Instructor: Diane Schott, M.A.
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NOTE: please include your full name and the class you are in when emailing me
Office Location: Cand. #2008
Office Hours: Monday’s 9:00am-12:00pm or by apt.

“In all affairs, it’s a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted.” Bertrand Russel

Everything you need to know to get started in this course is addressed in this syllabus. If you have ANY questions, please feel free to contact me. You are responsible for the information, dates, and deadlines found in this syllabus.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
After completing course students will be able to:
- Define and apply core sociological concepts and in particular as they relate to the field of social psychology.
- Examine, discuss, and critique human behavior and social structure from a sociological perspective.
- Apply sociological theoretical perspectives to current social issues.
- Collect and analyze scholarly literature relevant to current social issues and through the perspective of social psychology.
- Develop effective communications of sociology through both written and oral work and in particular within the discourse of social psychology.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

REQUIRED READINGS AVAILABLE ON ELECTRONIC RESERVE:
Mehan & Wood, Five Features of Reality.

COURSE OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTION:
GETTING STARTED: Please click on the “Start Here” button and review the various course components and learn how the course is organized. You will learn what’s expected of you in terms of hours expected to invest in this class, technical skills, etc. You will also learn what to expect from me in terms of interacting with you and how to reach me. You will find very useful information under the “Assignments” button which provides “netiquette” rules, grading policies, test-taking tips, and much more. Also, please click on the “Course Schedule” button and print out a summary of the required readings, assignments, and due dates.
PURPOSE OF THIS COURSE: This course is designed to introduce you to the field of social psychology; the study of the relationship between individuals and society. We will look at the current major themes and areas of study in social psychology as well as its history and methods. We will examine the prominent social psychological theories and then apply these theories to understanding social issues and behavior such as conformity, aggression, prejudice, and attraction. We will learn to apply the concepts from this class to our everyday lives within our families, relationships, groups we belong to, occupations, and all facets of life. This will be accomplished through assigned readings, visiting various websites, viewing PowerPoints, participating in discussion boards, and written assignments. Discussion boards, written assignments, a PowerPoint presentation assignment, and exams will be used to measure learning objectives.

NETIQUETTE: It should go without saying that the same standards of behavior that you would follow in “real life” apply in an on-line course. Please review netiquette standards in the “Assignments.” There is no tolerance for unacceptable behavior or cyber bullying. Class netiquette mandates that you do your best to act within the normal expectations of human interaction while interacting with your classmates on-line.

INSTRUCTOR AND STUDENT INTRODUCTION: You can learn about me, my teaching philosophy, and credentials by clicking on the “Faculty Information” button. You will be asked to introduce yourself to the class and upload a picture during the first week of class.

SUMMARY OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Participation—Discussion Boards:** You will be required to complete assigned readings, view PowerPoints, view videos, and/or visit assigned websites prior to participating in the discussion boards. The discussion boards require you to post a thread in which you share and analyze your understanding of that learning unit’s material as well as reply thoughtfully to a classmate’s post—70 points total available to earn on discussion boards.

2. **Written Assignments:** There will be various types of written assignments to complete in each learning unit; specific instructions will be included with each assignment. Most assignments will require writing short papers, (2-3) pages, although occasionally the assignments will deviate from written papers. There will be one assignment in each learning unit. Each assignment will be worth 20 points—120 points total available to earn.

3. **Social Psychological Principle PowerPoint/Video Presentation:** one PowerPoint presentation in which you will have researched and synthesized the research of one particular social psychological concept/topic into an informative PowerPoint presentation. You will also illustrate the social psychological principal by using video in your PowerPoint presentation so you can bring the topic to life in your PowerPoint. Specific instructions for this assignment will be in the “Assignments” folder—50 points total available to earn.

4. **Exams:** There will be three multiple choice exams; each one at approximate two week intervals—100 points per exam for a total of 300 points available to earn.
LEARNING UNIT OBJECTIVES: To meet the learning objectives of the course, each learning unit in this course will usually cover two chapters of the required readings, will require you participate in a discussion board, complete a written assignment, and complete a combination of any of the following activities: view a PowerPoint presentation of the material, watch a video, and/or visit and peruse a website. Points are awarded for discussion board participation in each learning unit and for completion of written assignments in each learning unit. Once a learning unit has concluded, participation for that unit CANNOT be made up.

Please print out and refer to the course schedule under the “Course Schedule” button for specific learning objectives for each learning unit and discussion board and written assignment due dates.

MEETING THE LEARNING OBJECTIVES: The following explains how to complete the course requirements thereby meeting the learning objectives.

PARTICIPATION:

Reading the assigned material and viewing PowerPoints are important requirements of this course. Also, there will also be occasions where websites must be visited and perused and videos must be watched. Completing the activities is essential to learning and takes the place of the activities in a traditional face to face class. These requirements must be completed at the beginning of each learning unit to facilitate accurate and meaningful online participation in discussion boards. One critical aspect of participation is participating in the discussion boards. Regular and consistent participation in the discussion boards is crucial to your success in this course. This is an on-line course, you do not have to attend a class, so your participation with the discussion boards is equivalent to attendance in class.

The discussion boards are an arena to discuss ideas, ask questions, and seek clarification, as well as learn about social psychological principles and demonstrate your understanding of the material. The discussion boards are designed for me to be able to assess how you meet the learning objectives and also how I get to know you as a person. NOTE: in each learning unit the discussion boards have a limited time frame, be aware of the posted deadlines.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

Learning Unit Writing Assignments: Each learning unit will require that you complete the assigned activities and demonstrate your understanding of the material by completing a writing assignment. Each learning unit will come with specific instructions for that unit’s writing assignment.

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGICAL PRINCIPLE POWERPOINT/VIDEO PRESENTATION:

You will be responsible to create and submit a PowerPoint presentation in which you will have fully researched one specific social psychological principle/topic of your choice. You are free to choose any of the topics we cover in class as well as topics we don’t cover. A social psychological principle/topic is in essence a behavior that can be understood through the lens of social psychology—which is just about every form of human behavior. The goal of social psychology is to explain human behavior by understanding the influence of the social context on the behavior. The goal of this assignment is to demonstrate that you have fully researched one principle/topic and correctly applied theory and other concepts from class to explain that topic or behavior from a social psychological perspective and to bring that topic/behavior to life in your PowerPoint by using video and other media of your choice. You are free to use Prezi rather than PowerPoint if you prefer. Detailed instructions for this assignment will be in the “Assignments” folder. This assignment is worth 50 points.
Exams:

There will be three objective question exams worth 100 points each. These will cover material from reading assignments, PowerPoint presentations, video, websites, and discussion boards. Tests will consist of multiple choice and true/false answer questions. Each exam will be available from 9:00am until 11:00pm on scheduled exam day and will have a specific time limit in which to complete it. It is very important that you complete and submit the exam before the time limit has expired. The time limits are posted with each exam. NOTE: The exams will be challenging so be sure you know your material well for the exams. **No make-up exams will be given without documentation of a university accepted excuse for missing an exam—300 points available to earn.**

Please view test takings tips available under “Assignments” and also view the “online test taking tips” under “Academic Resources” in Blackboard Support.

GRADING:

Your grade will be based on the following:

**13%--Discussion Boards: 70 points;** 10 points each board (5 pts. possible for new thread, 5 pts. possible for reply.)

**22%--Written Assignments: 120 points;** 20 points each assignment.

**10%--Social Psychological Principle PowerPoint/Video Presentation: 50 points.**

**55%--Exams: 300 points;** 100 points per exam, three exams.

A = 90% or higher  
B = 80% - 89%  
C = 70% - 79%  
D = 60% - 69%  
F = 59% or lower

I do not use a plus/minus grading system.

Grades can be checked from you student tool icon. When checking your grades, you should find a numerical score. If you see a “!” symbol, that means that the assignment or test has not been graded yet. There are many students in this class so please be patient about seeing your grade. All grades will be posted as soon as possible. If you see a symbol that looks like a sheet of paper in the grade book, this indicates that the assignment or test was not sent, or was sent but never went through properly. In this case, you need to email me for instructions on what needs to be done so that a grade can be given for the assignment or exam.

Late work: I do not normally accept late work unless you have a university approved reason for missing a deadline such as a death in the family, severe illness, etc. However, if I accept your work past the deadline, you will be docked 10% of the total points per day late.

WHAT I EXPECT FROM YOU:

I expect that you will begin each learning unit in a timely manner, read the required materials, visit websites when included, view any PowerPoints, all prior to completing assignments and participating in discussion boards. Please click on the “Assignments” button to view the grading rubrics that will help you understand how to meet the learning objectives and how you will be graded on meeting the learning objectives.
EXPECTED TIME COMMITMENT:
This course is conducted entirely online but is not a self-paced course. There are deadlines and due
dates in each learning unit and once discussion boards are closed, they will not be re-opened. This
course proceeds quite quickly and because it is entirely online, you must be able to work hard on your
own and be self-disciplined. Do not just complete the readings, study and learn the material so you can
discuss specific issues, findings, and concepts on the discussion boards and in the
assignments. Remember that in a traditional face-to-face course you attend class three hours per week
and an additional six hours per week outside of class for reading and assignments. So, just as in a face-
to-face class, schedule your time wisely and schedule time to "attend" this online class and spend the
same amount of time as you would in a traditional face to face class.

REQUIRED TECHNICAL SKILLS:
There are no prerequisites for this class but it is expected the student will have an understanding of:
avigating within blackboard, opening assignments in blackboard, submitting assignments in
blackboard, viewing web links in blackboard, and taking exams in blackboard. Blackboard has
information about how to make sure your computer is compatible for the course. Please click on the
“Blackboard Support” link under “Academic Resources.” It is also recommended that you go the
blackboard “Help” at the very top of the screen, click on student to find answers to most
blackboard questions. I am not an IT technician. I cannot help you upload assignments, tell you
what’s wrong with your computer, or give you an extension because of any computer related problems.
You are in an online class, so you are solely responsible for figuring out how your computer is
compatible with Blackboard and ensuring that you see confirmation that your assignments are
uploaded successfully before they are due. Contact an IT technician IMMEDIATELY at 970-351-
HELP if you have problems. I CANNOT accept any email attachments as your submitted
assignments.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO POLICIES

Plagiarism
Plagiarism or any form of cheating will not be tolerated. Please visit this link to understand what
consists of plagiarism and UNC’s policy regarding such behavior.
http://www.unco.edu/dos/academicIntegrity/students/definingPagiarism.html

UNC’s Policies
UNC’s Policies – UNC’s policies and recommendations for academic misconduct will be followed.
For additional information, please see the Dean of Student’s website, Student Handbook link
http://www.unco.edu/dos/handbook/index.html

Honor Code
All members of the University of Northern Colorado community are entrusted with the responsibility
to uphold and promote five fundamental values: Honesty, Trust, Respect, Fairness, and Responsibility.
These core elements foster an atmosphere, inside and outside of the classroom, which serves as a
foundation and guides the UNC community’s academic, professional, and personal growth.
Endorsement of these core elements by students, faculty, staff, administration, and trustees strengthens
the integrity and value of our academic climate.

Students with disabilities:
Any student requesting disability accommodation for this class must inform the instructor giving
appropriate notice. Students are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services at
(970) 351-2289 to certify documentation of disability and to ensure appropriate accommodations are
implemented in a timely manner.
Library Services for Distance Education and Off-Campus Students: Obtaining Materials from UNC Libraries

Off-campus students residing within 50 miles of the UNC campus are required to come to the library and borrow materials in person. Students residing more than 50 miles from campus may request that materials be delivered to them. All requests must include complete citations. We will supply materials from the UNC Libraries, as well as materials from other libraries obtained via Interlibrary Loan. Articles will be delivered via email. Books will be mailed first class. Delivery time by U.S. postal service is approximately 1 week. It is the responsibility of the student to return books by the date due. UNC does not pay return postage on books. For information on document delivery, call (970) 351-1446.

Requests for materials may be made through the following methods:
Online: http://www.unco.edu/library/forms/distancerequest.htm
By email: library.ocp@unco.edu
By fax: (970) 351-2540

Notice
The Office of Extended Studies reserves the right to cancel or reschedule courses based upon enrollment. Enrolled students will be contacted with information of any change.

Student Satisfaction Evaluation
Participants will be asked to evaluate the workshop for instructors’ knowledge, interest and enthusiasm as well as providing additional information on classes or topics which you would like to see developed as a future offering from UNC.

Course Withdrawal Information
In accordance with University and Colorado Department of Higher Education policy, if you drop this class after the course starts you will be assessed a drop fee. The drop fee is pro-rated up to the half-way point in the class. You are legally responsible for payment of full tuition once 50% of this course has been concluded. In order to be eligible to receive any refund of tuition, you must contact the Office of Extended Studies (1-800-232-1749) to formally withdraw from your class. Your refund, if applicable, will be based on the date of contact with our office. Withdrawals received via telephone during non-business hours will be processed and dated on the next working day. Failure to notify us will result in UNC tuition being owed even though you do not attend or complete the coursework.

I realize this is a tremendous amount of information. I am here to answer any question you may have, please do not hesitate to ask. I want you to succeed in this course, and more importantly, I want you to LEARN.

Please scroll down and review the “Course Content and Schedule.” A detailed course schedule is available under the button “Course Schedule.”
COURSE CONTENT AND SCHEDULE:

Unit #1: Intro to Social Psychology, Social Psychology as a Science, Theories—9/28—10/4:
- Read Chapter 1—What is Social Psychology?
- Read Chapter 9—Social Psychology as a Science
- View PowerPoint—Intro to Social Psychology
- Participate in introduction discussion board
- Participate in course material discussion board #1
- Complete assignment #1

Unit #2: Theories in Social Psychology & The Five Features of Reality—10/5—10/11:
- Read “Five Features of Reality” by Mehan & Wood (on electronic reserve)
- Print out and review theory handout
- View PowerPoint on the Five Features of Reality
- View PowerPoint on theories in social psychology
- Participate in course material discussion board #2
- Complete assignment #2
- Complete Exam #1

Unit #3: Conformity & Mass Communication, Propaganda, and Persuasion—10/12—10/18:
- Read Chapter 2—Conformity
- Read Chapter 3—Mass Communication, Propaganda, and Persuasion
- View PowerPoint on Conformity
- View PowerPoint on Mass Communication
- View video: The Mean World Syndrome (available in UNC library) or pick another video
- Participate in course material discussion board #3
- Complete assignment #3

Unit #4: Social Cognition & Self Justification—10/19—10/25:
- Read Chapter 4—Social Cognition
- Read Chapter 5—Self Justification
- View PowerPoint on Social Cognition
- View PowerPoint on Self Justification
- Participate in course material discussion board #4
- Complete assignment #4
- Complete Exam #2

Unit #5: Human Aggression & Prejudice—10/26—11/1:
- Read Chapter 6—Human Aggression
- Read Chapter 7—Prejudice
- View PowerPoint on Human Aggression
- View PowerPoint on Prejudice
- Participate in course material discussion board #5
- Complete assignment #5
Unit #6: Liking, Loving, and Interpersonal Sensitivity—11/2—11/6:

- Read Chapter 8—Liking, Loving, and Interpersonal Sensitivity
- View PowerPoint on Liking, Loving, and Interpersonal Sensitivity
- Participate in course material discussion board #6
- Complete assignment #6
- Complete and submit PowerPoint presentation on one social psychological topic
- Complete Exam #3