

Minnesota State College Southeast

PSYC 2531: Social Psychology

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites:

This course requires any of these four prerequisites

PSYC 1110 - Introduction to Psychology

SOCS 1110 - Introduction to Sociology

PSYC 2510 - General Psychology

SOCS 2510 - Introduction to Sociology

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 07 - Human Diversity

This course provides learners with an introduction to the scientific study of how a person's emotions, thoughts, and behaviors are influenced by other people. Students will become familiar with theories, research methods, and applications of social psychology to their own lives. Among the issues to be addressed are group processes, aggression, conformity, attraction, attitude change, and prejudice. Findings regarding gender, racial, and cultural similarities and differences will be covered as well. (Fulfills MnTC Goals 5 and 7) (Prerequisite: PSYC1110 Introduction to Psychology or SOCS1110 Introduction to Sociology) (3 credits: 3 lecture/0 lab)

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/17/2016 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. History of social psychology and the parameters of the field
2. Research methods, ethical considerations, and controversies in social psychology
3. Aspects and interactions of the social self and the private self
4. Social attribution and cognition
5. Attitudes and their formation, maintenance, and change
6. Compliance, conformity, and obedience
7. Groups and group processes
8. Interpersonal attraction and relationships
9. Aggression
10. Prosocial behavior
11. Stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Describe the history of social psychology and its relationships with other disciplines
2. Discuss research methodology in social psychology, and its ethical considerations and challenges
3. Evaluate the quality of social psychology research findings
4. Describe the major concepts and theories of the various areas of social psychology
5. Discuss the relationships between social behavior and biological, evolutionary, and cultural factors
6. Demonstrate awareness of self and others as persons whose behaviors are affected by the situation
7. Apply social psychological constructs and theories to the self and/or others

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

Goal 07 - Human Diversity

1. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
2. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
3. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted