



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo

Department of Psychology

Psych 253-002 Fall 2022

Social Psychology

Monday/Wednesday 2:30pm-3:50pm

SJ2 1004

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor:	Dr. Siobhan Sutherland	
Office:	SH 2034	
Phone:	TBD	
Office Hours:	Wednesdays, 1:00pm-2:00pm, or by appointment (virtual or in-person)	
Email:	siobhan.sutherland@uwaterloo.ca	
TAs:	Abdo Elnakouri	Van Bui
Email:	abdo.elnakouri@uwaterloo.ca	van.bui@uwaterloo.ca
Office:	PAS 3240C	PAS 3284
Office Hours:	Mondays, 4:30-5:30pm (virtual)	Thursdays 10am-11am (virtual or in person)

A NOTE ON CORRESPONDENCE

Before getting in touch with Dr. Sutherland about course questions, be sure to reference the syllabus to see if your answer can be found there. Second, please check/post your question on the LEARN discussion board; others may have the same questions as you that will be addressed on LEARN by the Instructor/TAs. Next, please contact your course TAs with remaining questions that cannot be addressed on the discussion board or attend office hours. Please contact Dr. Sutherland directly by email with personal questions/concerns related to your engagement in the course, test make-ups, illness etc. Please use the subject line "Psych 253" in all email correspondence. If I have not returned your email within 2 business days, please resend as emails can sometimes get lost in my junk mail folder. Please use your uWaterloo email address when emailing us to avoid this issue.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

(From the UW Undergraduate Calendar):

An introduction to the scientific study of social behaviour and social influences on behaviour.

Theories and research on such topics as attitude change and persuasion, stereotypes and prejudice, conformity and obedience to authority, altruism, conflict, attraction, and love may be introduced. *Prereq: PSYCH 101/101R; Cross-listed with PSYCH 253R.*

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Become familiar with the range of topics that comprise the area of Social Psychology.
2. Introduce the strengths and limitations of the methods of investigation used in Social Psychology.
3. Develop the ability to relate the findings of Social Psychology research to their own lives and to important issues in society and the world at large.
4. Critically think about issues related to Social Psychology and the reporting of psychological research in the media.

REQUIRED TEXT

Myers, Twenge, Jordan, & Smith, (2021). *Social Psychology*, 8th Canadian Edition. McGraw-Hill.

- You can purchase this edition of the textbook through the uWaterloo Bookstore (W Store - <https://wstore.uwaterloo.ca/course-materials/>). Order your text as soon as possible as it may take some time for you to receive it. The ebook can also be purchased through the publisher's website: <https://www.mheducation.ca/social-psychology-9781260327014-can-group>
- If you chose to use *an older version of the text*, note that you are responsible for the content in the 8th Canadian Edition. All exams and lectures are based on this edition and some content differs between text editions. It is up to you to decide how to proceed based on this information.

TESTS

Due to the size of this course, learning will be assessed using 4 in-class multiple-choice tests. Tests are non-cumulative. *Please bring your own pencil/eraser on test days*. Be prepared to present identification (your WAT card) during tests. Tests are weighted 25% each. All material covered in class and in the assigned readings is testable. On test days, there will be no lecture. Test marks will be posted on LEARN as soon as possible (typically within two weeks). In order to be fair to everyone, *the mark received for a test stands* – it will not be dropped or re-weighted. There is no final exam. **Note:** If suspension of in-person learning persists beyond one or more scheduled test dates, tests will be moved online during the scheduled class time. Any exceptions would have to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

UW POLICY REGARDING ILLNESS AND MISSED TESTS:

UW Examination Regulations (www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/exams/ExamRegs.pdf) state that: 1) A medical certificate presented in support of an official petition for relief from normal academic requirements must provide all of the information requested on the “University of Waterloo Verification of Illness” form or it will not be accepted. This form can be obtained from Health Services or at www.healthservices.uwaterloo.ca/Health_Services/verification.html. 2) If a student has a test/examination deferred due to acceptable medical evidence, he/she normally will write the test/examination at a mutually convenient time, to be determined by the course instructor. 3) The University acknowledges that, due to the pluralistic nature of the University community, some students may on religious grounds require alternative times to write tests and examinations. 4) Elective arrangements (such as travel plans) are not considered acceptable grounds for granting an alternative examination time. Thus, you are entitled to test rescheduling for legitimate medical, compassionate, or religious grounds. I would ask that you please do your best to: 1) secure the appropriate documentation, and 2) inform me prior to the schedule test to arrange an alternate writing time whenever possible. Make-up tests are normally scheduled on the first school day after your documentation expires, with obvious provision of access to missed material (see Attendance Policy). When arriving to write a make-up test, please have the appropriate documentation in hand to support a medical, compassionate, or religious claim. Make-up exams may differ in format from the original.

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS

I ask that students experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 stay home and not attend lectures. If you have symptoms, please reach out to me via email and I will send you a Microsoft Teams link for the live lecture. *Please only request a link if you have symptoms.* If this system is overused, students will be asked to provide evidence in the form of a doctor’s note to receive the link.

EXTRA CREDIT

Up to 4% extra credit is available via SONA research participation. Please see details regarding participation under the “SONA PARTICIPATION” section below. We will post any information that the Research Experiences Group sends us to assist you. As active researchers ourselves, we would ask that you PLEASE TAKE ANY RESEARCH PARTICIPATION SERIOUSLY – careless completion of a study’s materials is a waste of everyone’s time and undercuts the research process.

COURSE SCHEDULE (*Tentative, subject to change – students will be informed of changes on LEARN and/or in class)

DATE	TOPIC	READING DUE	NOTES
Sept 7, 2022	Introduction to Course	NA	Review Syllabus/Course Overview
Sept 12, 2022	Introducing the Science and Methods of Social Psychology	CH. 1	
Sept 14, 2022	The Self in a Social World	CH. 2	Guest Speaker – Dr. John Rempel
Sept 19, 2022	Social Beliefs and Judgements (Pt 1)	CH. 3	
Sept 21, 2022	Test #1	Covers CH. 1, 2, 3	No lecture
Sept 26, 2022	Behaviour & Attitudes (Pt 1)	CH. 4	Dr. John Rempel
Sept 28, 2022	Behaviour & Attitudes (Pt 2)		
October 3, 2022	Persuasion	CH. 5	
Oct 5, 2022	Conformity (Pt 1)	CH. 6	
Oct 10 & 12, 2022	NA	READING WEEK – NO ASSIGNED READINGS	NO CLASSES
Oct 17, 2022	Conformity (Pt 2)		
Oct 19, 2022	Test #2	Covers CH. 4, 5, 6	No lecture
Oct 24, 2022	Group Influence	CH. 7	Guest speaker – Van Bui
Oct 26, 2022	Altruism	CH. 8	
Oct 31, 2022	Bystander Intervention		Guest speaker – Stacey Jacobs
Nov 2, 2022	<i>Attraction (Pt 1)</i>	<i>CH. 10</i> *NOTE THAT THIS IS OUT OF ORDER <i>CH. 9 will be covered after your next test</i>	Guest Speaker – Kendra Wassan
Nov 7, 2022	Attraction (Pt 2)		
Nov 9, 2022	Test #3	CH. 7, 8, 10	No lecture
Nov 14, 2022	Aggression (Pt 1)	CH. 9	
Nov 16, 2022	Aggression (Pt 2)		Guest Speaker – Dr. John Rempel
Nov 21, 2022	Stereotype & Prejudice (Pt 1)	CH. 11	
Nov 23, 2022	Stereotype & Prejudice (Pt 2)		Guest Speaker – Dr. Toni Serafini
Nov 28, 2022	Conflict & Peacemaking	CH. 12	
Nov 30, 2022	Test #4	CH. 9, 11, 12	Last Day of Class

PLAN FOR SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON LEARNING

In the event that in-class meetings are suspended as per UW/SJU guidance, Dr. Sutherland will upload recorded, classroom-format lecture videos into the Content section of LEARN that corresponds with the lecture schedule above. Recorded online lectures will end when we are cleared to return to in-person teaching/learning. Tests will also be completed online in LEARN.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is expected that students attend all in-class lectures and tests unless you have a documentable reason for not doing so. This is definitely in your best interest as lecture content is not covered in the course text. Moreover, slides are often outlines containing keywords and figures or tables that aren't designed to be standalone learning resources. If you miss class, your first step is to find a classmate who can provide you with the notes you missed. It's a good idea to connect with your peers early in the term to plan for such circumstances. If you have a documented reason for your absence, we will also be happy to answer questions about the missed material.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

I request that you do not use of any electronic devices for non-class-related purposes except in outstanding circumstances, as it distracts other students and interferes with your own ability to absorb the material.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Petitions and Grievances](#). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the St. Jerome's Advising Specialist, Student Affairs Office, who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Discipline](#). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties,

students should refer to University of Waterloo [Policy 71, Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties, check the [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Appeals](#).

Note for students with disabilities: [AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall (Room 1401) at the University of Waterloo, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

Sona Participation and Research Experience Marks Information and Guidelines

Experiential learning is considered an integral part of the undergraduate program in Psychology. Research participation is one example of this, article review is another. A number of undergraduate courses have been expanded to include opportunities for Psychology students to earn grades while gaining research experience.

Since experiential learning is highly valued in the Department of Psychology, students may earn a **"bonus" grade of up to 4%** in this course through research experience. Course work will make up 100% of the final mark and a "bonus" of up to 4% may be earned and will be added to the final grade if/as needed to bring your final grade up to 100%.

The two options for earning research experience grades; participation in research through online remotely operated and In Lab studies, as well as article review; are described below. Students may complete any combination of these options to earn research experience grades. For Fall 2022, credits will be permitted to be earned with half from online, and the other half (2.0)

Option 1: Participation in Psychology Research

Research participation is coordinated by the Research Experiences Group (REG). Psychology students may volunteer as research participants in remotely operated, In Lab and/or online (web-based) studies conducted by students and faculty in the Department of Psychology. Participation enables students to learn first-hand about psychology research and related concepts. Many students report that participation in research is both an educational and interesting experience. Please be assured that all Psychology studies have been reviewed and received ethics clearance through a University of Waterloo Research Ethics Committee.

How to earn extra marks for your Psychology course(s) this term by participating in studies ...

- You will earn "credits" which will be converted to "marks" (1 credit = 1%)
- You can schedule your remotely operated (replacing in-lab) and ONLINE studies using the "Sona" website.

Educational focus of participation in research

To maximize the educational benefits of participating in research, students will receive feedback information following their participation in each study detailing the following elements:

- Purpose or objectives of the study
- Dependent and independent variables
- Expected results
- References for at least two related research articles
- Provisions to ensure confidentiality of data
- Contact information of the researcher should the student have further questions about the study
- Contact information for the Director of the Office of Research Ethics should the student wish to learn more about the general ethical issues surrounding research with human participants, or specific questions or concerns about the study in which s/he participated.

Participation in remotely operated (counts as the same as in-lab) studies has increment values of 0.5 participation credits (grade percentage points) for each 30-minutes of participation. Participation in ONLINE studies is worth .25 credits for each 15-minutes of participation. Researchers will record student's participation and at the end of the term the REG Coordinator will provide the course instructor with a credit report of the total credits earned by each student.

How to participate?

Study scheduling, participation and grade assignment is managed using the SONA online system. All students enrolled in this course have been set up with a SONA account. You must get started early in the term.

For instructions on how to log in to your SONA account and for a list of important dates and deadlines please, as soon as possible, go to:

[Participating/SONA information: How to log in to Sona and sign up for studies](#)

*** Please do not ask the Course Instructor or REG Coordinator for information unless you have first thoroughly read the information provided on this website.***

More information about the REG program in general is available at:

[Sona Information on the REG Participants website or you can check the Sona FAQ on the REG website homepage for additional information.](#)

Option 2: Article Review as an alternative to participation in research

Students are not required to participate in research, and not all students wish to do so. As an alternative, students may opt to gain research experience by writing short reviews (1½ to 2 pages) of research articles relevant to the course. The course instructor will specify a suitable source of articles for this course (i.e., scientific journals, newspapers, magazines, other printed media). *You must contact your TA to get approval for the article you have chosen before writing the review.* Each review article counts as one percentage point. To receive credit, you must follow specific guidelines. The article review must:

- **Be submitted before the [last day of lectures](#). Late submissions will NOT be accepted under ANY circumstances.**
- Be typed
- Fully identify the title, author(s), source and date of the article. A copy of the article must be attached.
- Identify the psychological concepts in the article and indicate the pages in the textbook that are applicable. Critically evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article. If inappropriate or incorrect, identify the error and its implications for the validity of the article. You may find, for example, misleading headings, faulty research procedures, alternative explanations that are ignored, failures to distinguish factual findings from opinions, faulty statements of cause-effect relations, errors in reasoning, etc. Provide examples whenever possible.
- Clearly evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article.
- Keep a copy of your review in the unlikely event we misplace the original.