



Spring Quarter 2020

Course: PSYC 240 Social Psychology 5 credits Item# 5447 Section HYA
Time: Tue & Thu 12:30 am to 2:20 am
Room: R 204
Instructor: Madhura Sohani
Office: D 100A
Office hours: Tuesday 10:30 am to 11:30 am; Thursday: 12:30pm to 2:20pm or by appointment via zoom
Email: madhura.sohani@bellevuecollege.edu

Course description:

Social psychology is the scientific study of how people's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of others. This course will survey the major concepts, theories, and research findings in social psychology through readings, lectures, discussion, and assignments. Students will be in dialogue with a wide range of research findings and will apply concepts to the greater outside world and their own lives.

Course outcomes:

Upon completion of Social Psychology, students will be able to:

1. Describe the purpose, comprehensive scope, and areas of application in the field of social psychology.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the scientific process by applying and/or critiquing various research methods used by psychologists in the study of behavior.
3. Recognize, compare, and contrast various theoretical perspectives used to explain and guide psychological research and application.
4. Identify historical and present-day contributions of major social psychologists.
5. Define important social psychological terms, concepts, processes, and principles.
6. Apply critical thinking to assumptions, claims, and common-sense ideas about behavior.
7. Demonstrate the application of social psychological principles and findings to one's own life.

Textbook requirement

I do not assign a traditional textbook for this course. Instead, we will use a customized set of readings authored by leading scholars in the sub-disciplines of psychology and provided FREE of charge by the NOBA Project. You may download the entire set of readings (and print them out, if you prefer) from our course homepage on Canvas (available as a PDF) or by clicking [here](#)

Grade distribution

Course Grade

The College Grading Policy is located on page 10 of the Course Catalog: [Grading policy](#). The course letter grade is related to the point total as follows:

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
Minimum %	93%	90%	87%	83%	80%	77%	73%	70%	67%	63%	0%
Minimum Points	465	450	435	415	400	385	365	350	335	315	0-314

Grading system

Course Format

The course comprises of 5 units. For each unit, students will earn points for participation and attendance. For all units, students will do online unit quizzes, complete discussion assignments and responses to peer discussion posts. You will have one final exam on all 5 units. There is a group project on social psychology topics.

Course Grade:

Your course grade will be wholly determined by the total number of points you accumulate on the assignments described below.

Assignment	Points	% of Grade
Introduction post, syllabus quiz (15 pts each)	30	6%
Unit Quizzes (5 quizzes, 20 pts each)	100	20%
Discussion Posts (5 discussions, 20 pts each) + 1 reply to a classmate's post	100	20%
Final Exam (45 MCQs 2 points each, 2 essay questions 5 points each)	100	20%
Poster project + Peer Review	120	24%
Participation and attendance	50	10%
TOTAL	500	100%

Introduction assignment:

In order to help me know a little bit about you, you will be completing this introduction assignment. All the information you share will be of great assistance for me to help you succeed in this class. There is no time limit on this assignment, and you will be awarded the grade as soon as you complete it.

Syllabus Quiz:

You should always consult the syllabus first when you have a question about the class. Chances are, an associated policy is outlined here, and I strictly adhere to my policies. To make sure you have read and understood the policies for this course, you will take a syllabus review quiz on Canvas as one of your first assignments.

Chapter Quizzes

You will complete a short multiple-choice quiz for each unit we cover. These quizzes can be found on our **Canvas course homepage** and also under the “**Quizzes**” page of Canvas website. All chapter quizzes are available to be **retaken 2 times** to obtain a perfect score before the due date with a **25 minutes’ time limit. Quizzes will be due on Sunday night at 11:59 pm.**

Discussion posts

You will have **five online discussions** related to the assigned chapters, videos/ films and articles assigned and will be worth **20 points each**. For each discussion, you have to post a response to the discussion prompt provided every other week and write at least one response to other students’ posts. For all discussions, **please post your individual response by Thursday 11:59 pm and post your response to other students’ posts by Sunday 11:59 pm.**

Criteria for Discussion Response. In order to receive full credit for your discussion response, you will need to answer ALL parts/ sections of the prompt. Try your best to apply concepts we are covering in the course with specific examples (either from the textbook and/or from your personal experiences). Usually a complete initial response on a post is around 300 words. Do not copy paste responses from any website/textbook etc. Responses should be personal and unique. I will randomly run a plagiarism check on the discussion posts.

Responses to Your Classmates’ Discussion Responses. In order to receive full credit for your responses to fellow students/ classmates, you will need to post a response (minimum 100 words each) that shows that you thought critically to develop your response. Your response may include 1) questions of clarification, questions to probe assumptions, reasons, and implications, 2) your interpretation of your classmates’ response with additional

example(s), and/or 3) whether you agree or disagree with your classmates' responses – you must provide justification for your opinion. You will be graded on completeness and thoughtfulness of your response. Just saying "Great post" or "I agree with you" or "interesting post" with no additional input on your end will result in 0 points.

Final Exam

There will be one final online exam based of the topics covered during the quarter. Final will be **45 multiple choice questions worth 2 points each and 2 essay type questions, worth 5 points each. Exam will be 65 minutes long and available to be taken from June 17th to June 19th. There are no retakes on the final exam.**

Once started, you have to finish the exam in 65 mins. Make sure you have strong internet connection and fully charged laptop. "My computer isn't working," "my internet connection is weak," or "my hard disk crashed" are not acceptable excuses. If you don't have a home computer with Internet access, an open computer lab is available in N250 and D101.

NOTE: If you are concerned about your ability to understand exam questions due to a language barrier, you may use a translation dictionary or an electronic translator **without internet access**. If this applies to you, speak with me immediately. **I must approve your device before you may use it on an exam.**

Poster Project:

You will be working in groups of 3 to research a topic from a list of social psychology topics. As a part of this project you follow some steps to develop a deeper understanding of the topic you chose. Following process will be followed to successfully complete the project. You will:

- gather information from reliable online sources and develop a research question
- design a survey/online assessment/experiment to test your research question
- collect information from the people around you
- analyze the survey/assessment/experiment data
- prepare a poster as your final submission.
- Peer review at least 2 other group member's posters.

Poster grade will be determined by:

Deliverables (40 points): Throughout the quarter you will be checking in with me about the project progress by means of 4 deliverables. Even though this is a group project, each student will be turning in an individual submission for each of the deliverable assignment.

Final Poster (60 points): You will create a scientific poster. A poster is a large document that can communicate your research and is composed of a short title, an introduction to your burning question, an overview of your trendy experimental approach, your amazing results, some insightful discussion of above-mentioned results and references.

Peer review (20 points): You will be peer reviewing at least 2 posters made by other groups. You will be looking at the strengths of the poster as well as the research conducted by your classmates.

Detailed instructions on group project are available on your canvas course homepage.

Rules and Classroom Policies

1. Attendance & Participation:

Since we are fully online now, participation and attendance will be measured in the form of completing your course objectives on time, posting in the discussion posts, contributing to group work, attending all group meetings, logging onto canvas every day, doing chapter quizzes on time. This is a relatively easy part of your grade to score full points on. All you have to do is fulfill the expectations of this course and you will be awarded full credit. Reasons you may lose points are, not attending group meetings or contributing to group work, not posting meaningful responses in the discussion posts, constant late submissions, missing assignments, not watching lecture videos/ doing textbook reading.

2. Late policy:

It is important that you meet the deadlines for all assignments. I ensure that you get enough time to complete the assignments. Late submissions will cause you to lose points. Assignments that are turned in 24 hours late will be accepted with a penalty of 20%.

3. Contacting me:

The best way to get in touch with me is via Canvas message or Bellevue College email (madhura.sohani@bellevuecollege.edu). I check my email regularly and you can expect a reply within 24 hours on weekdays. It may take me longer than 24 hours to reply on the weekends. It is important that you ask brief questions with clarifications when necessary. If I do not reply in time, please try and send me the email again.

4. Make Up Exam:

Make up unit exams will only be allowed if legal or medical documentation to explain your absence is presented. Exams may be taken early with at least one week's notice and with written documentation for the upcoming absence.

Tips for Success:

- Canvas will be used for communication with the instructor, accessing course materials, submitting assignments, and so forth.
- Plan to check Canvas at least once every day. Our course homepage can be accessed from the Courses dropdown menu on the left side of the webpage.
- Read and watch all the material provided for each chapter.
- Recorded video lectures as well as PowerPoint slides will be available for each chapter on canvas.
- Take advantage of office hours or email if you have questions about the material.
- Make flash cards of key terms, be able to name terms when given a description, and vice versa.

- Form a study group with other students in the class (but make sure to complete assignments independently).
- Use online Psychology Tutoring available via the Academic Success Center.

Important Notes About Technology Use:

I will be posting class material (e.g., syllabus, PowerPoints, announcements, readings, assignments, and links to articles) regularly on the Canvas course website. **Plan to check the Canvas website regularly.** If you don't have a home computer with Internet access, an open computer lab is available in N250. You will have plenty of time to complete assignments. Excuses such as "my internet wasn't working," "I couldn't make it to the computer lab this morning," or "I thought I posted on the discussion board" will not be accepted.

You are required to create a BC student network account [here](#). The student network account may be created any time after you receive your student identification number (SID) and personal identification number (PIN). For students enrolled in credit classes, the SID and PIN are issued after you apply for admissions. For students enrolled in classes through BC Continuing Education, the SID and PIN are established after you register for a class. Continuing Education students may contact the Continuing Education office directly to request this identification information. Once you have your student network account, go to the Bellevue College website and click Canvas under Student Links to log into the course website. Our course homepage can be accessed from the Courses dropdown menu on the left side of the page.

Classroom Learning Atmosphere

Disagreeing with the instructor, and engaging in passionate, intellectual discussion are not disruptive behaviors if they are done with basic respect. If you feel that your rights have been violated, please contact me immediately. Appropriate action will be taken. Respect is important in three other class rules:

1. Students and teaching staff will not silence the views of others they do not agree with in this class.
2. No one may threaten or intimidate others involved in this course with violence or threats of violence.
3. Harassment, sexual and otherwise, will not be tolerated in this class.

Email Communication

Please use standard professional guidelines for all written communication, including using a formal greeting, writing in complete sentences, and signing your name. Your email should do one of the following:

1. Ask a short, clarifying question whose answer cannot be found in the syllabus
2. Request to meeting time other than during my scheduled and posted office hours and include at least two days and times you are available for this meeting.

3. Request additional feedback on a graded assignment. Include: a) the question, b) your answer, c) the feedback you have already received, and d) any follow-up questions.

Religious Holidays

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments because of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should a disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

College Anti-Discrimination Statement (Title IX)

Bellevue College does not discriminate based on race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates. For further information and contacts, please consult College Anti-Discrimination Statements.

Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share with the Title IX Coordinator all information regarding sexual assault and other forms of sexual misconduct (e.g. dating violence, domestic violence, stalking) that may have occurred on campus or that impacts someone on campus. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the BC Counseling Center at (425) 564-2212. The Title IX Office can be contacted at 425-564-2441 and more information can be found at <https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/>

For further information and contacts, please consult College Anti-Discrimination Statements.

Procedures & Guidelines of the Social Sciences Division

Bellevue College's Affirmation of Inclusion: Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at BC, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect. The college's "Affirmation of Inclusion" is in line with the principle of free speech in a free society: we have the right to express unpopular ideas as long as we don't show disrespect for reasonable people who might believe otherwise. In this course, you will be expressing ideas through the medium of the course site as well as face

to face in the classroom. In that case, these expectations refer to the courtesy with which you communicate with one another in the classroom and on the course website. Part of this respect involves professional behavior towards the instructor, colleagues, and the class itself.

Plagiarism and Other Conduct Policies: Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty that occurs when students use information or material from outside sources and do not properly cite those sources. This is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

1. You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas as references.
2. You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
3. You do not write summaries and paraphrases in his/her own words and/or doesn't document his/her source.
4. You turn in work created by another person.
5. You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course without express permission from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.

Consequences: If you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will likely fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action. If you are new to writing then please come talk to me during office hours and/or visit the Writing Center. Their website is <https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing/> and they are located in D204.

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing: Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: Plagiarizing material from the internet and posting rude or personal attacks in discussions. When you are in doubt about any behavior, please consult your instructor. In addition, you may wish to review the generally applicable rules of cyberspace, such as in the Core Rules of Netiquette. The instructor reserves the right to remove posted messages, and downgrade assessments as a result of these types of behaviors.

The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services. <https://www.bellevuecollege.edu/policies/id-2050/>

Incomplete vs. F: If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). It is the student's responsibility for maintaining contact and adhering to the agreed-upon actions. Canvas class sites, and material may not be directly accessible after the end of the quarter so it is important to decide before the quarter ends. The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F"). There is a standard form that instructors have access to in their instructor's grade briefcase.

F Grade: Students who do not withdraw by the deadline and fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule: Final examinations may involve proctored on-campus arranged exams or may be administrated completely online at the discretion of the instructor and in keeping with the stated policies provided in the course syllabus. Please refer to the syllabus at the start of the quarter for additional details and contact the instructor directly for any clarifications. A student who is not in compliance with the scheduled format may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to follow any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal from Class: Academic Year: College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course. Check the [enrollment calendar](#) for additional details. As with most enrollment deadlines, it is the student's responsibility to be aware of these dates and act accordingly.

Hardship Withdrawal (HW): Hardship Withdrawal indicates a withdrawal request made because of extenuating circumstances after the official withdrawal period is over. The student must contact the instructor to request this withdrawal option, or the faculty member may initiate the contact. No points are calculated into the grade-point average. Students may also contact the enrollment Services Office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students Who Require Disability Accommodations: Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/>. The office is located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110 email drc@bellevuecollege.edu). Students will need to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter or contact your online instructor directly by email. Students who require accommodation in a course should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact Autism Spectrum Navigators. Email and phone number are on the web page. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125.

The DRC office is located in B132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by Skype: the address is DRCatBC (NOTE: There is no @ sign...it is actually DRCatBC). Please visit our website at Disability Resource Center for application information into our program and other helpful links.

COURSE OVERVIEW

DATE		Time due
Week 1 April 13th to April 19th	<u>Unit 1: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY AS A SCIENCE</u> 1.1 Introduction to social psychology & 1.2 Research methods in social psychology	
April 16 th	<u>Discussion 1</u>	11:59 pm
April 18 th	<u>Poster Project Deliverable 1</u>	11:59 pm
April 19 th	<u>Response to at least 1 classmates post</u>	11:59 pm
April 19 th	<u>Unit 1 Quiz</u>	11:59 pm
Week 2 & 3 April 20th to May 3rd	<u>Unit 2: UNDERSTANDING THE SELF AND OTHERS</u> 2.1 Self and Identity 2.2 Social cognition and attitude	
April 30 th	<u>Discussion 2</u>	11:59 pm
May 2 nd	<u>Poster Project Deliverable 2</u>	11:59 pm
May 3 rd	<u>Response to at least 1 classmates post</u>	11:59 pm
May 3 rd	<u>Unit 2 Quiz</u>	11:59 pm
Week 4 & 5 May 4th to May 17th	<u>Unit 3: GROUPS AND GROUP PROCESSES</u> 3.1 Psychology of groups & Social Comparison 3.2 Family & Culture	
May 14 th	<u>Discussion 3</u>	11:59 pm
May 16 th	<u>Poster Project Deliverable 3</u>	11:59pm
May 17 th	<u>Response to at least 1 classmates post</u>	11:59 pm
May 17 th	<u>Unit 3 Quiz</u>	11:59 pm
Week 6 & 7 May 18th to May 31st	<u>Unit 4: SOCIAL INFLUENCE & POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS</u> 4.1 Conformity and Obedience 4.2 Persuasion 4.3 Prosocial behavior and attraction	
May 28 th	<u>Discussion 4</u>	11:59 pm
May 31 st	<u>Response to at least 1 classmates post</u>	11:59 pm

May 31 st	<u>Unit 4 Quiz</u>	11:59 pm
Week 8 June 1st to June 7th	<u>Unit 5: CONFLICT</u> 5.1 Prejudice, Discrimination, Stereotype 5.2 Aggression and Violence	
June 4 th	<u>Discussion 5</u>	11:59 pm
June 6 th	<u>Poster Project Deliverable 4</u>	11:59 pm
June 7 th	<u>Response to at least 1 classmates post</u>	11:59 pm
June 7 th	<u>Unit 5 Quiz</u>	11:59 pm
June 13 th	<u>Poster Submission</u>	11:59 pm
June 18 th	<u>Peer Reviewing 2 posters made by your classmates</u>	11:59 pm
Available to be taken from June 17th to June 19th	<u>Final Exam</u>	Will open at 12 am on June 17th and close at 11:59 pm June 19th

The syllabus is not set in stone and is subject to change. Any change will be informed on canvas.