

# Social Psychology

M/W 4:30 - 5:50

CBA 313



## What will you learn in this class?

Social psychology refers to *the scientific study of the way in which people's*

*thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are influenced by the real or imagined perspective of other people* (Allport, 1985). This course focuses on the (often surprising) things that make people tick from a social psychological perspective. We will be examining topics like helping behavior, aggression, person perception, attitudes, prejudice, stereotyping, and conformity.

The primary learning objectives for the course are:

1. Learn the fundamental principles, theories, experiments, and people of social psychology.
2. Understand the methods of social psychology and become a critical consumer of research.
3. Learn how to apply course content to improve your own rational thinking, problem solving and decision making in your everyday life.

### E-MAIL

Please put PSYC 2302 in the subject line of all emails. I will respond to all emails within 1 business day. For tips on how to email, see [www.wikihow.com/Email-a-Professor](http://www.wikihow.com/Email-a-Professor)

### PROFESSOR

**Dr. Krystia Reed**

Office: Psychology 107

Hours: M 12:30 - 1:30

W 1:30 - 2:30

& by appointment

*in person & on Blackboard*

E-mail: [kmreed2@utep.edu](mailto:kmreed2@utep.edu)

### TEACHING ASSISTANTS

**Sarah Najera**

Office: Psychology 102

Hours: Thurs. 4:30 - 6:30

[snajera@miners.utep.edu](mailto:snajera@miners.utep.edu)

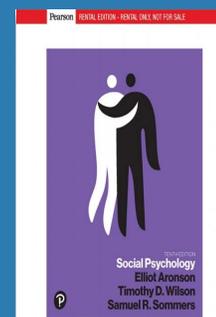
**Elena Vaudreuil**

Office: Vowell Hall 202B

Hours: Wed. 1:30 - 2:30

[evaudreuil@miners.utep.edu](mailto:evaudreuil@miners.utep.edu)

### REQUIRED TEXT



Aronson, E., Wilson, T.D., & Sommers, S. R. (2019). *Social Psychology, 10th Edition*. New York, NY: Pearson

## How will your grade be determined?

**225 pts**

### EXAMS

There will be 4 examinations each worth 75 points. Your lowest score will be dropped. Exams will primarily be multiple choice and true/false, but may also include fill-in the blank, matching, or short answer. Exam material will cover reading assignments, lectures, and class discussions.

No make-ups will be given except for:

- (1) absences sanctioned by UTEP and arranged in advance, or
- (2) serious and unavoidable medical

**50 pts**

### ASSIGNMENTS

For most chapters, there will be an associated course assignment worth 5 points each. Assignments will be either completed during the class period or will be completed on your own time and uploaded to Blackboard. Your lowest assignment scores will be dropped, so only your top 10 scores will be included. You must be present in order to receive credit for in-class assignments, no exceptions. All out-of-class assignments must be uploaded through SafeAssign on Blackboard. In order to receive credit for out-of-class assignments, you must successfully upload the completed assignment through SafeAssign by noon the day they are due. It is your responsibility to make sure the assignment was successfully uploaded. Assignments must be in .doc or .dox format. Email assignments will not be accepted. Late assignments will not be accepted.

**30 pts**

### EXPERIMENTS

Psychology is a social science. Consequently, social psychological theories are tested through experiments. In fact, almost all of the findings that will be presented in class and in your book are from experiments. Given the complexity of social behavior, designing studies and interpreting the results is a challenging task, but it is important to fully understand social behavior. For this reason, we will be completing 3 social psychological experiments as a class. These experiments will represent some typical social psychological studies. Members of the class will then "participate" in the experiments. Some portions of the experiments will be conducted in class and other portions will be conducted outside of class. **You must be present in class to get credit for the experiments.** Dates are listed in the schedule.

**30 pts**

### PROJECT

During the last week of class, we will be doing a class project in which we will take what we've learned about social psychology and apply it to the real world. **You must be present in class on December 2 and December 4 to get credit for the class project.** If you have a university excuse, please see me as soon as possible.

## Grading

**A = 90 - 100 B = 80 - 89**

**C = 70 - 79 D = 60 - 69**

**F = 59 and below**

## IF YOU NEED HELP:

### CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a documented disability that requires assistance, please contact the **Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS)**

Office: Union East, 106

Phone: 747-5148

E-mail: [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu)

Web: [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass)

### STUDENT SUPPORT

Web: [www.utep.edu/student-affairs](http://www.utep.edu/student-affairs)

### WRITING CENTER

Web: [www.utep.edu/uwc](http://www.utep.edu/uwc)

### FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The Dean of Students can help with financial resources, including emergency loans to purchase textbooks.

E-mail: [DOS@utep.edu](mailto:DOS@utep.edu)

Web: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/dean-of-students-office/emergencyaid/>

### TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Office: Library, 300

E-mail: [helpdesk@utep.edu](mailto:helpdesk@utep.edu)

Web: <https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/>

### COUNSELING SERVICES

Office: Union West, 202

E-mail: [caps@utep.edu](mailto:caps@utep.edu)

Web: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/counsel/>

## How can you be successful?

This class will require more than mere memorization. My goal is to teach you how to apply the information you have learned. To be successful in this course, you not only need to know the material, but must also be able to integrate it into a broader framework and use it in different situations. I will try to not just teach you about learning and memory, but to THINK scientifically about it.

### Tips for Success



1. Attend lecture and pay attention (it does you no good to show up and sleep or surf the web).
2. ASK QUESTIONS – in class, after class, through email, in office hours, etc.
3. Do the reading **before class** without highlighting the book (just read the first time through). This might take time to read and understand - if you read a 40-page chapter in 20 minutes, you're not really reading.
4. After lecture, go back to the readings to compare what your lecture notes say with what the readings say. That is when you should highlight.
5. Focus on understanding what is written rather than memorizing. The best way to know you've mastered the material is to try to teach this information to someone else.
6. Cramming is bad for your health (and your grades)! Spread out your studying to at least an hour each day outside of class focused on this course.
7. Come to office hours, even if you don't have questions or problems!

## What is expected of you?

You will be using technology for attendance each day, but please be respectful. Students must silence their cellular phones and any other electronic devices (e.g., the volume on your laptop) that may ring or otherwise disrupt class. Please only use the technology for

class purposes - surfing the internet or playing games is extremely distracting to those around you who are trying to focus. If devices become too distracting during class, they will no longer be permitted.

Please be courteous to others and arrive to class on time. *If you must be late, please come in quietly.*

No student may record any classroom activity without express written consent from me. If you have (or think you may have) a disability such that you need to record or tape classroom activities, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services.

The materials used in this course are copyrighted. This includes, but is not limited to, syllabi, exams, in-class activities, review sheets, homework, solutions, class notes, supplemental materials. You do not have the right to copy or distribute these items, unless I specifically grant you permission.

## UTEP Policies

Incompletes will not be given in this course except under extremely rare circumstances that require documentation and adherence to University policies. The FINAL drop date without the Deans' approval is November 1st. Students will not be able to drop the course after this date without the Dean's approval.

It is the official policy of the university that all suspected cases or acts of alleged scholastic dishonesty must be referred to the Dean of Students for investigation and appropriate disposition. Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an

### Ground Rules

Although this is not a discussion-based class, I do expect **participation and engagement** from all students. In order to create a climate for open and honest dialogue and to encourage the broadest range of viewpoints, it is important for you to **respect each other**. Name calling, accusations, verbal attacks, sarcasm, and other negative exchanges are counter productive to successful teaching and learning about topics. **Do not personalize the dialogue**. Keep the discussion and comments on the topic, not on the individual. Please direct challenging comments or questions to the instructor or the entire class. Remember that it is OK to **agree to disagree**.

### Blackboard & iClicker

This course will be using UTEP's Blackboard system. Both scheduled office hours and meetings set up by appointment can be in person or online through Blackboard Collaborate. Any assignments will be submitted on Blackboard. Exams might also be given on Blackboard (information to be provided before first exam). Blackboard also has information about registering your iClicker. Schedule updates and announcements will be posted on Blackboard.

examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Cheating or plagiarism in this class will result in penalties that may include a letter in the student's file as well as failing the course. The academic honesty code is available online at: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html>

Students who will be absent from class due to university-recognized activities, military leave, and religious holidays may be excused and will not be penalized, provided they provide documentation of their absence according to the university policies listed in the student handbook.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Schedule is subject to change based on class progress - see Blackboard for up-to-date schedule. Exam dates will NOT change. All assigned readings are to be done before class on the day assigned.

Date	Topic	Assignment
M 8/26	Introduction to Class	
W 8/28	Introducing Social Psychology	Chapter 1; Syllabus Quiz (on Blackboard)
M 9/2	<b>LABOR DAY - NO CLASS</b>	
W 9/4	Methodology	Chapter 2
M 9/9	Methodology	
W 9/11	Social Cognition & <b>EXP 1</b>	Chapter 3
M 9/16	Social Cognition	
W 9/18	Social Perception	Chapter 4
M 9/23	Social Perception	
W 9/25	<b>EXAM 1</b>	<b>Chapters 1 - 4</b>
M 9/30	The Self	Chapter 5
W 10/2	The Need to Justify Actions	Chapter 6
M 10/7	The Need to Justify Actions	
W 10/9	<b>Attitudes &amp; EXP 2</b>	Chapter 7
M 10/14	Attitudes	
W 10/16	Prejudice	Chapter 13
M 10/21	Prejudice	
W 10/23	<b>EXAM 2</b>	<b>Chapters 5 - 7, 13</b>
M 10/28	Aggression	Chapter 12
W 10/30	Conformity	Chapter 8
M 11/4	Conformity	
W 11/6	Groups	Chapter 9
M 11/11	Groups	
W 11/13	Attraction & Relationships	Chapter 10
M 11/18	Prosocial Behavior	Chapter 11
W 11/20	Prosocial Behavior	
M 11/25	<b>EXAM 3</b>	<b>Chapters 8 - 12</b>
W 11/27	<b>THANKSGIVING - NO CLASS</b>	
M 12/2	<b>EXP 3/Class Project</b>	
W 12/4	<b>Class Project</b>	
M 12/9	<b>FINAL EXAM 4:00 - 6:45</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>