructor modules.

If a quiz is not taken by a student and the student does not have an acceptable excuse (medical, jury, legal, death in family, etc.), the student must complete the exam the same week, and the highest possible grade that the student will receive is a grade of "C" (70%).

Attendance: attendance is worth 100 points; the student may miss three classes during the semester and not be penalized, and for every additional class missed, the student will lose 5 points.

## 6) Academic Honor Code

All coursework shall follow the guidelines of the academic honor code as set forth by the UM student handbook. Do your own work; allow other students to do their own work. Plagiarism involves the taking of someone else's words, ideas, or writings and presenting them as your own. Avoid plagiarism, and always acknowledge the ideas of others and cite your sources of information. Violation of the academic code of honor may result in failure of the assignment, the course, or possibly expulsion from school.

## 7) Reasonable Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations are provided to students with diagnosed disabilities through the disability services ((406) 243-2243 or [dss@umontana.edu](mailto:dss@umontana.edu)) office on campus. It is imperative that a student with a disability inform the instructor of this disability at the beginning of the quarter, in order for the instructor to make a reasonable accommodation, so that the student will be able to maximize their potential within the academic setting.

## 8) Tentative Class Schedule

- Week One, (8/29-the week beginning on this date):  
Syllabus review; What is social psychology?; Correlation and experimental research design  
  
Read chapter 1 ("Introducing Social Psychology") in text  
  
Read module ("Correlation") in Moodle
- Week Two, (9/5):  
Continue on correlation and experimental research design/sampling; begin discussion on the self  
  
Videos ("The power of the situation" and "The construction of social reality")  
  
Read chapter 2 ("The Self in a Social World") in text
- Week Three, (9/12):

**Quiz #1** Focus on the self; In class assessments of various constructs (locus of control; self-monitoring; e-test; self-esteem; narcissism inventory; need for cognition; need for uniqueness TST; locus of control, etc.

PowerPoint ("The Self")

Read chapter 3 ("Social Beliefs and Judgments") in text

- Week Four, (9/19): Continue on self-assessments; discussion on culture of narcissism

PP ("The Culture of Narcissism")

Video ("Secrets of body language")

Read chapter 4 ("Behavior and Attitudes") in text

- Week Five, (9/26): **Quiz #2** Cognitive dissonance theory

Video ("Faces of the Enemy")

Read module ("Cognitive Dissonance Theory") in Moodle

Read chapter 5 ("Genes, Culture and Gender") in text

- Week Six, (10/3): A focus on gender; Sandra Bem; Ambivalent Sexism Inventory

Video ("Miss Representation")

Read article in Moodle ("Two Spirit")

Read Chapter 6 ("Conformity and Obedience") in text

- Week Seven, (10/10): **Quiz #3** Conformity, compliance and obedience

Read chapter 7 ("Persuasion") in text

Read module ("Social Influence") in Moodle

- Week Eight, (10/17): Dimensions of Persuasion

Read chapter 8 ("Group Influence") in text

Read module on unconscious processing

Read module on Priming

Read modules on "De-individuation" and "Commitment Mechanisms" in Moodle

- Week Nine, (10/24): **Quiz #4** Discussion of De-individuation and Commitment

Video ("The Cult")

Read chapter 9 ("Prejudice") in text

- Week Ten, (10/31): Discussion of prejudice/race and racism

Read ("The Eugenics Social Movement") in Moodle

Read module ("Race and its construction") in Moodle

Read module ("Prejudice and discrimination") in Moodle

Slides on the Aryan Nations racist group

- Week Eleven, (11/7): **Quiz #5** Continue on race and racism/eugenics

Read module ("Adult attachment styles") in Moodle

Read PP ("Adult Attachment Styles") in Moodle

Read chapter 11 ("Attraction and Intimacy") in text

Complete adult Attachment Style Assessment

- Week Twelve, (11/14): Attachment and Intimacy

Read chapter 12 ("Helping") in text

Read PP ("Attraction and Mating")

- Week Thirteen, (11/21): **Quiz #6** (Thanksgiving Week)

- Week Fourteen, (11/28): Discussion of why we help

Read PP ("On Helping")

- Week Fifteen, (12/5): **Quiz #7** Complete any unfinished business
- Week Sixteen, (12/12): **No Final Exam**