

SOSC 2210: Social Psychology

Wednesdays & Fridays, 3:00 to 4:20 pm HKT; Room 4619/Zoom*

*The format of the course will follow University guidelines. Consistent with the other SOSC Psychology courses offered, this course will not be recorded.

Instructor	Teaching Assistant
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Course description

This course introduces the fundamental concepts and theories in social psychology, a scientific field of study that seeks to understand the nature and causes of individuals' thinking and behavior in social situations. You must have completed either SOSC 1960 or SOSC 1980 as a prerequisite before taking this course.

Intended learning outcomes (ILOs)

On completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Gain insights into how researchers in social psychology contribute to their respective fields
2. Understand how societal events contribute to research in social psychology
3. Gain fundamental knowledge about how humans interact with one another
4. Understand one's own relationship with other people and the society in which one lives

Lecture schedule

Date	Topic (Wednesday)	Date	Topic (Friday)
1 Sept	Introduction	3 Sept	Research methods of social psychology
8 Sept	Research methods of social psychology	10 Sept	Understanding ourselves
15 Sept	Understanding ourselves	*17 Sept	Understanding the social world
22 Sept	<i>Day After Mid-Autumn Festival</i>	24 Sept	Understanding the social world
*29 Sept	Judging ourselves and others	1 Oct	<i>National Day</i>
6 Oct	Judging ourselves and others	8 Oct	Persuasion
13 Oct	Social influence	*15 Oct	Social influence
20 Oct	Quiz 1	22 Oct	The social group
27 Oct	Group behavior	*29 Oct	Intergroup relations
3 Nov	Intergroup relations	5 Nov	Improving intergroup relations
10 Nov	Improving intergroup relations	*12 Nov	Helping others
17 Nov	Helping others	19 Nov	Helping ourselves
*24 Nov	Helping ourselves	26 Nov	Quiz 2

Note: Course content is subject to change; any changes will be announced in class and on the course Canvas website.

**For a summary of the course assessments and their deadlines, please see pp. 2-3.*

Course communication platform

Announcements and dissemination of all course materials will be made through the course Canvas website: <https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/38391>. You will be directed to read the course materials as necessary during the course.

Learning activities

1. **Lectures**

- Lectures lay the foundation of your learning. They cover the fundamental concepts, involving discussion, interactive activities, videos, and reviews of past research studies. For each topic, additional research articles and news reports that complement the lectures may be recommended, which can be accessed on the course website.
- Lectures provide information you will need to complete the course successfully. Past studies have shown that lecture attendance and participation facilitate learning and predict course grades.

2. **Quizzes 1 and 2 (15% + 15% = 30%)**

- Quizzes assess your learning from the lectures, focusing on your basic conceptual understanding of the course material.
- Everything covered in the class lectures (including video content) may be tested in the quizzes.
- *Quiz 1 (October 20, in class)* covers the topics from September 1 to October 15.
- *Quiz 2 (November 26, in class)* covers the topics from October 22 to November 24.
- Do arrive at the quiz sessions on time. No additional time will be given to late students.
- Absentees will not be granted a make-up quiz, except in the case of critical medical conditions. Doctor's testimony must be provided on the day of the scheduled Quiz.
- Both quizzes will be administered via Canvas Quizzes. You must sign on to Canvas in order to access and complete each Quiz.
- More guidelines, including the format of the quizzes, will be disseminated in due course.

3. **Class participation via Canvas Discussions (5% + 5% + 5% + 5% = 20%)**

- Class participation allows you to consider what you have learned from lecture and apply your knowledge when reading about social psychology.
- For each participation assignment, you will be asked to read the Discussion prompt and post a 200 (minimum) to 250 (maximum) word response on Canvas Discussions.
- Submissions are due at 12 noon HKT on the following dates: September 17, September 29, October 29, November 12. There is no grace period.
- Be sure to submit original work. Your papers will be subject to digital plagiarism detection through www.turnitin.com. Suspected cases may be reported to the school administration. A confirmed case will be subject to a penalty ranging from a reprimand to a failing grade.
- More guidelines, including the grading rubric, will be disseminated in due course.

4. **Paper Assignments 1 and 2 (25% + 25% = 50%)**

- Paper assignments provide you with the opportunity to read an original research paper and demonstrate your understanding of the course material by evaluating the paper findings. The paper assignments should be completed in short paragraph form (each 800 words maximum).
- APA-style citation and referencing will be expected for both paper assignments.
- Submit your paper through Canvas Assignments on the course website.
- Submission is subject to a grace-period policy: Submissions are due at 12 noon HKT but will be accepted until 5 pm HKT on the deadlines (*Paper 1: October 15, Paper 2: November 24*) without penalty. Submissions after this grace period will be subject to a heavy penalty, except in the case of critical medical conditions with a doctor's testimony.
- Be sure to submit original work. Do not copy other current or past students' works. Your paper will be subject to digital plagiarism detection through www.turnitin.com. Suspected cases may be reported to the school administration. A confirmed case will be subject to a penalty ranging from a reprimand to a failing grade.
- More guidelines, including the grading rubric, will be disseminated in due course.

Summary of Assessment Scheme

Assessment Type	Grade %	Key Dates & Times
Quiz 1	15%	October 20
Quiz 2	15%	November 26
Class participation	20%	September 17, September 29, October 29, November 12
Paper Assignment 1	25%	October 15
Paper Assignment 2	25%	November 24

Textbook

No textbooks are required for the course. However, the following two textbooks are being held on reserve in the library for your reference, and you are encouraged to use them to review what you have learned.

- Myers, D. G. (2012). *Exploring Social Psychology* (6th ed.). New York: McGraw Hill.
- Aronson, E., Wilson, T. D., & Akert, R. M. (2010). *Social Psychology* (7th ed.). Boston/Hong Kong: Prentice Hall.

Academic integrity

The University is a community designed for scholarship, one in which academic integrity and honesty are critical values. As a student of UST, you are expected to understand and follow the Academic Honor Code: <http://ugadmin.ust.hk/integrity/honor.html>.

Course feedback

Your opinions are very much valued. Two course feedback sessions, one in the middle and the other (the standard university SFQ) at the end of the course, will be conducted. We also encourage you to speak with the teaching team directly about any concerns or questions you may have about the course.

Got more questions?

- Students can email either the instructor or the TA with their questions; we will always aim to respond within 24 hours.