PSYC 30 Course Outline as of Summer 2025

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: PSYC 30 Title: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
Full Title: Social Psychology
Last Reviewed: 12/9/2019

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	4	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00 Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category:	AA Degree Applicable
Grading:	Grade Only
Repeatability:	00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP
Also Listed As:	
Formerly:	PSYCH 30

Catalog Description:
This course examines the mental processes, situational factors, individual differences, and group phenomena that influence the way people interact with other people, with emphasis on interpersonal attraction, attitudes and attitudinal change, prejudice and discrimination, and aggression.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: This course examines the mental processes, situational factors, individual differences, and group phenomena that influence the way people interact with other people, with emphasis on interpersonal attraction, attitudes and attitudinal change, prejudice and discrimination, and aggression. (Grade Only)
Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent
Limits on Enrollment:
Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.
Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	**Area**		Effective:	Inactive:
	D	Social and Behavioral Sciences	Fall 2025	
	L4	Social and Behavioral Sciences		
	D	Social and Behavioral Sciences	Fall 1981	Fall 2025
CSU GE:	**Transfer Area**		Effective:	Inactive:
	D	Social Science	Fall 2010	
	D9	Psychology		
	D	Social Science	Fall 1991	Fall 2010
	D1	Anthropology and Archeology		
	D4	Gender Studies		
	D9	Psychology		
	D	Social Science	Fall 1981	Fall 1991
	D1	Anthropology and Archeology		
	D4	Gender Studies		
IGETC:	**Transfer Area**		Effective:	Inactive:
	4	Social and Behavioral Science	Fall 1981	
	4I	Psychology		

CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:

CID:
CID Descriptor: PSY 170 Introduction to Social Psychology
SRJC Equivalent Course(s): PSYC30

Certificate/Major Applicable:
Both Certificate and Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Student Learning Outcomes:
At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Describe and analyze the theories and areas in Social Psychology
2. Evaluate the assets, limitations, and ethics of the various research designs and explain how research findings can be generalized across time and cultures.

Objectives:
At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Discuss the major psychological research theories in the field of social psychology.
2. With examples, describe and apply various types of research methods used for studying social behavior.
3. Explain how individual personality characteristics (e.g., motivation, feelings, attitudes and cognitive processing) and environment (e.g., norms and cultural rules) interact to

influence the individual's goals, beliefs and decision-making processes.
4. Compare and contrast the four core processes of social cognition (attention, interpretation, judgment and memory).
5. Define self-presentation and analyze how self-presentation is important to appearing likable, appearing competent, and conveying status and power.
6. Distinguish the difference between persuasion and cognitive dissonance, and appraise how these concepts create attitude changes.
7. Differentiate among various types of social influences (e.g. conformity, compliance and obedience).
8. Discuss reasons for obtaining mates and reasons for ending relationships.
9. Compare and contrast the genetic, neural and chemical, and social situational influences of aggression and aggressive behaviors.
10. Provide definitions, causes, and ways of reducing stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination.
11. Evaluate how theories of cooperation/conflict, competition/altruism, and conservation/short-sighted selfishness positively and negatively affect the immediate and global environment in which people live.

Topics and Scope:

I. Introduction to Social Psychology
II. Methodology: Research Methods
III. Social Cognition: How We Think About the Social World
IV. Social Perception: How We Come to Understand Other People
V. The Self: Understanding Ourselves in a Social Context
VI. Social Influence
  A. Conformity
  B. Compliance
  C. Obedience
VII. Attitudes and Attitude Change: Influencing Thoughts and Feelings
VIII. Interpersonal Attraction: First Impressions to Close Relationships
IX. Prosocial Behavior: Understanding Why People Help Other People
X. Aggression: Understanding Why People Hurt Other People and Prevention
XI. Prejudices, Stereotyping and Discrimination
  A. Causes
  B. Cures
XII. Group Processes: Influences in Social Groups
XIII. Social Dilemmas
  A. Conflict
  B. Cooperation
  C. Resolution
XIV. Integrating Social Psychology: Attaining a Sustainable Future

Assignment:

1. Read approximately 35 pages per week
2. Writing assignment that may include research, experiential, response, or project for a minimum of 1,250 words
3. Quizzes, exams, and a final
4. Oral presentation and/or group project may be assigned

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Research, experiential, response, or project paper	Writing 30 - 60%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None	Problem solving 0 - 0%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None	Skill Demonstrations 0 - 0%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Quizzes, Exams, and a Final	Exams 40 - 60%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Oral presentation and/or group project	Other Category 0 - 10%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:
Social Psychology and Human Nature. 4th ed. Baumeister, Roy. and Bushman, Brad. Cengage. 2017

Social Psychology. Heinzen, Thomas and Goodfriend, Wind. Sage. 2019

Social Psychology. 13th ed. Myers, David and Twenge, Jean. McGraw-Hill. 2019