



PSY 627.01W: Social Cognition

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Professor: Dr. Stephen Reysen

Class Location: Online

Class Time: Online

Office Location: Henderson 302A

Office Hours: Tuesdays 8:00AM to 1:00PM, and by appointment

Phone: 903-886-5940

Email Address: Stephen.Reysen@etamu.edu (*email is the best way to reach me*)

COURSE INFORMATION

In this course we will cover the fundamental theories and research conducted in social psychology. We will cover both classic and modern social psychological research. There is no textbook for this class. Instead we will read journal articles and book chapters each week. I will have these available on myLeo Online. The purpose of the readings is to give you an understanding of (1) the beginnings of social psychology, (2) major areas within social psychology, and (3) how social psychological research is conducted. Due to the breadth of the research that has been conducted in social psychology it is impossible to cover every theoretical contribution. Therefore, I have selected what I believe to be key writings in the field.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Grading:

Grades will be based on reaction papers (1/4 page) and a final research proposal paper. Reaction papers are due by Sunday of that week (feel free to work ahead). The final research proposal is a serious proposal of research. This paper should not exceed 15 pages (double spaced, times new roman 12-point font, .rtf or .doc or .docx format). In the proposal you will review some relevant literature, state a hypothesis, and then propose a study that directly tests your hypothesis. Please discuss this paper with me before beginning. [*Note: Master's students' final papers should not exceed 10 pages*]

Assessment:

Reaction papers: 120 points

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Research proposal: 100 points

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week 1: Monday August 25 to Sunday August 31

[Note: no readings this week]

Week 2: Monday September 1 to Sunday September 7

Deutsch, M. (1992). Kurt Lewin: The tough-minded and tender-hearted scientist. *Journal of Social Issues, 48*, 31-43.

Crandall, C. S., Silvia, P. J., N'Gbala, A. N., Tsang, J.-A., & Dawson, K. (2007). Balance theory, unit relations, and attribution: The underlying integrity of Heiderian theory. *Review of General Psychology, 11*, 12-30.

Kruglanski, A. W. (1990). Lay epistemic theory in social-cognitive psychology. *Psychological Inquiry, 1*, 181-197.

Week 3: Monday September 8 to Sunday September 14

Monin, B., & Norton, M. I. (2003). Perceptions of a fluid consensus: Uniqueness bias, false consensus, false polarization, and pluralistic ignorance in a water conservation crisis. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, 29*, 559-567.

Pronin, E., Puccio, C., & Ross, L. (2002). Understanding misunderstandings: Social psychological perspectives. In T. Gilovich, D. Griffin, & D. Kahnman (Eds.), *Heuristics and biases: The psychology of intuitive judgment* (pp. 636-665). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Epley, N. (2008). Solving the (real) other minds problem. *Social and Personality Psychology Compass, 2*, 1455-1474.

Week 4: Monday September 15 to Sunday September 21

Langer, E., Blank, A., & Chanowitz, B. (1978). The mindlessness of ostensibly thoughtful action: The role of "placebic" information in interpersonal interaction. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 36*, 635-642.

Bargh, J. A., Chen, M., & Burrows, L. (1996). Automaticity of social behavior: Direct effects of trait construct and stereotype activation on action. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 71*, 230-244.

van Baaren, R. B., Holland, R. W., Steenaert, B., & van Knippenberg, A. (2003). Mimicry for money: Behavioral consequences of imitation. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, 39*, 393-398.

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Vohs, K. D., Mead, N. L., & Goode, M. R. (2008). Merely activating the concept of money changes personal and interpersonal behavior. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 17, 208-212.

Week 5: Monday September 22 to Sunday September 28

Fiske, S. T., & Linville, P. W. (1980). What does the schema concept buy us? *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 6, 543-557.

Macrae, C. N., & Bodenhausen, G. V. (2000). Social cognition: Thinking categorically about others. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 51, 93-120.

Holmes, J. G. (2000). Social relationships: The nature and function of relational schemas. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 30, 447-495.

Week 6: Monday September 29 to Sunday October 5

Cialdini, R. B., Borden, R. J., Thorne, A., Walker, M. R., Freeman, S., & Sloan, L. R. (1976). Basking in reflected glory: Three (football) field studies. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 34, 366-375.

Tajfel, H., & Turner, J. (1979). An integrative theory of intergroup conflict. In R. Austin & S. Worchel (Eds.), *Social psychology of intergroup relations* (pp. 33-47). Nelson-Hall.

Turner, J. C., & Reynolds, K. J. (2012). Self-categorization theory. In P. A. M. Van Lange, A. W. Kruglanski, & E. T. Higgins (Eds.), *Handbook of theories of social psychology* (Vol. 2, pp. 399-417). SAGE.

Week 7: Monday October 6 to Sunday October 12

Reicher, S., Spears, R., & Haslam, S. A. (2010). The social identity approach in social psychology. In M. S. Wetherell & C. T. Mohanty (Eds.), *Sage identities handbook* (pp. 45-62). Sage.

Reicher, S. D., Haslam, S. A., Spears, R., & Reynolds, K. J. (2012). A social mind: The context of John Turner's work and its influence. *European Review of Social Psychology*, 23, 344-385.

Turner, J. C., Oakes, P. J., Haslam, S. A., & McGarty, C. (1994). Self and collective: Cognitive and social context. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 20, 454-463.

Week 8: Monday October 13 to Sunday October 19

Branscombe, N. R., Ellemers, N., Spears, R., & Doosje, B. (1999). The context and content of social identity threat. In N. Ellemers, R. Spears, & B. Doosje (Eds.), *Social identity: Context, commitment, content* (pp. 35-58). Blackwell.

Levine, M., Prosser, A., Evans, D., & Reicher, S. (2005). Identity and emergency intervention: How social group membership and inclusiveness of group boundaries shape helping behavior. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 31, 443-453.

Kurtis, T., Adams, G., Yellow Bird, M. (2010). Generosity or genocide? Identity implications of silence in American Thanksgiving commemorations. *Memory*, 18, 208-224.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Week 9: Monday October 20 to Sunday October 26

- Semin, G. R., & Smith, E. R. (2002). Interfaces of social psychology with embodied cognition. *Cognitive Systems Research*, 3, 385-396.
- Coman, A., Brown, A. D., Koppel, J., & Hirst, W. (2009). Collective memory from a psychological perspective. *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society*, 22, 125-141.
- Loftus, E. F. (2005). Planting misinformation in the human mind: A 30-year investigation of the malleability of memory. *Learning and Memory*, 12, 361-366.

Week 10: Monday October 27 to Sunday November 2

- Wheeler, S. C., & Petty, R. E. (2001). The effects of stereotype activation on behavior: A review of possible mechanisms. *Psychological Bulletin*, 127, 797-826.
- Adams, G., Biernat, M., Branscombe, N. R., Crandall, C. S., & Wrightsman, L. S. (2008). Beyond prejudice: Toward a sociocultural psychology of racism and oppression. In G. Adams, M. Biernat, N. R. Branscombe, C. S. Crandall, & L. S. Wrightsman (Eds.), *Commemorating Brown: The social psychology of racism and discrimination* (pp. 215-246). APA Books.
- Voelklein, C., & Howarth, C. (2005). A review of controversies about social representations theory: A British debate. *Culture and Psychology*, 11, 431-454.

Week 11: Monday November 3 to Sunday November 9

- Shweder, R. A. (1990). Cultural psychology—what is it? In J. Stigler, R. Shweder, & G. Herdt (Eds.), *Cultural psychology: Essays on comparative human development* (pp. 1-46). Cambridge University Press.
- Markus, H. R., & Kitayama, S. (1991). Culture and the self: Implications for cognition, emotion, and motivation. *Psychological Review*, 98(2), 224-253.
- Miyamoto, Y., Nisbett, R. E., Masuda, T. (2006). Culture and the physical environment. *Psychological Science*, 17, 113-119.

Week 12: Monday November 10 to Sunday November 16

- Kim, H., & Markus, H. R. (1999). Deviance or uniqueness, harmony or conformity? A cultural analysis. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 77, 785-800.
- Adams, G., & Markus, H. R. (2004). Toward a conception of culture suitable for a social psychology of culture. In M. Schaller & C. S. Crandall (Eds.), *The psychological foundations of culture* (pp. 335-360). Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Week 13: Monday November 17 to Sunday November 23

- Adams, G., Estrada-Villalta, S., Sullivan, D., & Markus, H. R. (2019). The psychology of neoliberalism and the neoliberalism of psychology. *Journal of Social Issues*, 75(1), 189-216.
- Adams, G., & Dzokoto, V. A. (2007). Genital-shrinking panic in Ghana: A cultural psychological analysis. *Culture & Psychology*, 13(1), 83-104.

Week 14: Monday November 24 to Sunday November 30

[Note: no readings this week]

Week 15: Monday December 1 to Sunday December 7
Work on final paper, no readings this week.

FINAL PAPERS ARE DUE DECEMBER 10 (BY 11:59PM) on myLeo Online

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a East Texas A&M campus open computer lab, etc.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

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COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Please feel welcome to contact me in person during office hours, before or after class, online through University email or schedule an appointment to meet with me. All email should receive a response within 48 hours. If you have not received a response then assume your email did not go through and please try again to make contact. All email should include student's last name, first name, course name and brief description of the reason for contact.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

My expectations in this area should be very simple to fulfill. (1) Immaturity will NOT be tolerated! If a student's behavior is disrupting the class, he/she will be asked to stop. (2) Respect: Given the nature of this course, we may discuss issues that some of you may find embarrassing, uncomfortable, and/or even "inappropriate." To remain in this class, you must be respectful of others and maintain a mature and professional manner at all times. Failure to do so will result in your expulsion from the course. (3) The Student's Guidebook addresses the issues of academic cheating and plagiarism. These are a breach of conduct, and students are subject to disciplinary actions. It's simple. Do NOT cheat (to cheat is to act dishonestly or unfairly in order to gain an advantage) or plagiarize (to plagiarize is to take the work or idea of someone else and pass it off as one's own)!

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-code-of-conduct/>.

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If you believe someone has engaged in behaviors that do not align with the Code of Student Conduct or you have other concerns, please visit the File a Report page at <https://www.tamuc.edu/office-of-student-rights-and-responsibilities/concerns-incident-reporting/>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy
[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Graduate student academic dishonesty policy:
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Graduate student academic dishonesty form:
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

East Texas A&M Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage.

Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements

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and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Services
Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5930

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Website: <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information

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regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and East Texas A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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