Psy 225

Social Psychology

Course Description
This course is a study of individual behavior as it is influenced by social roles, group identification, attitudes and values.

Prerequisites: PSY 201 or SOC 101 or instructor approval.

3.0 Cr (3 lect/pres, 0 lab, 0 other)

Text and References

Course Focus
This course will encourage the student to examine individual and group behavior and how it impacts their life. Students will discuss topics like aggression, prejudice, discrimination, obedience, and conformity and explore how these issues affect them and society. Students will recognize how various sources use social influence techniques to impact their decision making processes.

PSY 225 Core Curriculum Competencies

All courses approved for the general education core curriculum help students develop communication skills and/or critical thinking.

This course develops students’ communication skills by requiring the use of the formal register when participating in classroom discussions. Students will also be required to write a 4-5 page paper on a research topic.
This course develops critical thinking skills for both speakers and listeners since students are expected to employ evidence that they understand the thesis of the discussions. Students will also be required to write a 4-5 page paper on a research topic. They will identify the hypothesis, describe the research method(s) used, give a description of subjects used, describe the statistics used, and if the results were statistically significant. They will also be required to discuss whether or nor the research methods were valid and if replicating the study, what they would do differently.

Course Goals
The following list of course goals will be addressed in the course. These goals are directly related to the performance objectives. (*designates a CRUCIAL goal)

1. Define social psychology *
2. Know social psychology history
3. Integrate new theoretical perspectives
4. Comprehend research methods
5. Recognize social psychology variables
6. List social psychology ethics and values
7. Understand self concept *
8. Identify self esteem
9. Analyze self presentation
10. Describe attribution theory *
11. Evaluate impression formation *
12. Explain self-fulfilling prophecy
13. Assess stereotypes *
14. Differentiate prejudice and discrimination *
15. Analyze stereotype and prejudice reduction methods
16. Study attitude formation and measurement *
17. List persuasive communication elements
18. Contemplate cognitive dissonance theory
19. Distinguish conformity compliance and obedience *
20. Assess conformity influences
21. Observe compliance methods
22. Examine obedience and defiance
23. Explore group processes
24. Differentiate social loafing and social facilitation
25. Evaluate group performance problems and solutions *
26. Explore group cooperation and conflict
27. Contemplate interpersonal attraction processes *
28. Contrast friendship and romantic attraction
29. Discuss mate selection
30. Categorize helping behavior
31. Recognize helping behavior personal influences
32. Recognize helping behavior situational influences *
33. Classify aggression types
34. Investigate aggression origins
35. Identify aggression influences *
36. Explore legal and forensic processes
37. Understand jury selection and deliberation
38. Recognize courtroom procedure
39. Evaluate personnel selection factors
40. Conduct performance appraisal
41. Consider leadership styles *
42. Define stress
43. Elucidate how stress impacts health
44. Practice coping strategies

Student Contributions
Each student will spend at least 6 hours per week preparing for class. Attendance is critical in this class. Students are expected to complete all reading and written assignments according to the course schedule.

Course Evaluation
Your final grade for the course will be determined by the average of all exam/test/quiz scores and completion of all required assignments. See CLASS INFORMATION Section for specific details about scoring procedures and due dates.

TCL's grading scale is:
90 - 100 = A
80 - 89 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
Below 60 = F

Course Schedule
The class meets for 3 lecture/presentation hours per week. Course goals will be covered in the chronological order presented on the syllabus.

ADA STATEMENT
The Technical College of the Lowcountry provides access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation, contact the counselor for students with disabilities at (843) 525-8228 during the first ten business days of the academic term.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
There is no tolerance at TCL for academic dishonesty and misconduct. The College expects all students to conduct themselves with dignity and to maintain high standards of responsible citizenship.

It is the student’s responsibility to address any questions regarding what might constitute academic misconduct to the course instructor for further clarification.

The College adheres to the Student Code for the South Carolina Technical College System. Copies of the Student Code and Grievance Procedure are provided in the TCL Student Handbook, the Division Office, and the Learning Resources Center.
ATTENDANCE
The College’s statement of policy indicates that students must attend ninety percent of total class hours or they will be in violation of the attendance policy.

- Students not physically attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.
- Students taking an online/internet class must sign in and communicate with the instructor within the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester to indicate attendance in the class. Students not attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.
- Reinstatement requires the signature of the division dean.
- In the event it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw from the course OR if a student stops attending class, it is the student’s responsibility to initiate and complete the necessary paperwork. Withdrawing from class may have consequences associated with financial aid and time to completion.
- When a student exceeds the allowed absences; the student is in violation of the attendance policy. The instructor MUST withdrawal the student with a grade of “W”, “WP”, or “WF” depending on the date the student exceeded the allowed absences and the student’s progress up to the last date of attendance or
- Under extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the faculty member teaching the class, allow the student to continue in the class and make-up the work. This exception must be documented at the time the allowed absences are exceeded.
- Absences are counted from the first day of class. There are no "excused" absences. All absences are counted, regardless of the reason for the absence.
  ▪ A student must take the final exam or be excused from the final exam in order to earn a non-withdrawal grade.
  ▪ A copy of TCL’s STATEMENT OF POLICY NUMBER: 3-1-307 CLASS ATTENDANCE (WITHDRAWAL) is on file in the Division Office and in the Learning Resources Center.

HAZARDOUS WEATHER
In case weather conditions are so severe that operation of the College may clearly pose a hardship on students and staff traveling to the College, notification of closing will be made through the following radio and television stations: WYKZ 98.7, WGCO 98.3, WZGO 103.1, WFXH 106.1, WWVV 106.9, WLOW 107.9, WZR 104.9, WFXH 1130 AM, WLVH 101.1, WSKO 1230 AM, WAEP 97.3, WTOC TV, WTGS TV, WJWJ TV, and WSAV TV. Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp

EMERGENCY TEXT MESSAGE ALERT
Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. Participants receive immediate notification of emergency events and weather cancelations via text messaging on their cell phones. Participants can also opt in to receive non-emergency news and announcements. Go to www.tcl.edu. On the homepage, click on “emergency TextAlert at TCL” and fill out the form or go to www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp

GRADING METHODOLOGY
The final grade must be 70 or more in order to pass the course and progress in the program. Students absent from an examination or presentation will receive a “0” grade for the examination unless other arrangements
are made with the individual instructor prior to the examination or presentation day or on the examination or presentation day before the test/presentation is scheduled to be given.

The student is responsible for notifying the instructor for the reason of the absence. It is also the responsibility of the student to contact the appropriate instructor to arrange to make up the examination. Arrangements may be completed by telephone.

If the instructor is not available, a message should be left on the instructor’s voice mail AND with another member of the faculty or administrative assistant. The make-up exam will be scheduled and the instructor will decide the method of examination. Messages sent by other students are unacceptable.