

# PSYC3017 – Social Psychology

<b>Unit of Study Code:</b>	PSYC3017
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<b>Format of Unit:</b>	2 x 1 hour lectures/week x 13 weeks 1 x 2 hour tutorial/week x 12 weeks
<b>Credit Point Value:</b>	6 Credit Points
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Intermediate Psychology units including PSYC (2013 or 2113) plus one other Intermediate Psychology Unit from PSYC (2011 or 2111), PSYC (2012 or 2112), PSYC (2014 or 2114).
<b>Assessment:</b>	<b>Classwork:</b> 35% of total mark, a 2,500 word practical report Due Date: Friday May 22nd  10% of total, a class presentation of research (20 mins) Due Date: Week 13.  5% of total, based on assigned readings in preparation for class presentations Due Date: Available from 7 until 13  <b>Examination:</b> 50% of total, multiple choice questions (0.75) and short answers (0.25)

## **TEACHING & LEARNING COMMITTEE POLICY:**

ALL pieces of students' written assignments are to be submitted *on-line* to ensure that plagiarism detection software can be implemented.

**Evaluation of teaching and learning:** Date: Week 13  
Type: ITL Questionnaire



## **Unit of study general description:**

PSYC3017 continues the coverage of topics in Social Psychology begun in PSYC1001 and PSYC2013. The unit is divided into topic areas, where the emphasis is on evaluating theories and the relevant evidence. Topics areas include social relationships, antisocial behaviours (such as aggression, violence and discrimination) and their reduction social cognition, the self, attitudes, and social stigma. Tutorials provide first hand experience of research by involving students in a range of research projects on the topics covered in the lectures. The tutorials also provide an opportunity for discussion of issues associated with these topics.

## **Graduate Attributes and Student Learning Outcomes for Social Psychology**

*This course is structured around the graduate attributes associated with the scientist-practitioner model, the basis for the training of psychologists in Australia and internationally.*

Graduate Attributes are the generic skills, abilities and qualities that students should acquire during their university experience and the School of Psychology is committed to providing an environment to promote these skills. In addition, this unit of study will provide students with generalised and transferable skills that will also be useful in careers outside psychology.

The following graduate attributes and student learning outcomes will be developed through lectures, tutorial and assessment activities in particular. They will be assessed primarily in the laboratory report, presentation, and in the final examination.

### ***1: Knowledge and Understanding of Social Psychology***

Display basic knowledge and understanding the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in Social Psychology

*Student learning outcomes:*

- (i) To stimulate an interest in the contribution of social psychologists to the understanding of changes in socialization, group processes (both inter and intra group), and interpersonal processes (viz. helping behaviour and interpersonal affiliation and attraction);
- (ii) Ability to describe, explain and evaluate research studies examining a core area of social psychology.
- (iii) Ability to chart the progression of theories in major areas in Social Psychology.

### ***2: Research Methods in Social Psychology***

Understand, apply and evaluate basic research methods in Social Psychology, including research design, data analysis and interpretation, and the appropriate use of technologies.

*Student learning outcomes:*

- (i) To develop a critical understanding of the major methods of research in this area.
- (ii) To critically assess the major theories and research findings in these areas.
- (iii) To interpret statistical analyses.
- (iv) Use basic web-search, word-processing, database, email, spreadsheet, and data analysis programs.
- (v) Design and conduct basic studies to address psychological questions: frame research questions; undertake literature searches; critically analyse theoretical and empirical studies; formulate testable hypotheses; operationalise variables; choose an appropriate methodology; make valid and reliable measurements; analyse data and interpret results; and write research reports.

### **3: Critical Thinking Skills in Social Psychology**

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, sceptical inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to thought and behaviour.

*Student learning outcomes:*

- (i) Demonstrate an attitude of critical thinking that includes persistence, open-mindedness, and intellectual engagement.
- (ii) Evaluate the quality of information, including differentiating empirical evidence from speculation.
- (iii) Evaluate issues and behaviour using different theoretical and methodological approaches.
- (iv) Use reasoning and evidence to recognise, develop, defend, and criticise arguments and persuasive appeals.

### **4: Values in Social Psychology**

Value empirical evidence; act ethically and professionally; and understand the complexity of sociocultural and international diversity.

*Student learning outcomes:*

- (i) Recognise and respect social, cultural, linguistic, spiritual and gender diversity.
- (ii) Use information in an ethical manner (e.g., acknowledge and respect the work and intellectual property rights of others through appropriate citations in oral and written communication)
- (iii) Be able to recognise and promote ethical practice in research.
- (v) Promote evidence-based approaches to understanding behaviour.

### **5: Communication Skills in Social Psychology**

Communicate effectively in a variety of formats and in a variety of contexts

*Student learning outcomes:*

- (i) Write a standard research report using American Psychological Association (APA) structure and formatting conventions.
- (ii) Demonstrate effective oral communication skills in various formats (e.g., group presentation) and for various purposes.
- (iv) Collaborate effectively, demonstrating an ability to: work with groups to complete projects within reasonable timeframes; manage conflicts appropriately and ethically.

### **6: Learning and the Application of Social Psychology**

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal and social issues.

*Student learning outcomes:*

- (i) To develop an awareness of the applications of the theories and research findings in Social Psychology.
- (ii) Apply psychological concepts, theories, and research findings to solve problems in everyday life and in society.
- (iii) Understand major areas of applied Social Psychology

## Evidence of learning:

Assessment will take the form of: (1) an examination which will cover the full range of teaching outcomes (the examination will consist of multiple-choice and short answer questions); (2) a research report which will focus on the skills of designing, conducting, analysing data, and reporting results in a standard journal paper format; (3) an oral presentation of research by the research group, which will assess the ability to communicate background, research design and results in a 20 minute talk.

### 7. School of Psychology Plagiarism Policy information for Students

Plagiarism is **NOT** permitted.

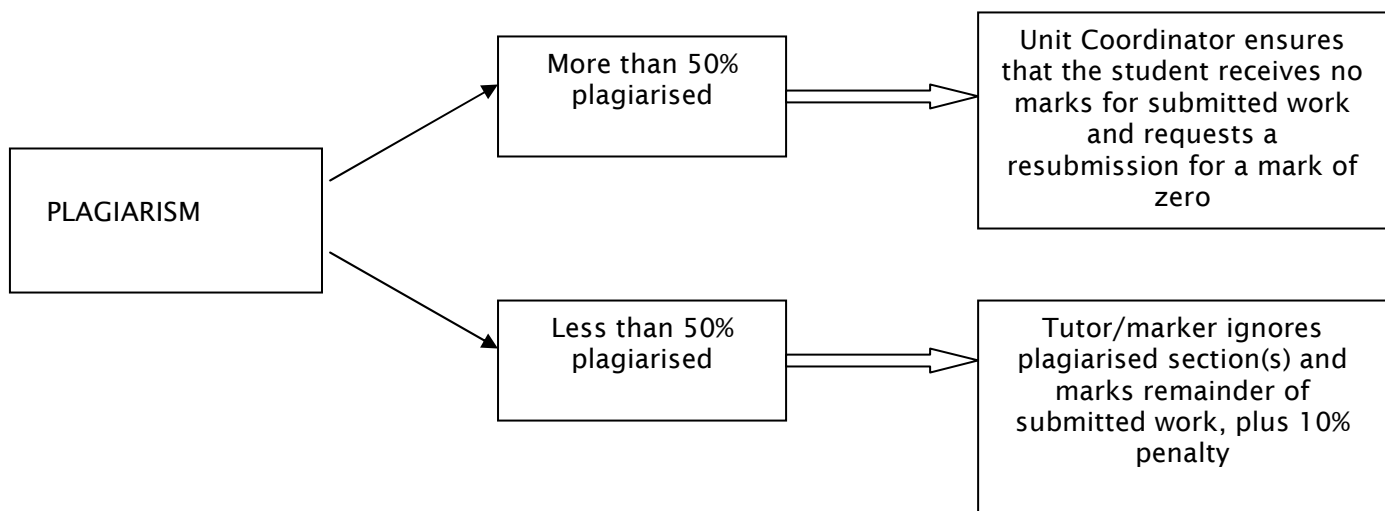
(i) Are you sure you know what plagiarism is?

Please refer to the University policy on plagiarism:

<http://www.usyd.edu.au/senate/policies/Plagiarism.pdf>

(ii) The School of Psychology will penalise all submitted work that is plagiarised.

(iii) The School of Psychology is using software to detect all forms of plagiarism.



# SYLLABUS

## ***The Self***

Models of the self, self-esteem, illusions of the self, self and social identity, self-conscious emotions, cultural and gender differences in defining the self.

## ***Attitudes***

Automatic and controlled components of attitudes, the attitude-behaviour link.

## ***Social Stigma***

Defining stigma, consequences of being stigmatised, stereotype threat

## ***Antisocial Behaviours***

Defining aggression and critically evaluating relevant theoretical frameworks underpinning this construct. Discussing the social application of aggression via the concept of violence; the impact of media portrayals of violence; the reduction and prevention of violence.

Defining discrimination as the behavioural component of prejudice; identifying various forms of discrimination (age, sex, racial); evaluating the effectiveness of state and Federal legislative Acts; and being introduced to various strategies and interventions to effectively reduce discrimination.

## ***Social Relationships***

1. Ostracism (the act of being excluded and ignored); model of ostracism, ostracism in the real world, ostracism in the laboratory.
2. Interpersonal attraction: internal and external determinants of attraction, arousal, love

## **TIMETABLE**

### **Social Psychology Lectures**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>Lecturer</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
1	March 2	1	Karen Gonsalkorale	The Self I
	March 4	2	Karen Gonsalkorale	The Self II
2	March 9	3	Karen Gonsalkorale	The Self III
	March 11	4	Karen Gonsalkorale	The Self IV
3	March 16	5	Karen Gonsalkorale	Social Stigma I
	March 18	6	Karen Gonsalkorale	Social Stigma II
4	March 23	7	Karen Gonsalkorale	Social Stigma III
	March 25	8	Karen Gonsalkorale	Attitudes I
5	March 30	9	Karen Gonsalkorale	Attitudes II
	April 1	10	Fiona White	Aggression and violence I
6	April 6	11	Fiona White	Aggression and violence II
	April 8	12	Fiona White	Strategies to reduce Aggression and violence
	<b>EASTER</b>			
7	April 20	13	Fiona White	Age Discrimination
	April 22	14	Fiona White	Sex Discrimination
8	April 27	15	Fiona White	Race Discrimination
	April 29	16	Fiona White	Strategies to reduce discrimination I
9	May 4	17	Fiona White	Strategies to reduce discrimination II
	May 6	18	Lisa Zadro	Ostracism I
10	May 11	19	Lisa Zadro	Ostracism II
	May 13	20	Lisa Zadro	Interpersonal attraction: Introduction
11	May 18	21	Lisa Zadro	Interpersonal attraction: Internal Determinants
	May 20	22	Lisa Zadro	Interpersonal attraction: Internal Determinants II
12	May 25	23	Lisa Zadro	Interpersonal attraction: External Determinants
	May 27	24	Lisa Zadro	Interpersonal attraction: External Determinants II
13	June 1	25	Lisa Zadro	Interpersonal attraction Self-disclosure & Arousal
	June 3	26	Lisa Zadro	Interpersonal attraction: Love

### **RECOMENDED TEXT**

Please note: it is not necessary to buy the textbook. At a third year level, we would prefer you to refer to articles as opposed to secondary texts. However, the textbook may help you to understand or revise key terms and concepts.

Baron R. A., Byrne D., & Brandscombe, N. R. (2006) *Social Psychology*, 11th Edn, Boston: Allyn & Bacon

## THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY LIBRARY

<http://www.library.usyd.edu.au/>

The University of Sydney Library is a distributed system of 14 libraries with a collection of over 5 million items. Fisher Library is located on Eastern Avenue, Camperdown Campus. Fisher Library has the most resources relevant to Psychology.

Poppy Prezios is your Psychology Faculty Liaison Librarian. You can find her at Badham Library Ground Floor, Badham Building Science Rd, Camperdown Campus. You can phone her on 0434 606 913 or email at [p.prezios@library.usyd.edu.au](mailto:p.prezios@library.usyd.edu.au).

### **Psychology books in high demand**

Reserve (located on Level 2 of Fisher Library) is a 2 hour loan collection. Most of the required and recommended items will be here. Details of items required can be located in the catalogue.

<http://opac.library.usyd.edu.au/search/r>

### **Psychology Guide**

includes links to Psychology databases, internet resources, information on tests and more.

<http://libguides.library.usyd.edu.au/psychology>

### **Finding items on your reading lists**

Your reading lists will contain different styles of citations, depending on the type of publication. The link below will take you to help on finding items on your reading list.

<http://elearning.library.usyd.edu.au/learn/readinglist/index.php>