CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS
PSYC 2380 - Social Psychology

Semester/Year: Spring 2016
Lecture Hours: 3  Lab Hours: none  Credit Hours: 3
Class Time: 9:30-10:45 a.m.  Days: T TH  Room: UU 415

Instructor’s Name: Bridget Veauthier
Instructor’s Contact Information: Email or by phone are the best ways to reach me outside of class.

Home Phone: (307) 333-2496  Email: bveauthier@caspercollege.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description: Social Psychology familiarizes students with the psychology of human interaction. Topics addressed include aggression, altruism, attitudes, attraction, conformity, group dynamics, perception of self and others, prejudice, social roles and social power.

Statement of Prerequisites: PSYC 1000 or equivalent.

Goal: The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with the field of psychology with emphasis on the social approach. It will aim to give an understanding of the application of behavioral science principles and increase knowledge about peer reviewed psychological research.

Outcomes: Desired Casper College learning outcomes include but are not limited to (bolded):

1. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication
2. Use the scientific method
3. Solve problems using critical thinking and creativity
4. Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and historical perspectives
5. Appreciate aesthetic and creative activities
6. Use appropriate technology and information to conduct research
7. Describe the value of personal, civic, and social responsibilities
8. Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data

Course Objectives: By the end of this class, student should be able to:
• Demonstrate an understanding of the behavior, values and belief systems of individuals and human institutions.
• Demonstrate critical reasoning and communication skills by comprehending and evaluating psychological research
• Demonstrate a greater depth of knowledge of the field of psychology


Goal 1 Knowledge Base
Goal 2 Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking
Goal 3 Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World
Goal 4 Communication
Goal 5 Professional Development

Casper College Graduates with an Associates Psychology degree will demonstrate competency in the following Foundation Areas. Goals, Outcomes and Foundation Indicators are quoted directly from The American Psychology Association [APA] Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major Version 2.0 published August 2013.

Goal 1 Knowledge Base
A. Outcome - Describe key concepts, principals and overarching themes in psychology.
   Foundation Indicators
   • Use basic terminology, concepts, and theories to explain behavioral and mental processes.
   • Explain why Psychology is a science with primary objectives of describing, understanding, predicking and controlling behavior and mental processes.
   • Identify fields other than psychology that address behavioral concerns.

B. Outcome – Develop a working knowledge of psychology’s content domains.
   Foundation Indicators
   • Identify key characteristics of major content domains in Psychology (e.g. cognition, learning, developmental, biological, and sociocultural).
   • Recognize major historical events, theoretical perspectives, and figures in psychology and their link to trends in contemporary research.

C. Outcome - Describe applications of psychology.
   Foundation Indicators
   • Describe examples of relevant and practical applications of psychological principals to everyday life.
   • Summarize psychological factors that can influence pursuit of a healthy lifestyle.

Goal 2 Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking
A. Outcome – Demonstrate Psychological information literacy.
   Foundation Indicators
• Read and summarize general ideas and conclusions from psychological sources accurately.
• Identify and navigate psychological databases.
• Interpret simple graphs and statistical findings.

B. Outcome – Use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena.
Foundation Indicators
• Describe how individual and sociocultural differences can influence the applicability / generalizability of research findings.
• Identify under what conditions research findings can be appropriately generalized.

Goal 3 Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World
A. Outcome – Apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice.
Foundation Indicators
• Describe key regulations in the APA Ethics Code for protection of human or nonhuman research participants.
• Identify obvious violations of ethical standards in psychological context.
• Define the role of IRB [Institutional Review Board].
B. Outcome - Build and enhance interpersonal relationships.
Foundation Indicators
• Describe the need for personal values [e.g. integrity benevolence, honesty, and respect for human dignity] in building strong relationships with others.
• Explain how individual differences, social identity, and world view may influence beliefs, values, and interactions with others and vice versa.
C. Outcome - Adopt values that build community at local, national and global levels.
Foundation Indicators
• Recognize the potential for prejudice and discrimination in self and others.
• Accept opportunity to serve others through civic engagement, including volunteer service.

Goal 4 Communication
A. Outcome – Demonstrate effective writing for different purposes.
Foundation Indicators
• Use Standard English, including generally recognized grammar.
• Recognize and develop overall organization [e.g. beginning, development, ending] that fits the purpose.
• Use expert feedback to revise writing of a single draft.
B. Outcome – Exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes.
Foundation Indicators
• Construct plausible oral argument based on a psychological study.
• Deliver brief presentations within appropriate constraints [e.g. time limit, appropriate for the audience
• Attend to language and nonverbal cues to interpret meaning.
• Ask questions to capture additional detail.

Goal 5 Professional Development
1. Outcome – Develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation.

   Foundational Indicator
   • Describe the types of academic experiences and advanced course choices that will best shape career readiness.
   • Describe how a curriculum vitae or resume is used to document the skills expected by employers.

**Methodology:** Lectures, class discussions, videos/slides, and in-class demonstrations and moodle. Your feedback is valuable as the instructor uses course evaluations in determining course methodology.

**Evaluation Criteria:** Students will be evaluated according to the frequency of in-class participation and discussion, performance on objective or essay in-class exams, and short essays, papers, or exams written in or out of class. Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.

**Exams:** There will be 5 exams over the course of the semester worth 100 points each. These exams will include objective questions and short answer questions. The first two exams will be administered in class. Three exams will be administered through moodle. The exams will be open from Monday, 8:00 a.m. to Friday at 11:55 p.m. Please complete these 3 exams on your own though you may use your book and notes. These exams are untimed. You may make only one attempt. The dates are marked on the syllabus. If you have any trouble using moodle during an exam please email me asap and I will reset the exam for you within the exam time frame. (500 possible points)

**Insight Papers:** There will be 2 choice papers/ topics assigned during the semester. The goal of these assignments is to allow you the opportunity to gain a deeper insight into the central topics in the field of social psychology. Each paper (3-5 pages) is worth 100 points but only one is required. Each paper is due by 11:55 p.m. on the dates marked on the syllabus. Assignment details to follow. Please use APA format in completing papers. An explanation of APA format will be provided. The due dates are marked on the syllabus. (100 possible points)

**Humanities Festival Reflection Paper:** A short (2-3 pages) reflection on one of the lectures given at this year’s Humanities Festival February 24th -26th is required. I will provide you a writing prompt that will apply to the theme of the festival asking you to use concepts from social psychology in your analysis. (100 possible points)

**Evaluating Journal Research Paper:** A short paper (2-3 pages) evaluating current research from a peer-reviewed journal in the sub-field of social psychology will be completed. This paper will be worth 100 points. Assignment instructions to follow. (100 possible points)

**Final Exam or Final Project Choice:** You may take the final exam on May 9th (an in class exam) or you may complete a comparable final project on a topic of your choosing that relates to social psychology. Assignment details will follow. (100 possible points)

**Attendance:** Your attendance is expected at every class. Please come prepared (having read the ...
modules or assigned materials prior to class). The number of days you are present will be divided by the total number of possible class days (44) to provide an attendance percentage. For example if you miss 4 class sessions your attendance will be computed this way 40/ 44 x 100= 91%. If you know that you will have an unavoidable absence please let me know if advance. If you participate in college-related activities or sports that require missing class please let me know. If you unexpectedly miss class I appreciate an email letting me know. (100 possible points)

**Extra Credit:** Through the semester I may suggest a video or article for extra credit. To earn up to 5 points on each of these assignments a short reflection paper on the topic is required. More details to follow.

**Grading:**

90% - 100% = A = 900 pts - 1000pts = A  
80% - 89% = B = 800 pts - 899 pts = B  
70% - 79% = C = 700 pts - 799 pts = C  
60% - 69% = D = 600 pts - 699 pts = D  
Below 60% = F = Below 600 pts = F


**Class Policies: Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade:** April 14, 2016

**Classroom Expectations:**

- Please notify me in advance of any necessary absence or failure to meet a deadline. If you have a genuine emergency and cannot meet a deadline, make arrangements with me to schedule make-up assignments. If you have contacted me about your absence, exams will be given the day you return and essays are to be no more than one week late.
- Be respectful of the discussion taking place within the classroom. Please do not engage in side conversations or otherwise disrupt the class.
- I am available to meet with you immediately before or after class, or at a time that is mutually acceptable. If you need clarification on a topic or assignment covered do not hesitate to ask.

**Some suggestions for academic success:**

- Read the assigned readings prior to that class meeting.
- Jot down questions you may have from the readings.
- Look up any unfamiliar words from the readings.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

**Chain of Command:** If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor
to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty**: (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

**Official Means of Communication**: Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also, where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.

**ADA Accommodations Policy**: If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

**Tentative Schedule of Classes**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Week Of</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Readings/Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/18-1/22</td>
<td>Intro to Class; Intro to Social Psychology</td>
<td>Intro to Social Psychology</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1/25-1/29</td>
<td>The Self in a Social World</td>
<td>The Self in a Social World</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2/1-2/5</td>
<td>Social Beliefs and Judgments <strong>(Exam 1 Ch 1-2-in-class 2/2)</strong></td>
<td>Social Beliefs and Judgments</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2/8-2/12</td>
<td>Behavior and Attitudes <strong>(Choice 1 Insight Paper Due 2/11 by 11:55 p.m.)</strong></td>
<td>Behavior and Attitudes</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2/15-</td>
<td>Genes, Culture,</td>
<td>Genes, Culture, and</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2/22-2/26</td>
<td>Conformity and Obedience</td>
<td>Conformity and Obedience</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td>Humanities Festival 2/24-2/26 Theme: Redemption</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>2/29-3/4</td>
<td>Persuasion</td>
<td>Persuasion (Humanities Festival Reflection Due 3/3 by 11:55 p.m.)</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>3/7-3/11</td>
<td>Group Influence</td>
<td>Group Influence</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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<td>Midterm Week</td>
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<td>Exam 3 (Ch 5-7) Opens Monday 3/7 at 8:00a.m. closes Friday 3/11 at 11:55 p.m. On moodle</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>3/14-3/18</td>
<td>No Class- Spring Break 😃</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>3/21-3/25</td>
<td>Prejudice</td>
<td>Prejudice</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>3/28-4/1</td>
<td>Aggression</td>
<td>Aggression (Choice 2 Insight Paper Due by 11:55 p.m. if did not do choice 1 this paper is req’d)</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>4/4-4/8</td>
<td>Attraction and Intimacy</td>
<td>Attraction and Intimacy</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
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<td>Exam 4 (Ch 8-10) Opens Monday 4/4 at 8:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>4/11-4/15</td>
<td>Helping</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>4/18-4/22</td>
<td>Conflict and Peacemaking</td>
<td>Chapter 13</td>
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<td>(Evaluating Journal Research Paper Due 4/21 by 11:55 p.m.)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>4/25-4/29</td>
<td>Social Psychology in the Clinic</td>
<td>Chapter 14 (Exam 5 Ch 11-13 opens Monday 4/25 at 8:00 a.m. closes Friday 4/29 at 11:55 p.m. on moodle)</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>5/2-5/6</td>
<td>Social Psychology in Court</td>
<td>Chapters 15 &amp; 16</td>
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Final Exam Week May 9\textsuperscript{th} - 12\textsuperscript{th}. Final Exam: Monday, May 9\textsuperscript{th} 10:10-12:10 a.m. in-class exam or final project choice.