

**Cedar Crest College
Summer Semester 2009
Social Psychology**

July 10 **Chapter 1 -*Introducing Social Psychology***
Chapter 2 - *Methodology: How Social Psychologist Do Research*
Chapter 3 - *Social Cognition: How We Think About the Social World*
Topic for written assignment

July 11 **Chapter 3 continued.....**
Chapter 4 - *Social Perception: How We Come To Understand Other People*
Chapter 5 - *Self Knowledge: How We Come To Understand Ourselves*

July 12 **Test on 1-5**
Chapter 6 - *Self-Justification and the Need to Maintain Self-Esteem*
Chapter 7 - *Attitudes and Attitude Change: Influencing Thoughts and Actions*

July 24 **Chapter 8 - *Conformity: Influencing Behavior***
Chapter 9: *Group Processes: Influence in Social Groups*

July 25 **Chapter 9 continued.....**
Test on 6-9
Chapter 10 - *Interpersonal Attraction: From First Impressions to Close Relationships*
Chapter 11 - *Prosocial Behavior: Why do People help?*
Presentation

July 26 **Chapter 11 continued.....**
Chapter 12 *Aggression: Why do we hurt other people? Can we prevent it?*

Final Test: 10-12

There will be educational videos shown referring to the above mentioned chapters assigned for that day. You will be expected to participate in group activities and individual activities during class which will effect your grade. There may be minor homework assignments given.

Cedar Crest College
Summer Semester 2009
Social Psychology
Soc 252 95 2
3 Credits
Catherine Noti, MSW

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Office Hours: 15 minutes before class and 15 minutes after class

Room:

July 10, 5:30 pm - 8:30pm, July 11, 12, 9:00am - 5:00pm

July 24, 5:30 pm - 8:30pm, July 25, 26, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Required for Class:

- Aronson, E., Wilson, T., & Akert, R. (2004). Social Psychology (5th Ed.). Prentice Hall
- This text is supported by a companion web-site: www.prenhall.com/aronson. Look for the picture of the cover of your text; if you bookmark the page, you will only need to do the searching once. Be sure to check out the website as it contains bulletin boards, internet links, hot topics, interactive activities for students, online student tutorial quizzes, and much more. This will serve as an excellent means of assessing your understanding of text material in preparation for exams, as well as broadening your understanding of psychology as a diverse and applicable discipline.

Course Description: This course aims to understand the nature and causes of individual behavior and thought in social situations. Topics include: attitude formation and change, social identity and the presentation of oneself, interpersonal attraction and close relationships, groups and belongingness, social influence and dilemmas, and the application of concept to the world around us.

Course Objectives: The purpose of this course is to introduce you to many of the course topics that are studied by social psychologists. The main focus of the course will be on the ways in which all humans try to exist in a very complex social world. How do people make sense of their own existence? How do people understand each other? How do people influence one another? How do people get along with one another? These are just a few of the issues that will be addressed. Upon successful completion of this course you will have

- An understanding of social psychology terminology and the methods social

- psychologists use to conduct their research.
- Enhanced ability to interpret contemporary events using the principles of social psychology through demonstration, activity and discussion.

Teaching Format: The course will consist of lecture and discussion, as well as in-class and out-of-class activities. You should read the assigned material before coming to class, so that you can be an active participant.

Statement on Disability Accommodations: Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with me during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Academic Services Center. According to college policy, documentation must be provided to me before accommodations will be made.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken but not, in and of itself (see below “Homework and Participation”), calculated into your final grade. You alone are responsible for all reading assignments and material covered in class, including activities, videos, handouts and announcements, regardless of whether or not you attend. We will cover a great deal of information over the course of the semester, and lectures will not always directly coincide with textbook materials. The majority of class time will be spent covering some of the more important concepts from the text, but often using different research or real life examples that will supplement the major issues discussed in the book.

Academic Honesty and Classroom Protocol: All Cedar Crest College students are expected to be familiar with and fully supportive of the college’s policy regarding the honor code and academic integrity. See the Student Guide for more information regarding the enforcement of these policies. Appropriate classroom behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations, cell phone use and any other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students’ access to their Cedar Crest College education. Further, for any instances of dishonesty (e.g., cheating on tests, copying other students’ work, plagiarism, etc.), appropriate penalties will be applied.

· **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas, words or other intellectual property of another as one’s own. The use of other people’s work must be properly acknowledged and referenced in all written material. The use of material without acknowledgement is an offense.

· **Cheating:** Bear in mind that allowing another to copy one’s work is an academic offense just as is copying from someone. Furthermore, submitting the same paper for two courses without arrangement is also an academic offense.

Assessment: Altogether, there will be three(3) test (See course schedule below). Each exam will cover materials from the text and lecture notes, as well as any handouts that you receive, and any videos viewed. Exams will consist of multiple-choice questions and

will each be worth 100 points. Because exams will be scored immediately, exams must be taken during the scheduled time period. Make-up exams will be given ONLY with written documentation of an excused absence (i.e., sickness, college-sponsored event, legal situation)—there will be NO EXCEPTIONS. Advanced notice MUST be given whenever feasible. Documentation must be presented and the make-up exam scheduled as soon as possible.

Homework and Class Participation: Class participation will be factored into your grade in this class. Specifically, there will be numerous activities that we do in class, and if you are present when they are completed, you will earn credit; if you are absent, you forfeit those points unless you have written documentation of an excused absence (same criteria as above). Some activities involve group work; these assignments, because of their interactive nature, may not be made up. In addition, periodically, you will be asked to complete take-home assignments (i.e., homework). These assignments may be self-assessments, brief reflective essays, or Internet research activities (look something up, find a webpage, etc.). These take-home assignments may be evaluated based on thoroughness, thoughtfulness and grammar. As with in-class assignments, you alone are responsible for finding out what assignments if any were missed when class is missed, and you are responsible for submitting assignments on time; only students with excused absences will be permitted to submit late work. Altogether, your Homework and Class Participation will be worth up to a maximum of 100 points.

Grading: Your final grade will be assigned on the basis of the percentage of points you earn out of a maximum possible 400 points: Exams (three, each worth 100 points), Participation (maximum of 100 points). The letter grades are based on the following scale:

Note: In order for this course to count for the Psychology major or minor, you must earn a grade of C or better in this course (The grade of C- will not satisfy this requirement).

A 93.0- 100% C 73.0- 76.6%
A- 90.0- 92.9% C- 70.0- 72.9%
B+ 86.7- 89.9% D+ 67.0- 69.9%
B 83.4- 86.6% D 65- 66.9%
B- 80.0- 83.3% F below 65%
C+ 76.7- 79.9%

Strive to do well!! I am available to assist you. As a former colleague of a former colleague that I have never met before often said, “it is the students job to learn, and the faculty’s job to help them do it!”