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PSY 322 Social Psychology Instructor: Sharron Thompson

Text: Social Psychology (2nd Ed.) by Franzoi, S.L.

Wed. 5:30-9:40 / Summer 2000 Contact No.: 942-3786 (Ans. Svc.)

#### COURSE OUTLINE

#### 1. DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide an overview of the field of social psychology. Through active participation and the use of discussion, videos, lectures, reflective exercises, student presentations, and readings students will explore social psychology theories regarding class and cultural influences, social attitudes, group identification and dynamics, intergroup relations and interpersonal relations.

# 2. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The Student will:

- 1. Have knowledge of the historical development of social psychology.
- 2. Demonstrate familiarity and understanding of the major theories, terms, definitions, and people of special note in the field of social psychology.
- Understand and have an appreciation for the rigorous demands of research and application in the field of social psychology.
- 4. Develop a scholarly approach to exploring the prevalent issues, choices and challenges in the field of social psychology.
- 5. Apply the information from the class lectures, the text and materials to develop a well thought out, academically sound research paper.
- 6. Employ critical thinking skills to integrate knowledge about behavior into daily life so as to enrich one's understanding of self and others.

It is the students responsibility to check in for attendance if late arriving for class. Please turn off all pagers and cell phones while in class.

There will be no eating of food during class time. Beverages are OK.

It is important in an interactive class for all students to come to class fully prepared and ready to actively participate.

Be prepared to openly and objectively discuss each section of the text weekly. All classes will consist of open dialogue concerning issues presented in the text or relevant to the topic of discussion. This may include working in groups on assigned projects or presenting reflective exercises as well as general class participation.

## 3. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

200 Total

### B: Purpose of the Assignments:

- 1. The quizzes and Final will be administered to determine the understanding and retention of the course content.
- 2. The reflective exercises and the Research Paper allow the student to explore social phenomena and apply the principles learned in class to formulate the outcomes.
- 3. The presentation gives the student the opportunity to demonstrate ability to gather and present topic materials in a scholarly manner.
- 4. Because this is an accelerated class, every absence constitutes a major loss of data and ability to participate in class activities. There is no exception for absences. Each four hour class is worth four attendance and participation points, one point per attendance hour. (If you arrive late, be sure to inform instructor so you receive correct attendance points instead of a four point absence.)

# C: Grading System:

The total points are 200. Letter grades are based on the following point system:

180 - 200 A 160 - 179 B 140 - 159 C 120 - 139 D Below 120 F

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO MAKE UP QUIZZES OR EXAMS OFFERED. THERE WILL BE OPPORTUNITY TO EARN EXTRA CREDIT OFFERED TO ENTIRE CLASS THAT CAN BE USED TO OFFSET SOME POINT LOSS. I SUGGEST YOU AVAIL YOURSELF OF THIS OPTION IF YOU HAVE ABSENCES.

## 2. REFLECTIVE EXERCISES/RESEARCH PAPER:

Reflective ex. 1: Pick a social phenomenon and display it visually, e.g., photos, drawings, video, magazine pictures and clippings, etc., are all acceptable. Set up a series of 5 to 6 sections or shots from least to most obvious or recognizable. (See if you can stump the class.)

Reflective ex. 2: Observe a social phenomenon that is new to you and which poses no real or perceived threat to your well-being. Write a 1 to 2 page description of the event. (Class will try to guess the event by how you have described it.) HINT: Look into events that appeal to a particular culture, age-related activity, gender orientation, or other area of interest that is unique to you for some possibilities.

Research Paper:

The Research paper should be typed, double-spaced if on typewriter, 1½ spaced if on computer, and be a minimum five full main body pages of writing. It should have an Introductory and Closing Statement, at least two quotes or citations from professional resources, and at least one graph, chart or illustration. It must be done in an unbiased manner and topic is to be cleared with the Instructor prior to writing the paper.

The Research Paper will contain four sections.

- 1. Historical Overview.

  This section contains the Intro statement and a brief look at the phenomenon you researched via other previous and/or related research to your topic area. (This can be done by "stack" research, Internet, prior class texts and materials etc.)
- 2. Methodology.
  This section reports the parameters and approach to your active research. A methodology outline will be provided by Instructor.
- 3. Results.
  This section reports the results of your research in complete and objective terms. Data should be reported in percentages, when applicable.
- 4. Summary and Implications.
  This section contains the closing statement which summarizes the basic findings and significant areas of your research. It is also the section where the researcher states opinion of what the results of the research "means", and the implications it may hold. Some researchers also include a Recommendations statement, if applicable.

5. COURSE TIMELINE. WEEK 1 Course Introduction and Requirements Icebreakers Ch. 1: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY AS A DISCIPLINE Ch. 2: THE SELF THE SELF Reflective exercise #1 due next class WEEK 2 Reflective Exercise #1 Presentations Ch. 3: SOCIAL PERCEPTION Ch. 4: SELF PRESENTATION & SOCIAL COGNITION Groupwork to select Research Topics (Diads) Quiz 1 - Chapters Rest of Chapter 4 Ch. 5: ATTITUDE WEEK 3: - Chapters 1, 2, 3 ATTITUDES Video: Guts, Gumption Go Ahead! WEEK 4 Quiz 2 - Chapters 4 and 5 Ch. 6: PERSUASION
Ch. 7: PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION Video: Still Killing Us Softly Reflective exercise #2 due next class WEEK 5 Quiz 3 - Chapters 6 and 7 Ch. 8: SOCIAL INFLUENCE Ch. 9: GROUP BEHAVIOR GROUP BEHAVIOR Video: Diversity Reflective Exercise #2 Presentations WEEK 6 Quiz 4 - Chapters: 8 and 9 Ch. 10: INTERPERSONAL ATTRACTION Ch. 11: INTIMATE RELATIONS Video: Human Sexuality RESEARCH ROUGH DRAFTS DUE NEXT WEEK WEEK 7 Quiz 5 - Chapters 10 and 11

WEEK 7 Quiz 5 - Chapters 10 and 11 Ch. 12: AGGRESSION Ch. 13: PROSOCIAL BEHAVIOR Guest Speaker

WEEK 8 Quiz 6 - Chapters 12 and 13
Ch. 14: PERSONAL RELEVANCE OF SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
START OF PRESENTATIONS
Group discussion session to assist with research and any other issues to be resolved for semester grade.

WEEK 9 Remaining Presentations
Final Exam Review
LAST DAY TO TURN IN FINAL RESEARCH PAPER AND ANY LATE PAPERS!

WEEK 10 FINAL EXAM
Individual close-out sessions

NOTE: SYLLABUS MAY BE ADJUSTED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE CLASS.