

McDaniel College Budapest
Social Psychology
Fall 2017

Professor Information

Dr. Luis Murillo,
University of Toronto, Universities of Fribourg and Lausanne (Switzerland),
Karolinska Institute (Stockholm), ELTE (Budapest), Central European University (Budapest)
Office Hours: Tuesdays after the lecture. Please announce yourself before hand by email

Course Meeting Times:

MW 4-5:30

Course Overview

This course will explore the history and main theories of Social Psychology, a discipline concerned with how the perceived or real behaviours and mental process of one person or group affect the behaviours and mental process of another group..

Course-Specific Learning Objectives

- a) understand how people are influenced by their surroundings
- b) become aware of automatic and deliberate modes of social thinking
- c) gain insight into social theories that explain group dynamics

Course Readings

Text book: **Social Psychology and Human Nature** by
Roy F. Baumeister and Brad J. Bushman,
Thomson & Wadsworth

Additional: For certain weeks, there will be some additional articles for you to read in preparation for class discussion. I will make these articles available to you beforehand through email.

COURSE GRADING

Class participation – 10%
Ten best out of 12 quizzes - 25 %
Midterm test – 20 %
Final test – 30 %
Oral presentation – 8 %
Final project – 7 %

DESCRIPTION OF REQUIREMENTS

Exams: The format of exams will include multiple choice questions as well as short answer questions.

Participation: This course will be formatted as a lecture, with integrated student discussion. You are encouraged to ask questions. You should take good notes as most lectures begin with a quiz of the material covered in the past session.

COURSE POLICIES

Honor code: As a member of the McDaniel College community, you are expected to abide by the Honor Code on all of your assignments. All work should be submitted with the signed honor pledge, *"I have neither given or received unauthorized aid on this piece of work, nor have I knowingly tolerated any violation of the Honor Code."* We will discuss exactly what constitute plagiarism later in the semester.

COURSE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS & ASSIGNMENT

Topic	Readings
1) Introduction to Social Psychology – the importance of Society, the importance of situation, Social Attribution, autism	Chapter 1
History and Methodology of Social Psychology. Mirror neurons and the social brain. Evolution and the expression of emotions.	Chapter 2
2) Self, self-perception, self-concept, self- esteem, self-presentation	Chapter 3
3) Social Cognition, automatic and deliberate thinking, heuristics	Chapter 5
4) Attitudes, Beliefs, Consistency	Chapter 7
5) Social Influence and Persuasion	Chapter 8
EXAM 1 (<i>Through social cognition</i>)	
6) Prosocial behaviour vs Aggression, <i>"Being Sane in Insane Places"</i> ,	Ch. 9 and Ch. 10
7) Attraction and Exclusion	Chapter 11
8) Passion, Intimacy, Sexuality	Chapter 12
9) Prejudice and intergroup relations	Chapter 13
10) Group, de-individuation, group think, polarization, leadership	Chapter 14