

# PSYC 3341:

# Social Psychology

## This Course is Designed to:

- **Introduce you to social psychology.** Social psychology is the scientific study of how people think, feel, and behave in different situations. We'll cover topics ranging from emotions and romantic relationships to group behavior and how we think and perceive the world around us.
- **Develop your critical thinking skills.** You'll learn about the defining features of the scientific method, which will enable you to identify scientific psychology, think critically, and evaluate social psychological research and claims.
- **Help you apply psychology to real life.** You'll learn how social psychological principles can be applied to your own life!

## Required Materials

1. A laptop or desktop with microphone, webcam, and internet connection
  - Poll Everywhere ([pollev.com/nwhudson](http://pollev.com/nwhudson))
  - Canvas ([smu.edu/canvas](http://smu.edu/canvas))
2. No textbook is required or recommended for this course.

## Professor

Nathan W. Hudson, Ph.D.  
Expressway Tower 1328  
214.768.1515  
[nwhudson@smu.edu](mailto:nwhudson@smu.edu)

## Class Meetings

Mondays-Fridays  
12-4pm CDT

## Office Hours

Please email me to set up an appointment at least a day in advance. Appointments are encouraged to be held via Zoom in the Course eRoom: [smu.zoom.us/██████████](https://smu.zoom.us/j/██████████)

## COURSE LOGISTICS

### Student Learning Objectives and Skills

This course is approved as a Social and Behavior Sciences (SBS) course as well as a Human Diversity Proficiencies and Experiences course under the Common Curriculum.

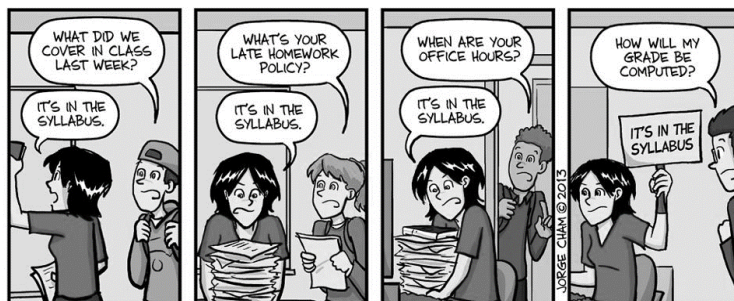
**Students will demonstrate an understanding of theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of human behavior, culture, and/or other institutions.** By the end of this course, you'll understand the scientific theories and method that social psychologists use, and will be able to apply scientific findings to real life.

**Students will demonstrate an understanding of human diversity and the systems of structural inequality that shape human experiences.** By the end of this course, you'll gain understanding of group dynamics and how prejudice functions and affects human lives.

### Course Format

This course meets every weekday (Monday-Friday) from 12-4pm. We'll take breaks as needed each day. Remember, we're fitting an entire, 15-week course into just 11 days! So, prepare for an intense experience. In addition to daily class meetings, you'll have a few out-of-class assignments and will likely have to spend an hour or two each day studying.

### Questions?



## IT'S IN THE SYLLABUS

This message brought to you by every instructor that ever lived.

WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

### Getting in Contact

The best way to contact me is through email. I'm happy to answer most questions via email (although complex questions may require an appointment to discuss). I'll get back to you within 1 business day.

### Tech Support

I can offer only limited technical support. If you have trouble using Canvas (e.g., turning in assignments), please contact the OIT Help Desk at [help@smu.edu](mailto:help@smu.edu) or by phone at 214-768-HELP.

### Writing Support

If you need help with the writing assignments, you can schedule an appointment with the SMU Writing Center through Canvas. You can also get subject-specific tutoring through SASP: [smu.edu/sasp](http://smu.edu/sasp)

### SMU Required Syllabus Statements

For more information on University-wide policies (e.g., regarding disability accommodation, religious holidays, pregnant students, and campus-carry prohibitions), please see [smu.edu/syllabus-statements](http://smu.edu/syllabus-statements)

# GRADING

## Exams

There will be two ***at home*** exams. All exams are cumulative. Exams may consist of: (a) multiple choice questions; (b) short essay prompts; and/or (c) other types of questions or activities. Anything we discuss in class, as well as anything on the lecture slides, are fair game for exams!

All exams will be completed ***at home*** on Canvas using the Lockdown Browser. Exams will become available at 12pm CDT on their assigned day and will close at 2:30pm CDT that same day. Each exam is worth 150pt (300pt total).

## Exam Policies

- You ***must*** complete exams ***on your own***. You cannot use any notes, electronic devices, textbooks, or other resources during the exams.
- You must use the lockdown browser and have your webcam on during the exam.
- Don't wear headphones during the exam. Make sure your eyes and ears are visible during the whole exam.
- Complete the exam in a single session. If you need to take a break during the exam (e.g., to use the restroom), clearly state to the camera what you're doing.
- Start working on exams early. Even though you have a 2.5-hour window to complete them, I suggest beginning the exams at 12pm (when they become available) so that you have time to contact IOT if you run into any technical support issues.
- Make-up exams will not be offered for any reason, with the exception of the following (note that personal travel, job interviews, etc. are not valid reasons for a make-up exam):
  - Religiously observant students needing an exam extension due to holidays must notify me in writing ***by Day 1 of class***
  - Students needing a makeup exam due to official, scheduled University activities must notify me in writing at least a week in advance, and provide an official travel letter from the University
  - Students who are sick and/or who experience an urgent family crisis during an exam day should provide reasonable documentation (e.g., doctors' notes or police reports) if possible

## Point Breakdown

|                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| Exams               | 300pt |
| Writing Assignments | 100pt |
| Class Participation | 50pt  |
| Total Points        | 450pt |
| +Extra Credit       | +50pt |

## Letter Grade Cutoffs

| Grade | Points Needed |
|-------|---------------|
| A     | 405           |
| B+    | 390           |
| B     | 370           |
| B-    | 360           |
| C+    | 345           |
| C     | 325           |
| C-    | 315           |
| D+    | 300           |
| D     | 280           |
| D-    | 270           |

## Grading Policies

- All grades will be posted to Canvas
- Final letter grades are based on the above point cutoffs, not percentages
- Because all students must be graded with identical standards, there is no special extra credit. So, please do not email asking me to raise your grade

## Class Participation

You can earn up to 50 points toward your final grade by attending class and participating in Poll Everywhere polls during lecture. Each lecture day, you can earn 5pt of participation points. A maximum of 50pt will count toward your final grade. There are 11 class days. Thus, you can miss one day without it affecting your final course grade.

### How to Register for Poll Everywhere:

1. Visit [pollev.com/nwhudson/register](https://pollev.com/nwhudson/register)
2. Create a free account using your @SMU.edu email address
3. When asked how you should be identified, enter your SMU ID without dashes and click the “Update” button to save your SMU ID

### How to Respond to Polls in Class:

1. Open [pollev.com/nwhudson](https://pollev.com/nwhudson) on your laptop or handheld device. It can be helpful to use Poll Everywhere on your phone so that you don’t have to keep switching between Zoom/notetaking software and Poll Everywhere windows on your computer.

## Extra Credit

There will be a total of 3 extra credit assignments throughout the course, each worth 10-20pt. All extra credit assignments will be posted on Canvas (in the “Files” section) and due at 11:59pm on Canvas. Late extra credit assignments will lose 10% per day they are late.



## Lecture Slides are On Canvas

When I was a young whipper-snapper we had to carve our class notes into tiny pieces of tree bark. Try keeping up with a speedy lecture while doing that! These days, you young’uns don’t even have to write the notes. You can just download and print a copy of the lecture slides before class and jot extra information in the margins.

## Ask Questions

During lecture, please raise your hand to ask questions!

## Study & Start Assignments Early

Don’t wait until the last minute to start exams or other assignments! Make sure to give yourself plenty of time to complete all assignments! Also, make sure to regularly study. I recommend taking an hour or two every day to study.

## COURSE POLICIES

### Electronics & Other Distractions

Please silence all phones, laptops, other electronic devices, conversations, and any other unspecified noises before class. Students who are engaging in distracting behavior (e.g., whispering with others, distracting others with non-course-related internet activity, etc.) will be dismissed from class and will lose 5% of their final course grade *per infraction*.

### Disability Accommodations

Students needing accommodations for a disability must first register with Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies (DASS). Students can call 214-768-1470 or visit [smu.edu/dass](http://smu.edu/dass) to begin the process. Once approved and registered, students must submit a DASS Accommodation Letter to me through *DASS Link* and then communicate directly with me to make appropriate arrangements. Please note that DASS can take a while to process your accommodations and issue letters, accommodations are *not* retroactive, and accommodations require advanced notice to implement.

### Academic Integrity

**Exams.** Any cheating during exams will result in a zero on the exam. Cheating includes working with other students on the exam, asking other people to help you on the exam, using any sort of notes or resources during the exam, taking repeated or extended breaks during the exam, and/or attempting to look up previous students' answers to the exam questions.

**Severe/repeated dishonesty.** Any student who cheats and/or plagiarizes severely and/or more than one time will receive a failing final course grade.

### Quiet, Please

Please silence all side-conversations and whispering before class. Disruptive students will not be tolerated.

### Communicate Promptly

If you experience any sort of illness, family emergency, or even difficulty in completing exams or assignments, please reach out promptly via email. Please do not wait until after exams or assignments are due to reach out—I can't help much at that point.

### COVID-19 Policies

Masks are optional in this course. Please be excellent to one another and respect each other. Thus, if you have a cough, sneeze, runny nose, cold, or sore throat, please wear a mask out of respect for me and your classmates. Please respect any students who choose to wear a mask for their own safety—as well as for our collective safety as a class. Students are encouraged to stay up to date on COVID vaccinations.

# TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

| W | Date   | Topic                                                                | Due*                 |
|---|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | R 5/9  | Unit 1: Introduction<br>Unit 2: Research Methods                     |                      |
|   | F 5/10 | Unit 3: Personality                                                  | Extra Credit 1       |
| 2 | M 5/13 | Unit 4: Emotions & Well-Being                                        | Extra Credit 2       |
|   | T 5/14 | Unit 5: Social Cognition                                             | Writing Assignment 1 |
|   | W 5/15 | Unit 6: Social Attribution                                           |                      |
|   | R 5/16 | <b>EXAM ONE</b>                                                      | <b>EXAM ONE</b>      |
|   | F 5/17 | Unit 7: Relationships                                                |                      |
| 3 | M 5/20 | Unit 8: Attitudes<br>Unit 9: Persuasion<br>Unit 10: Social Influence | Extra Credit 3       |
|   | T 5/21 | Unit 11: Prejudice<br>Unit 12: Groups                                | Writing Assignment 2 |
|   | W 5/22 | Unit 13: Aggression<br>Unit 14: Altruism                             |                      |
| 3 | R 5/23 | <b>EXAM TWO</b>                                                      | <b>EXAM TWO</b>      |

*\*Assignments are due at 11:59pm CDT on the noted day. Exams are due at 2:30pm CDT.*



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
READ THE  
SYLLABUS**