

Tompkins Cortland Community College
Master Course Syllabus

Course Discipline and Number: PSYC201

Year: 2024-2025

Course Title: Social Psychology

Credit Hours: 3

I. Course Description: This is a survey course examining the nature and causes of individual behavior and thought in social situations. Emphasis is on applications useful for everyday living. PSYC201 fulfills the SUNY General Education Social Sciences Knowledge and Skills Area. Prerequisites: Prior completion of, or concurrent enrollment in, ENGL101; PSYC103. 3 Cr. (3 Lec.) Fall and spring semesters.

II. Additional Course Information:

1. Students should check their Tompkins Cortland email accounts regularly for messages from the instructor. Failure to read email may result in missed class information.
2. Required readings may be from the assigned textbook, supplemental articles, or web resources.
3. This course can be used to fulfill a liberal arts, social science, or unrestricted elective requirement.
4. Students will need basic computer skills and access to a reliable computer with high speed internet access. Mobile devices are typically not compatible with uploading assignments and viewing materials such as videos in various formats.
5. This course may be offered using various teaching modalities (in-class, hybrid, asynchronous.).

III. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of how major psychological theories and concepts apply to social psychology
2. Demonstrate understanding of the research methods used in social psychology
3. Locate, evaluate, and apply peer-reviewed information relevant to social psychology
4. Demonstrate understanding of how privilege and inequality shape social psychological processes

IV. Tompkins Cortland Institutional Learning Outcomes; Program Learning Outcomes; SUNY General Education Competencies and Knowledge and Skills Areas

Tompkins Cortland ILOs

Complete this section for “service” courses only (e.g., courses that are required of all students; courses that are not program specific but satisfy liberal arts requirements; or commonly used in multiple academic programs to meet non-program-specific requirements). Check only Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) that are meaningfully developed and assessed in this course. For each ILO chosen, include the SLO to which it aligns.

Students will:

- ☐ Communicate effectively, in oral and written forms, taking into consideration audience and purpose.
- ☐ Apply principles and methods of scientific inquiry and quantitative reasoning appropriate to their discipline.
- ☐ Use information, critical thinking, and the creative process to solve problems and reach conclusions.
- ☐ Use technology appropriate to their discipline.
- ☐ Describe the ways in which social, economic, or environmental sustainability depends on their own and the collective contributions of a diversity of ideas and people.

Program Learning Outcomes

Complete this section for program-specific courses (e.g., those that share the same discipline code as the academic program or satisfy requirements in related programs). List the academic program(s) here and note which Student Learning Outcomes align to specific Programmatic Learning Outcomes. Please see the MCS Instructions for more details. List the PLO(s) that are meaningfully developed and assessed in this course AND the specific SLO(s) through which the development and assessment will occur.

Specify the Academic Program: **Liberal Arts and Science - Social Science A.S.**

PLO 2: Locate, evaluate & apply relevant information

SLO 3: Locate, evaluate, and apply peer-reviewed information relevant to social psychology

PLO 3: Investigate a question using the research process of at least one Social Science discipline

SLO 2: Demonstrate understanding of the research methods used in social psychology

PLO 4: Use evidence to describe (1) how privilege & inequality are socially and/or historically constructed and (2) how these shape [students'] lives.

SLO 4: Demonstrate understanding of how privilege and inequality shape social psychological processes

SUNY General Education Competencies

If this course assesses a SUNY GEN ED Competency, check all that apply and indicate which course outcome(s) address each checked item:

☐ **CRITICAL THINKING & REASONING-** Students will:

- a. clearly articulate an issue or problem;
- b. identify, analyze, and evaluate ideas, data, and arguments as they occur in their own or others' work; acknowledge limitations such as perspective and bias; and
- c. develop well-reasoned (logical) arguments to form judgments and/or draw conclusions.

☐ **INFORMATION LITERACY -** Students will:

- a. locate information effectively using tools appropriate to their need and discipline; evaluate information with an awareness of authority, validity, and bias; and demonstrate an understanding of the ethical dimensions of information use, creation, and dissemination.

☒ **SUNY GENERAL EDUCATION KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS AREA(s): Social Sciences**

For courses that are approved to meet one (or more) of the ten SUNY General Education Knowledge and Skills Areas, indicate which area the course fulfills, and which outcome(s) are aligned with the SUNY outcomes for that area:

SUNY Outcome: Describe major concepts and theories of at least one discipline in the social sciences.

Course SLO 1: Demonstrate understanding of how major psychological theories and concepts apply to social psychology

SUNY Outcome: Demonstrate an understanding of the methods social scientists use to explore social phenomena.

Course SLO 2: Demonstrate understanding of the research methods used in social psychology

☐ This course does not address any of the above Tompkins Cortland ILOs, PLOs, or SUNY General Education Competencies or Knowledge and Skills Areas.

V. Essential Topics/Themes

1. Scientific approach and research methods
2. Overarching themes, theories, persistent questions, and enduring conflicts
3. Social perception and social cognition including impact of biases and errors
4. Attitudes, persuasion, and social influence including conformity, compliance, and obedience
5. Self and social identity
6. Prejudice and discrimination including their nature, effects, and methods of reduction
7. Close relationships and interpersonal attraction
8. Prosocial behavior and aggression
9. Group dynamics, processes, and decision making
10. Applying social psychology to the legal, healthcare, and organizational systems

VI. Methods of Assessment/Evaluation

Method	% Course Grade
1. Tests (includes in-class and take home quizzes & exams) and/or	0-80%
2. Written Assignments (may include in-class writing, research papers, journal article annotations, journal entries, on-line discussions, and written requirements)	20-60%
3. Attendance and/or participation	0-20%
4. Individual or group projects and presentations	0-20%
Instructors are strongly encouraged to create and use grading rubrics for assignments.	

VII. Texts – ☐ **Required** ☒ **Recommended** ☐ **Used for more than one course (list courses)**

High school instructors may consult with staff in the CollegeNow office for additional information and guidance.

	OER
1. <i>Social Psychology</i> . Nyla R. Branscombe, and Robert A. Baron. Latest Edition, Pearson. ISBN: 978-0134410968	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. <i>Social Psychology: Goals in Interaction</i> . Douglas Kenrick, Steven Neuberg, and Robert Cialdini. Latest Edition, Pearson. ISBN: 978-0135198421	<input type="checkbox"/>

Editions listed are current as of date of syllabus. More recent editions may be used.

VIII. Bibliography of Supplemental Materials

Revised 05-23/E. Sambolec

1. Brewer, C.L., Hopkins, J.R., Kimble, G.A., Matlin, M.W., McCann, L. I., McNeil, O.V., Nodine, B.F., Quinn, V.N., & Saundra. *Curriculum*. In T.V. McGovern (ed.). *Handbook for Enhancing Undergraduate Education in Psychology* (pp. 161-182).1993.Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
2. Ware, M.E., & Johnson, D.E. *Handbook of Demonstrations and Activities in the Teaching of Psychology*. 1996. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Editions listed are current as of date of syllabus. More recent editions may be used.

IX. Other Learning Resources

Audiovisual:

- Some videos are owned and housed in the TC3 Media collection, others are available through BOCES loan library, or rental is possible.
- A list of videos is available through the Media Desk.

Electronic:

- APA (American Psychological Association) home page: <http://www.apa.org>
The largest psychology-related organization in the world, with links to many resources.
- American Psychological Society (APS): <http://www.psychologicalscience.org/>
A society dedicated to research-oriented psychology, with lists of psychology resources, tutorials, and more.
- Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP): <http://www.spsp.org>
Largest organization of social and personality psychologists in the world.
- The Society of Experimental Social Psychology (SESP): <http://www.wesleyan.edu/spn/sesp>
SESP is a highly selective, scientific organization dedicated to the advancement of social psychology.

Other: None specified

Attendance Policy: *To maintain good grades, regular attendance in class is necessary. Absence from class is considered a serious matter and absence never excuses a student from class work. It is the responsibility of all instructors to distribute reasonable attendance policies in writing during the first week of class. Students are required to comply with the attendance policy set by each of their instructors. Students are not penalized if they are unable to attend classes or participate in exams on particular days because of religious beliefs, in accordance with Chapter 161, Section 224-a of the Education Law of the State of New York. Students who plan to be absent from classroom activity for religious reasons should discuss the absence in advance with their instructors. See college catalog for more information.*

Services for Students with Disabilities: *It is the College's policy to provide, on an individual basis, appropriate academic adjustments for students with disabilities, which may affect their ability to fully participate in program or course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Coordinator of Access and Equity Services, to discuss their particular need for academic adjustments. All course materials are available in alternate formats upon request.*

Academic Integrity: *Every student at Tompkins Cortland Community College is expected to act in an academically honest fashion in all aspects of their academic work: in writing papers and reports, in taking examinations, in performing laboratory experiments and reporting the results, in clinical and cooperative learning experiences, and in attending to paperwork such as registration forms.*

Any written work submitted by a student must be their own. If the student uses the words or ideas of someone else, they must cite the source by such means as a footnote. Our guiding principle is that any honest evaluation of a student's performance must be based on that student's work. Any action taken by a student that would result in misrepresentation of someone else's work or actions as the student's own — such as cheating on a test, submitting for credit a paper written by another person, or forging an advisor's signature — is intellectually dishonest and deserving of censure.

Several degree programs offer student learning opportunities (such as internships, field work, and clinical experiences) outside the standard classroom setting. As part of the learning process, students must understand and engage in conduct that adheres to principles guiding employment within the professional workplace. These behaviors include, but are not limited to, academic integrity, accountability, reliability, respect, use of appropriate language and

dress, civility, professional ethics, honesty, and trustworthiness. Disciplinary action may be initiated for inappropriate conduct occurring while participating in any course-related project or event.