PSYC 240 RB8W2
Social Psychology
Spring 2015

Course Syllabus

Please read the following course syllabus carefully, especially the course dates, times and location. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to communicate with the IDEAL Program office, your academic advisor, or the instructor.

The IDEAL degree-completion program is designed with the adult learner in mind. Adult learners approach learning with specific goals, want to be able to directly apply new learning to their work and personal lives, and tend to learn best when the coursework is problem-centered so that they are actively engaged in the learning process. In addition, adults bring rich and varied experience to the classroom, which becomes a valuable learning resource for other students.

The IDEAL Program assumes joint responsibility in the learning process. The activities and assignments in the courses build on the shared experience of all learners in each class. This is why each student’s preparation, participation and interaction in class activities and discussions are critical to the success of each course. The accelerated format of each course requires a significant amount of your time outside the classroom to prepare for and complete the course assignments. This varies between students and courses; however, students typically spend nine-twelve hours per week on course material.

To participate in the IDEAL Program, it is expected that you will do the following:
1. Attend every class session. Be on time.
2. Obtain the required course materials prior to the first class session.
3. Complete the first assignment prior to the first class session and all subsequent assignments to the best of your ability.
4. Participate in the class discussions and demonstrate respect and consideration to the instructor and other students when they express themselves in discussion.

If you cannot perform these four expectations, it is recommended that you drop the course. We look forward to your academic success in each course and the ultimate completion of your degree.
Course No. & Title: PSYC 240 RB8W2, Social Psychology  
Semester and Term: SPRING 2015  
Time: 6pm - 9pm  
Campus Location: Stamford  
Instructor: Dima Grozeva, UB e-mail: dgrozeva@bridgeport.edu

Course Description: This course is designed to provide an overview of the field of social psychology. Learning will be accomplished through reading and discussion of the text, as well as presentation of supplemental material provided by the instructor along with in-class activities, videos and discussion. Topics will include discussion of the varying domains of research in social psychology, important studies in the field, and how it applies to academia and everyday life. Specific topics will include: attitudes and attitude formation, persuasion, aggression, conformity, obedience, culture, helping behaviors, attraction, self-concept, as well as discrimination and prejudice.

Prerequisite Courses: PSYC 103 and 201 or 202 and passed with a minimum grade of “C”.  
Course Code: HS-PE, LA, PSY, SsC

Required Textbook:  
By: David Myers  
Edition: 11  
Pub Date: 09-JUL-12  
To order textbooks, go to the bookstore website at http://bridgeport.textbooktech.com/  
Select IDEAL Campus and login to the bookstore. Select the course and follow instructions.

Learning Outcomes:  
Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:  
- Students can explain social thinking, social influence, and social relations.  
- Students can apply the concepts of social thinking, influence, and relationships to observed behaviors in applied settings such as clinics, courts, and social service agencies.  
- Students can communicate this knowledge verbally and in writing.

First Assignment to be Completed Prior to the First Class Meeting:  
In addition to reading the syllabus for the course, students are trusted to read the first two chapters of the textbook, Social Psychology, 11th edition. Based on the readings, complete online quiz #1, posted on Canvas, under Module 1. The assignment is to be completed by the beginning of the first class, Wednesday, 3/11/2015.

Assignments:  
- Online Quizzes: Students are trusted to complete a total of six online quizzes, where questions are based on the textbook readings assigned for the class. Quizzes compose of multiple choice questions and must be completed prior to the assigned due date (please see the class schedule for specific due dates). While students are allowed to use the textbook while completing the Quizzes, the best way to prepare for this approach of testing is to try and anticipate multiple
choice questions, as you read through the material (this will also help you remember material and key concepts better).

- **Reaction/ Response Essay:** Students are expected to complete a writing assignment expressing personal thoughts, interpretation, and evaluation of a study design described in a research article (due on **Wednesday, 4/01/2015**). It is not a research essay and investigation into other sources is not necessary. The reaction essay should be based on Milgram’s classic study of Obedience, which will be posted on Canvas: Milgram, S. (1963). Behavioral study of obedience. *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 67*(4), 371-378. This paper should be 2-3 pages long, or 650-1,200 words. A detailed grading rubric will be provided during the first class.

- **Critical Essay:** Students should complete a piece of writing that evaluates a particular work. It is more than just a summary of the contents or your opinions. The critical essay is an objective analysis of the work, examining both its positive and negative aspects (due on **Wednesday, 4/29/2015**). The critical essay is informative and stresses the work rather than your opinion. You need to support any observations or claims you make with evidence, supporting evidence within the work itself or in other external sources. The critical essay should be based on Asch’s classic study on social conformity, which will be posted on Canvas: Asch, W. E. (1955). Opinions and social pressure. *Scientific American, 193*(5), 31-35. This paper should be 3-5 pages long, or 800-1,500 words. A detailed grading rubric will be provided during the first class.

- **Brief In-class Presentation on Assigned Topic:** Students are expected to present the key aspects of an assigned research article in a brief PowerPoint Presentation (5-10 minutes) on a rolling basis over the length of the course. This is an opportunity for everyone to share their findings of important research in the field of Social Psychology, while demonstrating mastery of the concepts and the knowledge they have acquired.

**Description of Weekly Sessions:**
Each weekly session utilizes class time by combining lecture, PowerPoint Presentations and video material, as well as in-class discussions and participation. Each class meeting is represented by an online module that provides the assigned readings or quizzes for class. In addition, students can find many additional readings, worksheets, video links and audio materials that are not mandatory, but provide an opportunity for further enrichment. Online discussion boards are also available as an outlet for questions, concerns and comments. Those will be reviewed by the instructor daily. Students are expected to demonstrate dedication and professionalism and respect to the learning process.

**Grading Criteria:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reaction/ Response Essay</td>
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<td>Critical Essay</td>
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<td>Brief in-class presentation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<td>6 Online Quizzes</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Participation</td>
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### Letter Grading Scale:

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<td>100-94</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>93-90</td>
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<td>73-70</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>69-67</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>86-84</td>
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<td>83-80</td>
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<td>79-77</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>Below 60</td>
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### Class Schedule

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Class Assignment</th>
<th>Online Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>3/11/15</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Psychology; The Self in a Social World</td>
<td>Textbook: Ch: 1, 2</td>
<td>Online Quiz #1</td>
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<td>3/18/15</td>
<td>Social Beliefs and Judgments; Behavior and Attitude</td>
<td>Textbook: Ch: 3, 4</td>
<td>Online Quiz #2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/25/15</td>
<td>Genes, Culture and Gender; Conformity and Obedience</td>
<td>Textbook: Ch: 5, 6</td>
<td>Online Quiz #3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/01/15</td>
<td>Persuasion and Group Influence</td>
<td>Textbook: Ch: 7, 8</td>
<td>Milgram Study</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Reaction Essay due</strong></td>
<td>Online Reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/8/15</td>
<td>Prejudice (Disliking others) and Aggression (Hurting others)</td>
<td>Textbook: Ch: 9, 10, 11</td>
<td>Online Quiz #4</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/15/15</td>
<td>Attraction, Intimacy and Helping Others</td>
<td>Textbook: Ch: 12, 13</td>
<td>Online Quiz #5</td>
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Reaction / Response Essay

Description: A Reaction/Response Essay is a writing assignment where you express your personal thoughts, interpretation, and evaluation of a particular topic; which could be presented through the textbook, an article, a film, recorded music or speech, etc. It is not a research essay and investigation into other sources is not necessary.

Questions you might ask yourself:

- How do you feel about the topic?
- Do you agree with the author’s conclusion based on the presentation of facts?
- Could there have been another interpretation?
- How has this reading impacted your view of the topic?
- Did you realize something that was unknown to you before?
- Did the reading simply reinforce ideas and beliefs you already had about the topic?
- Did you in anyway identify with the topic?

In discussing your reaction/response, it is important to make references to evidence presented. For example, if you disagree with the point of view of the author, please reference the specific point you disagree with and support your claims with examples from the presentation. The intent of the essay is for you to understand your reaction/response to the topic and express it in a logical, succinct and compelling manner.

Essay Format:

- APA Style [refer to: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/]
- Length: 2-3 Pages or 650-1,200 words.
- Typed using 1” Margins; Double-spaced; 12 point font.
- Include: Your Name; Course Name; Instructor’s Name; Title; and Date.

Introductory Paragraph:

- Introduce the presentation of the topic; Book or Article Title, Author, and the year it was published.
- Very brief summary of the topic.
- Thesis statement: Describe the specific issue that you are responding or reacting to; agree, disagree, connect with, evaluate etc.

Organizing Ideas, Opinions, and Viewpoints:
- Thesis statement forms the basis of the essay.
- Decide on a few key ideas that express your thesis statement.
- Describe at least three of these key ideas.
- Develop your ideas in each paragraph by using examples, giving details, and using material from the presentation.
- While the use of the first person “I” is generally not appropriate for academic essays, it is appropriate for a response/reaction essay since it is your personal response.

Body of the Essay:
Discuss the topic and your response/reaction to it referring to the presentation. If disputing the facts or the conclusions, give solid reasons to support your interpretation.

While this is not a research essay, you can certainly refer to class lectures, other readings or books. Always be accurate with the titles and authors. If you use any quotes from the text book, you may use parenthetical citation. If you quote from another book, then a footnote is necessary.

Concluding Paragraph:
Reiteration of your thesis statement and restatement of your response/reaction.

GRADING RUBRIC REACTION/RESPONSE ESSAY

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<tr>
<th>Expectations</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
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<tr>
<td>The introductory paragraph gives reference to the source of the topic by indicating the title, author and publication date, provides a brief and concise summary of the topic and has a specific thesis statement which reflects the writer's reaction and builds an expectation in the reader.</td>
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<td>Body of the essay has a well-written topic sentences and is well-supported with effective citations and clear, mature, and original ideas and refers to the original source whenever necessary. The concluding paragraph rephrases main points and ends with an original and meaningful concluding comment.</td>
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<td>Organization: All ideas are relevant to each other and to the thesis statement. Sentences and paragraphs are logically ordered and smoothly connected to one-another with a variety of appropriate linking devices and reference words, and/or repetition of key words.</td>
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<td>Grammar &amp; Mechanics: Sentence forms are accurate. Word choice is accurate and varied. Punctuation, capitalization, spelling, paragraphing, spacing, indentation, and margining are proper. The ideas have been properly cited with a variety of citation techniques (quotation/ summary/ paraphrase). In-text and end-text references</td>
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are complete and in the right format.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Attendance Policy
Classroom attendance is an integral part of the academic experience; therefore, students are expected to attend all class sessions. If an absence is unavoidable, the student, prior to class, should communicate with the instructor. Arrangements should be made at that time for submission of any missed assignments. It is also expected that students arrive on time and not leave until the class is dismissed. Tardiness will result in a reduced grade for the course. If you cannot attend every class session you should consider dropping the course.

IMPORTANT:
- Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if a student earns a grade of “B” in the course, the final grade would be a “C”).
- Missing two or more class sessions will be cause for a failing grade.
- Note: For 15-week courses; missing two class sessions will result in a letter grade drop and three or more will cause a failing grade.

Drop Procedures
To drop a course, you must complete and submit a Schedule Change Request Form. The form can be accessed at the IDEAL Course Schedule webpage: http://www.bridgeport.edu/academics/continuinged/ideal-academic-degree-programs-and-certificates/ideal-course-schedule/.

Please print and complete the form and fax the form to the IDEAL Office: 203-576-4537. Prior to dropping a course, the student should contact their IDEAL Academic Advisor to understand the implications to financial aid and/or degree plan progress.

Please review the drop fees and tuition refunds at the Academic Calendar; accessed at the IDEAL Course Schedule webpage (same link above).

Cell Phones
Cell phones must be turned off (or placed on “vibrate”) while in the classroom. A cell phone call is disruptive and disrespectful to the other students in the class.

Academic Dishonesty
The IDEAL program prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is normally defined as, but not limited to, the following two categories:

Cheating – Using inappropriate sources of information in an assignment or on a test. The following are examples of cheating taken from real student experiences:

Case #1: A student is enrolled in an introductory psychology course. He has co-workers who have taken the same course. As the end of the course approaches, he wonders how he will find the time to get the research paper finished, and asks one of his co-workers for help. His co-worker hands him a research paper that he submitted in a similar course. The student makes minor modifications to the paper, and submits it under his own name.

Case #2: A student enrolled in a humanities course is unsure about how to structure an essay. She is doing research on the World Wide Web, and comes across an essay written by a student from
another university. Using her computer mouse, she copies and pastes the essay into her word processor. She goes to great lengths to re-word the paper in her own style, but essentially leaves the content and organization the same.

Plagiarism – Intentional as well as unintentional failure to acknowledge sources as well as the use of commercially available so-called “research papers” without full recognition of the source. Presenting as one’s own, the ideas, words, or products of another. The following are examples of plagiarism taken from real student experiences:

Case #3: A student is conducting research for a Civil War research paper. He has reviewed work on the Internet. Finding helpful information, he has summarized his findings without citing his sources. He believes that minor paraphrasing is all that is necessary.

Case #4: A student is writing a paper that requires her to address specific topics and problems in the assigned course textbook. She takes the information directly from the textbook with slight modification, without giving any citation. She thinks that since it is the course textbook, she doesn’t have to use quotations or citations.

Academic dishonesty applies to all courses, assignments or exams completed by students and submitted as their own original work, whether in person or by electronic means. The University does not tolerate cheating in any form. It is a serious breach of conduct with serious consequences. Instructors have the right to determine the appropriate penalty for academic dishonesty in their own courses; generally, however, such acts will result in a failing grade for the assignment and/or the course. The penalty for subsequent acts of academic dishonesty may include expulsion.

More information on how to recognize plagiarism can be found at this site: http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/plagiarism_test.html

Ethics Statement of Confidentiality
An integral component of an IDEAL course is student and faculty expression of personal experiences for the purpose of facilitating coursework. Students enrolled in the program are expected to honor confidentiality as it pertains to student disclosure. Shared information, comments, or opinions expressed by another student or the faculty member during the course of classroom discussion should never be used in a manner which is intended to humiliate, embarrass, harass, damage, or otherwise injure other students in their personal, public, or business lives. In addition, confidentiality must be upheld by not disclosing any information that would identify any particular individual.

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The Academic Resource Center is available for IDEAL students seeking help in their studies. The Center is staffed by writing professionals and peer tutors. More information can be found at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2209.asp The Center is located on the 5th Floor of the Wahlstrom Library. Make an appointment or walk-in: Telephone: 203-576-4290. Online Tutoring is available at: www.etutoring.org. To use this free service you must have a UBNet account.

Obtaining a UBNet Account
Every registered student should obtain a UBNet Account. The account allows you to access MyUB; the portal for grades, library services, Canvas online learning system. Also, the account allows you access to computers in the Library and computer labs, and provides an email account in which the University sends out information. Go to: http://www.bridgeport.edu/ubnet - Click on “New UBNet Account” and follow the instructions.
Learning Management System (LMS) - Canvas
For all courses that use Canvas, you can access Canvas through the portal by using the myUB link. Faculty post class documents on Canvas e.g. syllabus, power points, discussion questions, case studies, current event articles, papers, reports etc. (save some trees). All students have access, and can download and copy the documents.

Canvas Tutorial For Students: https://bridgeport.instructure.com/courses/985903
For assistance contact the UB Help Desk at 203-576-4606 or email helpdesk@bridgeport.edu
https://bridgeport.instructure.com/courses/829447/

Accessing Your Grades & Schedule Online
The WebAdvisor online information system allows students to search for available classes, check grades, view semester class schedule and verify your personal profile. Grades are generally posted 2-3 weeks following the end of a course. To access WebAdvisor, login in to MyUB and follow the WebAdvisor menu on the right. If you are carrying a financial balance, access to WebAdvisor will be restricted.

Using the Library
Access to the Digital Library is through MyUB. On the MyUB home, in the central column, click on “myEureka Digital Library.” Research tools available:
- Search for books held at the library.
- Search the online databases for your academic field; business, counseling, human services, psychology, etc.
- Send questions to the Reference Librarian for assistance in research topics and searching strategy.

Using Computers
Open access computer labs are available at three locations:
- Bridgeport – 1st floor of the Wahlstrom library. Check library hours of operation at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/library.
- Stamford – Room D; Check open hours at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/stamford
- Waterbury – Computer Lab; Check open hours at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/waterbury

Course Cancellations
Any emergency necessitating the canceling of courses will be announced by the University through the Emergency Notification Telephone Line, (203) 576-4159. Please call this number for information on course cancellations. Also, information will be posted under “Latest News” on the UB home page, (www.bridgeport.edu). Canceled classes will be made up either the week following the end of the course or in consultation between the instructor and the students as to day and time availability. Course cancellations are also announced on television and radio stations.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

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Bridgeport Campus Security  (203) 576-4911  ubsecurity@bridgeport.edu
Bursar  (203) 576-4692  bursar@bridgeport.edu
Cashier  (203) 576-4682  cashier@bridgeport.edu
Financial Aid  (203) 576-4568  sfs@bridgeport.edu
Registrar  (203) 576-4635  registrar@bridgeport.edu
Emergency Notification Phone  (203) 576-4159
IDEAL Office  (203) 576-4800  idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

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<th>Campus</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridgeport</td>
<td>126 Park Avenue</td>
<td>(203) 576-4800</td>
<td><a href="mailto:idealinfo@bridgeport.edu">idealinfo@bridgeport.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bridgeport, CT 06604</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stamford</td>
<td>5 Riverbend Drive</td>
<td>(203) 358-0700</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ubstamford@bridgeport.edu">ubstamford@bridgeport.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Waterbury</td>
<td>84 Progress Lane</td>
<td>(203) 573-8501</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ubwaterbury@bridgeport.edu">ubwaterbury@bridgeport.edu</a></td>
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Directions to IDEAL Campus locations  http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2260.asp

To fill out your financial aid report to the Federal Government, please go online to www.fafsa.ed.gov. The school code for the University of Bridgeport is 001416.
Federal Student Aid Information: 1-800-433-3243