[Bermuda College](http://www.college.bm/), [Division of Liberal Arts](https://www.college.bm/index.php/academics)

**Psychology 2210 01: Introduction to Social Psychology**

Fall 2019

Tuesday and Thursday, 10:05 to 11:25

Hallet Hall H273

**Professor:** [Dr. Jeremiah M. Faries](file:///\\fileprint\home\faculty\jfaries\index.htm)

**Office hours**:  [TBA](file:///\\fileprint\home\faculty\jfaries\perweb%20temp\timetable.htm)

Office: West Hall 316

Phone: 236-9000 ext. 4266

email: [jfaries@college.bm](mailto:jfaries@college.bm)

website: [http://www.3dharbour.com/jmf](http://www.3dharbour.com/jmf/coursepages/psy_2210_top.asp)

***Prerequisite****:*  Psychology [1101](file:///\\college.bm\fileprint\Profile\jfaries\Downloads\psy_1101_top.asp)/[1102](file:///\\college.bm\fileprint\Profile\jfaries\Downloads\Syllabus%20Psych%201102.asp)

***Goals of the Course****:* The purpose of the course is to provide an overview of the major theories of social behaviour and development. We will cover social principles that govern how we conform to social pressures, how we display altruism, aggression, how attitudes and stereotypes are formed, who we are attracted to, how we communicate, and how we succumb to persuasion. We will examine the effects of group dynamics on social behavior and consider how all of the above determinants are manifest in normal and abnormal human social behaviour. My main goal is that you learn the skills needed to (a) read and understand complex theoretical explanations of social behaviour (b) clearly present an understanding of your opinion of these explanations and (c) develop ways to critically evaluate both your ideas and other researcher’s ideas.

In particular you will learn differentiate different kinds of conformity behaviour and to explain them from different theoretical points of view. You will learn to define and explain altruism and to explain several obstacles for pro-social behaviour. We will study reasons for aggression and you will be able to develop arguments for and against several theories currently used to explain general and specific kinds of aggression. You will learn to analyse the various factors that determine who we are attracted to and who we are not attracted to. You will also consider the causes and potential cures for stereotyping and prejudical social behaviour. We will also study how people are persuaded and you will be able to apply the theories of persuasion and communication to a real example of a persuasive message. Most importantly, you will learn how to critique, evaluate, and extend psychological theories in light of experimental evidence. You will be able to analyze the results of psychological experiments and you will be asked to design and carry out a small scale experiment on a topic of your choosing.

***Classes and Assignments****:* There will be two classes each week. These will be a combination of lecture and discussion format. I hope you will think critically about the topics we cover and that you will feel free to raise questions and comment on what you study. You will be required to prepare and turn in a short [weekly assignment](#weekly) based on the readings for the week. The details of this weekly assignment are outlined below. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT I RECEIVE THESE ASSIGNMENTS EACH TUESDAY (unless I specify otherwise). You will prepare two [midterm written assignments](http://3dharbour.com/jmf/coursepages/2210%20assignments/2210%20assignments%20top.asp)  and you will be presenting some of these to the entire class towards the end of the term. You are expected to attend all lectures and complete all assignments and exams in timely fashion. Should there be a problem with those expectations please see me to arrange an alternative way to satisfy your obligations. PLEASE CHECK YOUR COLLEGE ISSUED EMAIL ON A REGULAR BASIS AS IT IS THE MOST RELIABLE WAY TO CONTACT YOU OUTSIDE OF CLASS.

* [***Textbook:*** Aronson, E. A., (2018) *The Social Animal 12e* . ISBN: 146414418 Worth Publishers.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Social_Animal_(Aronson_book))

***Grading:*** Grades will be based on a term paper, a Midterm exam, a Final exam, and weekly homework assignments. All assignments are due in class on the date indicated.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 15% | [Weekly assignments](#weekly)/Class participation |
| 30 % | [Two Midterm Assignments](http://3dharbour.com/jmf/coursepages/2210%20assignments/2210%20assignments%20top.asp) (15% each) |
| 25 % | Midterm exam |
| 30 % | Final exam |

*(Please remember that for your written assignments the ideas should either be your own or you should cite the person from whom you've borrowed the ideas. I will give you more details on what I expect in a written paper before the first midterm assignment is due.)*

***Weekly Assignment****:* ***Due each Tuesday:***

Each week we will read at least one chapter of the text plus occasional supplementary materials. To help prepare you for our tutorial discussion of the material I ask that you do the following short assignment. This assignment should not take much of your time as each point should only be a sentence or two. PLEASE SUBMIT THESE TO MOODLE ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST DAY WE DISCUSS THE TOPIC IN CLASS

1. Identify ONE major claim and evaluate the kind of evidence used to support it?

2. Briefly describe one example from your own experience or someone you know that

is relevant for the topic in this chapter.

3. Identify one thing you **agree** with about either the theories outlined or the

use of the evidence to support them? Be specific.

4. Identify one thing you **disagree** with about either the theories outlined or the

use of the evidence to support them? Be specific

5. Identify at least one thing that surprised you in this reading.

6. Ask one good question about the chapter.

**Psychology 2210 01, Introduction to Social Psychology**

**SYLLABUS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Date* | *Topic* | *Readings* |
| Aug 27 | Introduction |  |
| Aug 29 | Introduction | Chapter 1,9 |
| Sep 3 | Bystander Behaviour/Conformity | Chapter 4 |
| Sep 5 | Bystander Behaviour/Conformity | Chapter 4 |
| Sep 10 | Altruism and Conformity | Article |
| Sep 12 | Altruism and Conformity | Article |
| Sep 17 | Aggression | Chapter 6 |
| Sep 19 | Aggression | Chapter 6 |
| Sep 24 | Aggression | Chapter 6 |
| Sep 26 | Aggression | Chapter 6 |
| Oct 1 | Mid Term Exam |  |
| Oct 3 | Social Cognition | Chapter 2 |
| Oct 8 | Social Cognition | Chapter 2 |
| Oct 10 | Social Cognition | Chapter 2 |
| Oct 15 | Experimental Design 1 |  |
| Oct 17 | Midterm Break | Chapter 2 |
| Oct 22 | Experimental Design 2 |  |
| Oct 24 | Experimental Design 3 |  |
| Oct 29 | Social Cognition and Stereotype formation | Chapter 7 |
| Oct 31 | Stereotype formation | Chapter 7 |
| Nov 5 | Persuasion | Chapter 5 |
| Nov 7 | Persuasion | Chapter 5 |
| Nov 12 | Experiment Presentations |  |
| Nov 14 | Experiment Presentations [**FIRST ASSIGNMENT**](http://3dharbour.com/jmf/coursepages/2210%20assignments/2210%20Experimental%20Assignment.asp) **DUE** |  |
| Nov 19 | Interpersonal Attraction | Chapter 8 |
| Nov 21 | Interpersonal Attraction | Chapter 8 |
| Nov 26 | Persuasion Assignment Presentations |  |
| Nov 28 | [SECOND ASSIGNMENT](http://3dharbour.com/jmf/coursepages/2210%20assignments/2210%20Persuasion%20Assignment.asp) DUE |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Dec ?? | **Final Exam** |  |