Course Outline

PSYC3121

Social Psychology

School of Psychology

Faculty of Science

T3, 2022

Last updated: 6 September 2022

1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations
Course Convenor	A/Prof Lisa A. Williams	lwilliams@unsw.edu.au	Consultation can be arranged via email.
Lecturer	Prof. Thomas Denson	t.denson@unsw.edu.au	Consultation can be arranged via email.
Lecturer	Dr. Siobhan O'Dean	siobhan.odean@sydney.edu.au	Consultation can be arranged via email.
Lecturer	Prof. Eddie Harmon-Jones	e.harmon-jones@unsw.edu.au	Consultation can be arranged via email.
Head Tutor	Dr. Elizabeth Summerell	e.summerell@unsw.edu.au	Consultation can be arranged via email.
Tutor	Wadim Vodovozov	w.vodovozov@unsw.edu.au	Consultation can be arranged via email.
Tutor	Sam Drew	sam.drew@unsw.edu.au	Consultation can be arranged via email.

2. Course information

Units of credit: 6

Pre-requisite(s):   None

Teaching times and locations: PSYC3121 Timetable

2.1 Course summary

This course provides a review of the history, principles, methods, and ethics of social psychology at an advanced level. Substantive research areas such as the nature of attraction, stereotypes and prejudice, aggression, morality and prosocial behaviour, among others, will be covered.

2.2 Course aims

The aim of this course is to introduce new topics not covered in previous courses (PSYC1001, PSYC2061), and to develop skills to critically evaluate research in the field of social psychology. Emphasis will be placed on contemporary theories and approaches. You are assumed to have familiarity with social psychological principles, areas of research, and methodological approaches, as covered in PSYC1001 and PSYC2061.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

At the successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an advanced level of knowledge and understanding of the major objectives, theoretical perspectives, and research methods used in social psychology.

2. Describe, apply and evaluate an advanced knowledge of research methods used in social psychology, enabling you to design and conduct social psychological studies and literature searches.

3. Apply advanced critical thinking skills to problems related to social psychology enabling you to use reasoning and evidence to recognise, develop, defend and criticise arguments and persuasive appeals.

4. Demonstrate an advanced appreciation of values and ethics in social psychology.

5. Demonstrate effective communication, interpersonal and teamwork skills.

6. Understand and apply principles of social psychology to solve problems in everyday life and in society.

2.4 Relationship between course and program learning outcomes and assessments

CLO	1. Knowledge	2. Research Methods	3. Critical Thinking Skills	4. Values and Ethics	5. Communication, Interpersonal and Teamwork	6. Application	Assessment
	Program Learning Outcomes						
1.	Lectures, tutorials, self-directed activities, readings, self-test quizzes, Discussion Forum						Participation, Group Presentation, Assignment, Final exam
2.		Lectures, tutorials, self-directed activities, readings, self-test quizzes, Discussion Forum					Participation, Group Presentation, Assignment, Final exam
3.			Lectures, tutorials, self-directed activities, readings, self-test quizzes, Discussion Forum				Participation, Group Presentation, Assignment, Final exam
4.				Lectures, tutorials, self-directed activities, readings, self-test quizzes, Discussion Forum			Participation, Group Presentation, Assignment
5.					Lectures, tutorials, online activities, readings, self-assessment quizzes, Discussion		Group presentation, Assignment, Final exam

					Forum	
6.						Lectures, tutorials, self-directed activities, readings, self-test quizzes, Discussion Forum	Participation, Group Presentation, Assignment, Final exam

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

This course provides an advanced treatment of social psychology. It follows on, and assumes knowledge, from relevant topic coverage in PSYC1001 and PSYC2061. This course provides in depth coverage of current research as it relates to major theories in the field.

This course provides a blend of teaching strategies, including lecture formats, Q&A sessions, self-directed online activities, and tutor-led activities that take place during tutorials. The course aims to provide high pedagogical value across these strategies.

Lectures: The lecture content of this course is presented entirely online via the Moodle eLearning website. The format of the lectures involves slides with accompanying audio. In addition, PDF slides of the lectures are made available. Students should both read through the lectures and write separate notes to maximise their understanding and retention of the material. The lectures will be made available at the start of each week and will be left online for the duration of the course. This will allow students to go through the lectures at their own pace. While it will not be monitored directly, all students are expected to listen to the lectures in the week in which they are released. The content of this course is extensive and at times complex; students who do not stay up to date with course material each week will likely find it difficult to prepare for assessment tasks and exams due to the cumulative nature of the content.

Lecture Content Q&A Sessions: During the second regularly scheduled lecture time, lecturers will be available online to answer questions posed by students relating to the lectures released that week. Students are encouraged to enter their questions in this Google Document prior to or during the Q&A session.

Self-Directed Activities: This course includes two types of self-directed activities. *Online activities* are drawn from content from each of the four lecturers and are designed to be completed after engaging with the relevant lecture. Completion of these online activities forms part of the Participation assessment component. These online activities may include videos, written content, and/or podcasts that are relevant to the course topics.

This course also offers *formative self-test quizzes*. These quizzes provide an opportunity to evaluate understanding of course material. Each self-test quiz assesses content delivered by one lecturer. Timely completion of the biweekly quizzes will assist students in gaining a proper understanding of topics delivered by each lecturer so that this knowledge can be built on in future content. The self-test quizzes can also be used by students to gauge their understanding of the course content prior to the census date. Completion of (but not performance on) self-test quizzes forms part of the Participation assessment component.

Tutor-led Activities: During allocated tutorial times, tutors will lead students through activities that complement and extend understanding of social psychology. The majority of these activities involve group-based work that carries from week to week.

Discussion Forum: The Course Discussion Forum provides students with an opportunity to question and clarify the concepts and ideas mentioned in the lectures, tutorials, and online activities. Students are strongly encouraged to engage with this forum by posting questions or comments, and reading, answering, or replying to other student's posts to enhance understanding of the content, critical thinking, and written communication skills. Use of the forum will help students to develop effective communication skills for conveying complex information and evaluating multiple perspectives.

Online Consultation: The Course Coordinator is available for online consultation to students, individually or as a group. Virtual consultations must be arranged at a mutually convenient time, an agenda or meeting topic must be provided with a minimum of 48 hours prior notice. Consultation with the course coordinator may address topics related to assessment, broad course structure, or matters of a personal nature. Lecturers and tutors are also available for online consultation, to be arranged via email, to address specific topics, and/or tutorial-related matters.

3.2 Expectations of students

All news updates and announcements will be made on the 'Announcements' forum on the Moodle page and/or by email. It is the student's responsibility to check Moodle and their student emails regularly to keep up to date.

Given that the course content and some assessable components (e.g., Tutor-Led Activities, Final Exam) are delivered online, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that they have access to a computer with a stable internet connection and a browser capable of handling the features of the Moodle eLearning website and any of its content.

The Moodle discussion forum should be the first line of contact with the Course Coordinator (meeting requests, personal or Equitable Learning Support matters can be sent by email in the first instance).

Students registered with Equitable Learning Services must contact the course coordinator immediately if they intend to request any special arrangements for later in the course, or if any special arrangements need to be made regarding access to the course material. Letters of support must be emailed to the course coordinator as soon as they are made available.

It is expected that students will watch the lectures and complete the self-directed online activities in a timely manner. Students are also expected to engage in the weekly live Q&A sessions, including contributing questions either prior to or during the session.

Attendance during tutor-led activities during allocated tutorial times ('tutorials') is compulsory to ensure students are consistently working towards achieving the foundational graduate competencies required by the APAC Accreditation Standards. These Accreditation Standards are incorporated in Program and Course Learning Outcomes. Attendance is monitored for tutorials. Failure to meet these specified attendance requirements may result in course failure. Also, due to the extended group based work that takes place in tutorials, marks that stem from group contributions may be impacted by nonattendance. Students must only attend the online tutorial in which they are enrolled; switching sections is not allowed, except under explicit permission from the tutor leading the session a student wishes to sit in on. Tutors reserve the right to decline such requests. Explanations for an occasional absence from a class or requests for permission to be absent from a class should be discussed with the lecturer/tutor, and where applicable, accompanied by a medical certificate.

It is expected that students are aware of UNSW Assessment policy and understand how to apply for special consideration if they are unable to complete an assignment/exam due to illness and/or misadventure.

It is expected that students have read through the School of Psychology Student Guide.

4. Course schedule and structure

Each week this course typically consists of 2 hours of lecture material, 2 hours of face to face tutorials, and 1 hour of online activities. Students are expected to take an additional 6 hours each week of self-determined study to complete assessments, readings, and exam preparation.

Week	Lecture topic/s
Week 1 12/09/22	**Lectures** • Course Introduction *Williams* • Nonverbal Communication *Williams* • Science of Positive Emotion *Williams* **Lecture Content Q&A Thursday 4-5pm** • Williams **Self-directed activities** • Laughter Activity **Tutor-led activities (during allocated tutorial times)** • Think Tank I - Intro & Topics
Week 2 19/09/22	**Lectures** • Morality *Williams* • Loneliness *Williams* **Lecture Content Q&A Thursday 4-5pm** • Williams **Self-directed activities** • N/A **Tutor-led activities (during allocated tutorial times)**

	• Think Tank II - Social Psychology Research Essentials
Week 3 26/09/22	**Lectures** • Modern Biases *Williams* • Social Psychology of Social Media *O'Dean* **Lecture Content Q&A Thursday 4-5pm** • Williams (1:00-1:30) & O'Dean (1:30-2:00) **Self-directed activities** • Self-test Quiz 1 (Williams lecture content) **Tutor-led activities (during allocated tutorial times)** • Think Tank III - Operationalisation
Week 4 03/10/22	**Lectures** • Close Relationships *O'Dean* **Lecture Content Q&A Thursday 4-5pm** • O'Dean **Self-directed activities** • Science of Love Activity • Self-test Quiz 2 (O'Dean content) • Pitch Prep Activity **Tutor-led activities (during allocated tutorial times)** • No tutor-led activities this week. Instead, you must complete the Pitch Prep Activity ahead of next week's tutorials.
Week 5 10/10/22	**Lectures** • 60 Years of Aggression Research *Denson* **Lecture Content Q&A Thursday 4-5pm**

	• Denson
	
	Self-directed activities
	
	   • N/A
	
	Tutor-led activities (during allocated tutorial times)
	
	   • Think Tank IV - Think Tank Presentation Preparation

Week 6
 	
17/10/22
	FLEXIBILITY WEEK
	
	Lectures
	
	   • N/A
	
	Lecture Content Q&A
	
	   • N/A
	
	Self-directed activities
	
	   • N/A
	
	Tutor-led activities (during allocated tutorial times)
	
	   • Think Tank V - Think Tank Presentations

Week 7
 	
24/10/22
	Lectures
	
	   • Anger Regulation Denson
	   • Intergroup Aggression and Hatred *Denson*
	
	Lecture Content Q&A Thursday 4-5pm
	
	   • Denson
	
	Self-directed activities
	
	   • N/A
	
	Tutor-led activities (during allocated tutorial times)
	
	   • Think Tank V - Think Tank Presentations

Week 8 31/10/22	**Lectures** • Hormones & Social Behaviour *Denson* • Social Neuroscience *Harmon-Jones* **Lecture Content Q&A Thursday 4-5pm** • Denson (1:00-1:30) & Harmon-Jones (1:30-2:00) **Self-directed activities** • Self-test Quiz 3 (Denson lecture content) • Hormones Activity **Tutor-led activities (during allocated tutorial times)** • Think Tank VI - Presentation Feedback & Writing Effectively
Week 9 7/11/22	**Lectures** • Cognitive Dissonance *Harmon-Jones* **Lecture Content Q&A** • N/A **Self-directed activities** • Cognitive Dissonance Activity **Tutor-led activities (during allocated tutorial times)** • Open Social Psychological Science and Revision *** DUE: Written Assessment - Think Tank Write-up: 5pm Friday 11 November**
Week 10 14/11/22	**Lectures** • Misinformation, Disinformation, and Conspiracy Theories *Harmon-Jones* • Terror Management Theory *Harmon-Jones* **Lecture Content Q&A** • N/A

	Self-directed activities • Self-test Quiz 4 (Harmon-Jones lecture content) • Cognitive Dissonance Activity **Tutor-led activities (during allocated tutorial times)** • No tutor-led activities this week
Study period 21/11/22	**Lecture Content Q&A Tuesday 4-5pm** • Harmon-Jones *** DUE: Self-directed Activities Participation** *Completion of self-directed activities (self-test quizzes, online activities) for the Participation component of assessment will be assessed at 5pm 25 November. Activities will remain open after this date, but completion after this time will not earn marks. Note, students are encouraged to engage in these activities during the weeks in which they are listed above.*
Exam period 25/11/22	

5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks

All assessments in this course have been designed and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment task	Length	Weight	Mark	Due date
Assessment 1: Participation	N/A	10%	/10	Weeks 1-10
Assessment 2: Think tank group presentation	15 mins	15%	/15	Week 7 Tutorials
Assessment 3: Think tank write-up	1500 words	35%	/100	**Deadline:** Week 9 Friday 11 Nov, 5:00pm **Overdue Submission Deadline:** Wednesday 16 Nov, 5:00pm **Absolute Fail Deadline:** 25 Nov, 9:00am
Assessment 4: Final exam	2 hours	40%	/100	Exam period

Assessment 1: This participation mark comprises completion of online self-directed activities (4 activities, 1.25% each), and completion of the self-test quizzes (4 quizzes, 1.25% each). Activities and quizzes will be available at the beginning of the week listed in the Course Schedule and will remain open for the duration of the course. Students can take each quiz and complete each activity as many times as they like. Functionally, participation is due during the weeks in which the activities are listed in the Course Schedule. Participation will be assessed at **5pm, 25 November**. Activity completion after this time will not earn marks, though activities will remain open for completion and/or review.

Assessment 2: This group presentation, to be delivered during **Week 7 tutorials**, will be a culmination of group-based work (based on the Think Tank activities) in Weeks 1-5 tutorials. Additional information will be provided in an Assignment Sheet distributed in tutorials and posted to Moodle. Presentation marks may be modulated by tutors based on peer evaluations from fellow group members and attendance.

Assessment 3: This written assessment, due 5pm, Friday 12 November will use your group's Think Tank research question, revised following feedback received in Week 8 as a starting point. You will propose an empirical study to answer the research question, including a brief introduction/rationale, methodology, expected results, and impact. Additional information will be provided in an Assignment Sheet distributed in tutorials and posted to Moodle.

Assessment 4: The final exam will test your factual knowledge of and critical reasoning skills related to lecture material, self-directed online activities, and tutor-led activities across the entire course. Question formats may include multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short essay questions. This exam will be delivered online during the University examination period **(time and date TBA).**

UNSW grading system: https://student.unsw.edu.au/grades

UNSW assessment policy: https://student.unsw.edu.au/assessment

5.2 Assessment criteria and standards

Further details and marking criteria for each assessment will be provided to students closer to the assessment release date (see 4.1: UNSW Assessment Design Procedure).

5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

Submission: Students are required to submit an electronic copy of their written assignment to the School via the course Moodle site. An electronic version of the assignment should be submitted through the Turnitin link on Moodle for plagiarism checking.

Late Penalty: In accordance with the UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure, failure to meet the submission deadline ("the initial deadline") will attract a penalty. Unless an extended deadline has been granted, if an assignment is submitted late, but within five days (120 hours) of the initial deadline, 5% of the maximum possible mark for that assignment will be deducted for each day (including weekend days) it is overdue.

Students can submit an assessment late, incurring the late penalty, until the "overdue submission deadline". The overdue submission deadline is five days (120 hours) after the initial deadline. Any assessment submitted after the overdue submission deadline will not be marked and will result in a mark of zero for the assessment. In determining whether an assignment is overdue, the date it was submitted online via Moodle will be used.

Request to Waive Late Penalty via Special Consideration
If circumstances outside a student's control have impacted their ability to submit an assessment before the initial deadline, they may apply to have the late penalty waived, via Special Consideration through The Nucleus: Student Hub (see "Special Consideration" below for details). If Special Consideration is granted, an extension up to a maximum of 10 working days past the initial deadline may be provided.

Under these circumstances an "absolute fail deadline" applies. Under no circumstances will an extension be given beyond when marks and feedback on the assessment are provided to students (10 working days from the initial deadline). Neglecting to submit an assignment by the absolute fail deadline will result in a mark of 0 for the assignment.

Request to Waive Late Penalty via Equitable Learning Plan
If a student is registered with UNSW Equitable Learning Services (ELS), and an Equitable Learning Plan (ELP) authorises extensions for assignment submission, you do not need to apply for Special Consideration irrespective of the weight of the assignment. Instead, you are required to email the Course Convenor at least one week prior to the assessment deadline to request an extension—unless the ELP specifically stipulates that you are not required to do so. If you do not follow the requirements indicated in your ELP, you may not be granted any adjustments. If your ELP does not include an authorisation for late submission, the same rules that apply to other students will apply to you.

Under these circumstances an absolute fail deadline applies. Under no circumstances will an extension be given beyond when marks and feedback on the assessment is provided to students (10 working days from the initial deadline). Neglecting to submit an assignment by the absolute fail deadline will result in a mark of 0 for the assignment, unless Special Consideration has been granted to undertake a supplementary assessment.

5.4. Feedback on assessment

Feedback on all pieces of assessment in this course will be provided in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment	When	Who	Where	How
Participation	2 December	Course coordinator	Online	Moodle
Think tank group presentation	Week 8 tutorials	Tutor	Tutorials	Written & Verbal
Think tank write-up	25 November	Tutor	Online	Turnitin/Moodle
Final exam	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

The APA (7th edition) referencing style is to be adopted in this course. Students should consult the publication manual itself or publications by the American Psychological Association regarding the style (rather than third party interpretations of it) in order to properly adhere to APA style conventions. Students do not need to purchase a copy of the manual, it is available in the library or online. This resource is used by assessment markers and should be the only resource used by students to ensure they adopt this style appropriately:

APA Style Website.

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Further information about referencing styles can be located at https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing

Academic integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits**:** honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage.[1] At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.

Further information about academic integrity and **plagiarism** can be located at:

- The *Current Students* site https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism**,** and
- The *ELISE* training site https://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise

The *Conduct and Integrity Unit* provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct.

7. Readings and resources

Textbook	Nil
Course information	Available on Moodle

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[1] International Center for Academic Integrity, 'The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity', T. Fishman (ed), Clemson University, 2013.

Required readings	1. A journal article associated with your Think Tank topic will be assigned in Week 1 tutorials. Additional related articles you and your group identify also constitute required readings.
	2. School of Psychology Student Guide
Recommended internet sites	UNSW Library
	UNSW Learning centre
	ELISE
	Turnitin
	Student Code of Conduct
	Academic Integrity
	Email policy
	UNSW Anti-racism policy
	UNSW Equity and Diversity Strategy 2022-2025

8. Administrative matters

The School of Psychology Student Guide contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- Attendance requirements
- Assignment submissions and returns
- Assessments
- Special consideration
- Student code of conduct
- Student complaints and grievances
- Disability Support Services
- Health and safety

It is expected that students familiarise themselves with the information contained in this guide.

9. Additional support for students

- The Current Students Gateway: https://student.unsw.edu.au/
- Academic Skills and Support: https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing
- Equitable Learning Services: https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/els
- UNSW IT Service Centre: https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au/