

Fall 2020

STS 321-001: Social Psychology

Narendra-Neel Khichi

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325 Social Psychology

New Jersey Institute of Technology

Dr. Narendra Neel Khichi, Jr

Location/Time: Synchronous-Online

Monday and Wednesday 7:30am-8:50am

Office: Cullimore 314

Office Hours:

Monday: 7:00am-7:30am; 9:00am-10:30am

Tuesday: 10:00am-12:00pm (online by appointment)

Wednesday: 7:00am-7:30am; 9:00am-10:30am

Thursday: online via appointment

Office Phone: 973.642.7402

Email: nkhichi@njit.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Social psychology is the study of how individuals affect and are affected by other people and by their social and physical environments. Social psychology helps us to understand and explain how our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are influenced by the actual, imagined, and implied presence of others. Social psychology is the recognition that human responses are influenced by social situations, in addition to, the products of our individual personalities. Social psychologists study interpersonal and group dynamics and social challenges, such as prejudice, implicit bias, bullying, criminal activity and substance abuse. They research social interactions and the factors that influence them, such as group behavior, attitudes, public perceptions and leadership.(apa.org)This course will provide students an introduction and overview of research and theory in social psychology. We will focus on studying social behavior scientifically and will cover, but not limited to, the following topics:

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- a. To introduce the basic subject area of social psychology and its relationship to human interaction, our environment, society, and technological society.
- b. Identify and understand the major theories, principles, and research findings in the field of social psychology
- c. To develop an understanding for social psychology and how it can be used to study human behavior, the global society and in various life situations
- d. To analyze society and technology using a social psychological lens- and the role it plays in our constantly evolving culture and society.
- e. To use social psychology to gain a better understanding of society and groups in which we all live, as well as, our technological society
- f. To demonstrate content area knowledge of the field of social psychology
- g. To employ quantitative and qualitative analytical techniques relevant to identified content in the field of social psychology
- h. Framing contemporary issues through a social psychological lens
- i. To use self-reflection and critical thought that expands awareness of the student and the world around them and apply the theories of social psychology in this process

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Akert, Aronson, & Wilson. (2010). Social Psychology. 7th Edition. Pearson. ISBN# 978-0-13-814486-9

ASSIGNMENTS:

Syllabus Confirmation	50
Attendance	100
Quiz #1	100
Quiz #2	100
Quiz #3	100
Quiz #4	200
Discussion Forum #1	50
Discussion Forum #2	50
Essay #1	50
<u>Essay #2</u>	<u>50</u>
Total	750

GRADING SCALE:

100-91.....	A
90-87.....	B+
86-81.....	B
80-77.....	C+
76-71.....	C
70-65.....	D
65 <.....	F

Synchronous Online Course:

This course is a synchronous online course which means we meet at the “same time, different place; utilizing video conferencing technologies.”

Canvas:

Familiarize yourself with Canvas, as all quizzes will be administered through Canvas. All forms of communication with the class as a whole will be done through Canvas, as well. You can access it at: canvas.njit.edu

Email: Anything related to the class will be posted on Canvas and sent to you via email. It is your responsibility to frequently CHECK YOUR NJIT EMAIL and CANVAS for the latest on any class information or news. Information regarding the course is available on Canvas, also.

Email

Please check your NJIT email regularly. Any announcements, reminders, or notifications are sent via Moodle directly to your NJIT email account. Also note I respond to emails within 12-24 hours AFTER it is sent. Please be patient and do not send multiple emails with the same information. Any email sent after 4:00pm on Fridays will be responded to on Monday morning.

Class Expectations and Procedures:

Quizzes and assignments are to be turned in ON TIME. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Should an issue arise, contact me via email. You may lose points on the assignment, but a 50 is better than a 0.

Also, be respectful and courteous to other people's opinions that may differ from yours. Keep in mind, it is okay to disagree. In fact, it is healthy and encouraged. But the disagreement must be discussed in an adult manner. In addition, if during class or on the optional discussion board a comment is made that you feel I should address, you find offensive, or would like me to comment on, please email me separately and I will. Sometimes things can easily be taken out of context during an open discussion or on discussion forums and it takes an unbiased reader/commenter (me) to bring understanding to both sides.

Academic Integrity:

“Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at:

<http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>.

Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. ***Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university.*** If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu”

Students are expected to read and understand NJIT's academic integrity policy. Members of the NJIT community are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors.

There is a zero tolerance policy on any and all forms of cheating.

Attendance:

You are expected to attend ALL classes.

Three unexcused absences = 50/100

Four unexcused absences = 25/100

FIVE unexcused absences = 00/100

Six or more unexcused absences= F for the course.

Lateness:

Three “lates” to class = 1 unexcused absence

Four “lates” to class = 2 unexcused absences

Five “lates” to class = 3 unexcused absence

More than Five “lates to class results in a 0 for attendance

Student’s that require special accommodations Disabilities Service Policy

Students with disabilities who are otherwise qualified and are college able will receive reasonable accommodations to support their special needs. Students must self-identify to the Disabilities Services office to qualify to receive services. NJIT is in full compliance with the regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

New Jersey Institute of Technology is committed to making students with disabilities full participants in its academic and other programs, services and activities through the provision of reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. The Coordinator of Student Disability Services will coordinate the provision of appropriate accommodations and/or academic adjustments on a case-by-case basis for students with disabilities who identify themselves, provide adequate documentation of their disability and need for accommodation, request services and complete appropriate forms. Appropriate accommodations are provided at no cost to the student.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Dr. Phyllis Bolling, Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (C-CAPS), Campbell Hall, (entry level), room 205, (973) 596-3420.

Personal Conflicts/Issues

Should you have any personal issues or conflicts that prevent you from participation in the online course, miss assignments, or do not log onto the course for an extended period of time- by extended period of time I define as more than two weeks- you must provide me with documentation from the Dean of Students. Otherwise, you will not be allowed to make up the work you miss. In addition, anything that requires discussion must be done during office hours. If you are not engaged with the class for weeks- simply writing me an email stating “I’ve been really sick and couldn’t do my work” is not a viable excuse. You must see me during office hours.

Graded Assignments:

Quizzes: There are 4 timed quizzes. Dates and details are provided in the syllabus. No make ups for quizzes are provided unless we discuss PRIOR to the quiz.

Introduction Essay: There is one introduction essay due at the end of the first week of the semester. It is worth 50 points.

Concluding Essay: There is one final concluding essay due at the end of the semester. It is worth 50 points.

Discussion Forums: There are 3 discussion forums this semester. Below is a breakdown of how I grade the forums.

Attendance: Attendance is worth 100 points of your grade. You are expected to attend ALL classes. More than FIVE unexcused absences is an automatic F.

Discussion Forum Rubric:

This semester you will have 3 Discussion forums. Each forum is worth 50 points. Below is a breakdown of how the posts are graded:

45-50: You have posted at least 4x on the forum. Your initial post is approximately 200 words. Your other posts should reply to at least 3 different students. Each reply post is a minimum of 100 words. You stay on topic. You comment on other student's views. You offer **evidence** in the form of an article, a quote, in which you **put in bold in your posts**.

40-44: You have posted 3x on the forum. Your initial post is 200 words. Your other posts should reply to at least 2 different students. Each reply post is a minimum of 100 words. You stay on topic. You comment on other student's views. You offer **evidence** in the form of an article, a quote, in which you **put in bold in your posts**.

35-39: You posted 2x in the forum. Your initial post is approximately 200 words. Your other posts should reply to at least 2 students. Each reply post is a minimum of 100 words. Posts appear rushed. Very little evidence is offered.

30-34: You posted 1x in the forum. You only replied to one student. Posts appear rushed. No evidence is offered.

25-29: You posted 1x in the forum, your initial post and did not reply to any student.

0: You did not post and/or work is unacceptable and not on par with college level work.

Essay Grading Rubrics:

Below is a breakdown of how the introductory essay and concluding essay assignments are graded. Should you wish to further discuss your grade OR get more detailed and constructive feedback, please see me during office hours:

45-50: The assignment provides a minimum of five examples, provides thoughtful and detailed analysis. The paper ties in both the student's views and supports those views the sources and data from the course content. The assignment is structured and organized well, there is a strong fluid writing style, and there is an originality in style and presentation. There is a clear connection and relationship between the three examples.

40-44. The assignment provides four examples, provides thoughtful and detailed analysis. The assignment ties in some student's views and supports those views with some of the sources and data from the course content. The assignment has good structure and organization with some minor issues in writing style. The paper does not take any creative or original risks. There is somewhat of a relationship between the examples.

35-39. The assignment provides three examples, but is weak on the analysis. It ties in very little of the student's views and provides minimal support from the sources and the data. Some structural and organizational issues are present. The assignment meets the bare minimum requirements of the assignment. It is unclear if a relationship exists between the examples and the topics.

30-34. The assignment provides less than three examples, is weak on analysis, has issues in structure and organization. There is no connection between examples and/or topics.

25. The assignment is rushed and does not follow directions. There is an attempt at organization but it is sloppy. There is no clear focus, there is no relationship among the topics. It lacks analysis. This assignment does not meet the requirements of the course and is unacceptable and not on par with college level work.

0. The assignment was not submitted.

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This will be a fun, interesting course and an overall strong learning experience for you. Should you have any questions or any difficulty with anything, please do not hesitate to contact me via email. I am always available via email or during my office hours. Please give me at least 24 hours to respond to your email. If you've made it this far into the syllabus congrats and well done. Please post in the Syllabus Confirmation forum on Canvas by copying and pasting the following: "I have read, understood, and will abide by the expectations of the course. I have viewed the audio/visual syllabus in its entirety and understand how the class functions." If you do this, before Sunday, September 13th @ 1159pm will be given a grade of 50/50. Anything posted from September 14th-20th will be given a grade of 25/50. Anything posted September 21st and after is automatically a 0. Unless you state otherwise in the post it is understood that you have read this completely and agree to the conditions in this syllabus.

Schedule:

*(This schedule is subject to change without warning or prior notification. Should there be a change, you will be notified in advance, the beginning of the week that is to be changed)
 (Each chapter, along with all articles posted on Moodle should be read prior to the class it is assigned)*

Week	Readings/Topics of the Week/Questions	Assignment (s)
Week 1 September 1, 2020- September 6, 2020	Introductions Review of course Review of syllabus	
Week 2	Introduction to Social Psychology: What is Social Psychology? How do values change?	Syllabus Confirmation

September 7, 2020- September 13 th , 2020	social situations and behavior What are some basic human motives? Applying Social Psychology to social problems	
Week 3 September 14 th , 2020- September 20 th , 2020	Social Cognition: How We Think About the Social World Low-effort Thinking Controlled social cognition: high-effort thinking How well do you reason?	Assignment: Introductory Essay due Sunday night@1159pm **any late submissions are immediately dropped to a grade of 25**
Week 4 September 21 st , 2020- September 27 th , 2020	Social Perception: How We Come to Understand Other People Using your voice as a nonverbal cue The email/text/app dilemma: communicating without non-verbal cues Implicit personality theories Causal attribution Culture and other attributional biases	Discussion Forum #1 due Sunday night @1159pm.
Week 5 September 28 th , 2020- October 4 th , 2020	The Self: Understanding Ourselves in a Social Context Self-knowledge Cultural differences in defining the self Gender differences in defining the self Knowing ourselves by observing our own behavior How should parents raise their children? Self-control: the executive function of the self.	Quiz #1 on Wednesday, September 30 th , 2020

<p>Week 6</p> <p>October 6th, 2020-October 11th, 2020</p>	<p>The Need to Justify Our Actions: The cost and benefits of dissonance reduction</p> <p>Maintaining a stable, positive self-image The advantage of finality Justifying action Good deeds Learning from our mistakes.</p>	<p>No assignment due this week.</p>
<p>Week 7</p> <p>October 12th, 2020-October 8th, 2020</p>	<p>Attitudes and Attitude Change: Influencing thoughts and feelings</p> <p>The nature and origins of attitudes Affective and cognitive bases of attitudes How do attitudes change? The need for cognition When will attitudes predict behavior?</p>	<p>Discussion Forum Assignment #2</p> <p>**any late submissions are immediately dropped to a grade of 25**</p>
<p>Week 8</p> <p>October 19th, 2020-October 25th, 2020</p>	<p>Conformity: Influencing Behavior</p> <p>Conformity: When and Why Informational Social Influence: The Need to Know What's "Right" Normative Social Influence: the need to be accepted Fashion: Normative Social Influence in Action Using Social Influence to Promote Beneficial Behavior Obedience to Authority.</p>	
<p>Week 9</p> <p>October 26th, 2020-</p>	<p>Group Processes: Influence in Social Groups</p> <p>What is a group? Groups and individuals' behavior Group decisions Conflict and Cooperation</p>	<p>Quiz #2 is on October 28th, 2020</p>

November 1 st , 2020		
Week 10 November 2 nd , 2020- November 8 th , 2020	<p>Interpersonal Attraction: From first impressions to close relationships: What causes attraction?</p> <p>Mapping the effect of propinquity in your life Close relationships Love and relationships Ending intimate relationships</p>	No assignment this week.
Week 11 November 9 th , 2020- November 15 th , 2020	<p>Prosocial Behavior: Why Do People Help?</p> <p>Personality Qualities and Prosocial Behavior: Why Do Some People Help More than Others? Individual Differences Gender Differences Cultural Differences Religion and Prosocial Behavior The Effects of Mood on Prosocial Behavior</p>	Essay #2 is due Sunday night @1159pm
Week 12 November 16 th , 2020- November 22 nd , 2020	<p>What is aggression? Why do we hurt other people? Can we prevent it?</p> <p>Fighting and its attractiveness Neural and chemical influences on aggression Social situations and aggression Insults and aggression How to reduce aggression</p>	No assignment this week
Week 13 November 23 rd , 2020- November 29 th , 2020	<p>Prejudice: Causes and cures</p> <p>Prejudice: the ubiquitous social phenomena. Prejudice defined. Stereotype and aggression What causes prejudice? How can prejudice be reduced?</p>	Quiz #3 is on Monday, November 23 rd , 2020

<p>Week 14</p> <p>November 30th, 2020- December 6th, 2020</p>	<p>Making a difference with Social Psychology</p> <p>Resolving social dilemmas</p> <p>Week of Review</p>	<p>Week of Review</p>
<p>Week 15</p> <p>December 7th, 2020- December 13th, 2020</p>	<p>Quiz #4 is on Monday, December 7, 2020</p> <p>December 9, 2020- our last class. Individual conferences by appointment only.</p>	<p>Quiz #4 is on Monday, December 7, 2020</p> <p>December 9, 2020- our last class. Individual conferences by appointment only.</p>
<p>Week 16</p> <p>December 14th, 2020- December 20th, 2020</p>		