City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus

offered by Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences
with effect from Semester A 2024 / 2025

Part I   Course Overview

Course Title: Advanced Social Psychology

Course Code: SS5753

Course Duration: 1 Semester

Credit Units: 3 credits

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites: MSSPSY Students: NIL
(Course Code and Title)   Non-MSSPSY Students : SS1101 Basic Psychology or its equivalent

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title)   Nil

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title)   Nil

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title)   Nil

Part II   Course Details

1. **Abstract**

This course aims to provide students with knowledge of the development of social psychology and its contributions to the study of the social nature of human beings, including the ways they make sense of the social world, relate to and interact with each other. This course aims to stimulate student interest and curiosity in their own social behaviour and that of others, as well as to equip them with the ability of critical appreciation of social issues from a social psychological perspective. Given the wide array of topics that fall within the scope of social psychology, this course is intended to expose students to some of the major theoretical, assessment and intervention issues in social psychology, its empirical base and applications to practical situations; enhancing students' knowledge of social psychology creatively and in an applied manner through a discovery-enriched learning strategy.

2. **Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)**
    (CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	*A2*	*A3*
1.	Describe, interpret and compare basic theories and concepts of social psychology;	30%	√	√	
2.	Execute and evaluate social psychological research; and	30%	√	√	√
3.	Evaluate the applicability of social psychological theories and concepts to social issues	40%	√	√	
		100%			

A1:   *Attitude*
       Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.
A2:   *Ability*
       Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.
A3:   *Accomplishments*
       Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)
(LTAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3				
Class discussion	Classroom discussion organized around intellectual inputs given in lectures to stimulate student interest and curiosity in their own and others' social behaviour.	√	√	√				
Class exercise	Participation in class demonstrations and discussions of social psychological research to discover aspects of social behaviour through personal experiences.		√	√				
Group Project	Group project to evaluate the applicability of social psychological theories and concepts to social issues. Students will choose a particular topic of common interest and learn team-work and communication skills in the collaborative presentation.	√	√	√				
Individual assignment	The individual assignment provides students with an opportunity to examine in-depth current issues addressed within social psychology.	√	√	√				

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)
(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.					Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3				
Continuous Assessment: 100 %							
Individual assignment	√	√	√			30%	
Group project	√	√	√			20%	
Quiz	√		√			50%	
Examination: ____% (duration: , if applicable)							
						100%	

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Individual Assignment	An individual assignment of around 3,000 words is designed to critically evaluate the applicability of social psychology theories and concepts to understand contemporary social issues. Students will have the opportunity to choose one newspaper clipping from a selection on which to base their individual assignment.	Sensitive location of relevant journal articles, clear explanation of methods and findings, and insightful application to the analysis of the case described in the media clip.	Sensitive location of relevant journal articles, clear explanation of methods and findings, and descriptive application to the case described in the media clip.	Sensitive location of relevant articles, sketchy explanation of methods and findings, and "vague" application to the case described in the media clip.	Does not show sensitive search for appropriate references, or inappropriate application of findings to the analysis of the case described in the media clip (i.e., findings cited have no relevance to the case).	Project not completed (i.e., components missing).
2. Group Project	Group projects are designed to critically evaluate the applicability of social psychological principles to a selected social issue.	Sensitive location of relevant empirical research, clear explanation of methods and findings, and insightful application to the analysis of the social issue.	Sensitive location of relevant empirical research, clear explanation of methods and findings, and descriptive application to the selected social issue.	Some location of empirical research, sketchy explanation of methods and findings, and "vague" application to the selected social issue.	Does not show sensitive search for appropriate references, or inappropriate application of findings to the analysis of the selected social issue (i.e., findings cited have no relevance to the case).	Project not completed (i.e., components missing).
3. Quiz	Two 90min quiz will be set to assess students' abilities in mastering, applying and synthesising theories and concepts explained in the course, and to evaluate the applicability of social psychology principles to practical situations. Quiz items will be designed to test students' understanding of terminology and concepts and students' ability to	Score of 75 or above out of 100	Score of between 60 and 74 out of 100	Score of between 45 and 59 out of 100	Score of between 40 and 44 out of 100	Score of 39 or below out of 100

	integrate and apply these concepts to analyse hypothetical and/or real life examples.				

Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
1. Individual Assignment	An individual assignment of around 3,000 words is designed to critically evaluate the applicability of social psychology theories and concepts to understand contemporary social issues. Students will have the opportunity to choose one newspaper clipping from a selection on which to base their individual assignment.	Sensitive location of relevant journal articles, clear explanation of methods and findings, and insightful application to the analysis of the case described in the media clip.	Sensitive location of relevant journal articles, clear explanation of methods and findings, and descriptive application to the case described in the media clip.	Sensitive location of relevant articles, sketchy explanation of methods and findings, and "vague" application to the case described in the media clip.	Does not show sensitive search for appropriate references, or inappropriate application of findings to the analysis of the case described in the media clip (i.e., findings cited have no relevance to the case). Project not completed (i.e., components missing).
2. Group Project	Group projects are designed to critically evaluate the applicability of social psychological principles to a selected social issue.	Strong evidence of sensitive location of relevant empirical research, clear explanation of methods and findings, and insightful application to the analysis of the social issue.	Good evidence of sensitive location of relevant empirical research, clear explanation of methods and findings, and descriptive application to the selected social issue.	Marginal evidence of some location of empirical research, sketchy explanation of methods and findings, and "vague" application to the selected social issue.	Does not show sensitive search for appropriate references, or inappropriate application of findings to the analysis of the selected social issue (i.e., findings cited have no relevance to the case). Project not completed (i.e., components missing).
3. Quiz	Two 90min quizzes will be set to assess students' abilities in mastering, applying and synthesising theories and concepts explained in the course, and to evaluate the applicability of social psychology principles to practical situations. Quiz items will be designed to test students' understanding of terminology and concepts and students' ability to integrate and apply these concepts to analyse hypothetical and/or real life examples.	Strong evidence of the ability to understand & describe relevant knowledge & concepts. Strong evidence of critical application	Good evidence of the ability to understand & describe relevant knowledge & concepts. Good evidence of critical application	Marginal evidence of the ability to understand & describe relevant knowledge & concepts. Marginal evidence of critical application	Insufficient evidence of the ability to understand & describe relevant knowledge & concepts. Insufficient evidence of critical application

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. **Keyword Syllabus**
   (An indication of the key topics of the course.)

   Social Psychology; The Self; Identity; Attitudes; Persuasion; Conformity; Social Change; Groups; Prejudice; Intergroup Relations; Aggression; Prosocial Behaviour; Attraction; Interpersonal Relationships; Culture.

2. **Reading List**
2.1 **Compulsory Readings**
   (Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	Hewstone, M., Stroebe, W., & Jonas, K. (2021). An Introduction to Social Psychology, (7th Ed.). British Psychological Society: Wiley.

2.2 **Additional Readings**
   (Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	American Psychological Association. (2010). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th Ed.). Washington DC: American Psychological Association
2.	Asian Journal of Social Psychology
3.	British Journal of Social Psychology
4.	Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology
5.	Journal of Personality & Social Psychology
6.	Journal of Health & Social Behaviour
7.	Personality & Individual Differences