



Iowa Valley Community College District
Course Syllabus

PSY 251-Social Psychology
Spring 2022

Course Information

Course section(s): PSY 251

College, Department, and Division: Social Sciences

Credit hours: 3 Credit Hours

Course dates, days, and times: 7th (M/W: 1:15 pm -2:40 pm; F: 1:15 pm – 1:55 pm)

Building and room: 103 (Oasis Room)

Prerequisites and/or corequisites: Introduction to Psychology or equivalent. If you are not sure if you have met the prerequisite requirement, please contact me.

Course access: <https://iavalley.instructure.com/>

Instructor Information

Instructor's name: Ms. Earlene Taylor

Email: etaylor@montezuma.k12.ia.us

Office Phone: 641-623-5121

Office hours: Before, after and advisor time

Office location: Room 103

Preferred method of contact: email

Catalog Course Description: Examines theoretical and empirical approaches to understanding the individual as a member of society, including the development of attitudes, social behavior, group processes, motives, attitudes, norms, and the socialization process. In general, social psychology is the scientific study of how people think about, influence, and relate to one another. The goal of this course is to help you see the connections between the important research work in social psychology and research applications to the real world around us.

Course Textbooks and Materials

Title: Social Psychology

Authors: Saul Kassin, Steven Fein, & Hazel Rose Markus

Edition: 10th

Copyright year: 2017

Publisher: Cengage Learning

Quality Standards/Performance Objectives/ Course Objectives:

Upon successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

1. Define social psychology and give examples of the discipline's central concerns.
2. Describe the nature of the self-concept and discuss how our beliefs about ourselves influence our thoughts and actions.
3. Describe how our preconceptions control our interpretations and memories.
4. Identify the components of an attitude.
5. Identify and explain the major perspectives on human similarities and differences.



6. Define and explain conformity and obedience.
7. Define the various types of persuasion and explain various ways of persuading others.
8. Define groups and explain group influences.
9. Distinguish between prejudice and discrimination.
10. Define aggression and explain the different types of aggression and ways of reducing aggression.
11. Define and explain attraction and intimacy.
12. Explain helping and altruistic behaviors.
13. Explain conflict and peace and suggest ways of resolving social dilemmas.
14. Explain how social psychology principles may be used in clinical settings.
15. Explain how social psychology principles may be used in legal settings.
16. Explain how social psychology principles may be used in obtaining sustainable lives for the future.

Performance Standards and Assignments Matrix:

Standard	Exam	Paper	Presentation	Project	Demonstration	Observation	Simulation	Other
ALL	X	X	X	X				X

General Course Information and Policies

How to Succeed in This Course

Communication is a huge part of succeeding in this class. If you have questions, please email me. If there is something you are wondering about I can explain it for you. I'm here to help you in the course. Please reach out at any time. If I don't respond to your email within in 24 hours please send me another email.

Cell Phones: Without prior permission, the use of cell phones during class is prohibited. If used without permission, they will be retained for the rest of the day.

Course Content Advisement: This course addresses topics that may be sensitive, offensive, and/or controversial. If you are uncomfortable with any topic or the manner in which it is presented, please discuss your concerns with the instructor.

GRADING AND EVALUATION: All grades are based upon points. Tests will be composed essay questions about the material discussed in the assigned chapters.

GRADING SCALE:

A: 100% - 90% B+: 87% - 89% B: 83% - 86% B-: 80% - 82%	C+: 77% - 79% C: 73% - 76% C-: 70% - 72%	D+: 67% - 69% D: 63% - 66% D-: 60% - 62% F: 59% OR BELOW
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I do not accept late work unless you have prior approval from me. The due dates are posted on the weekly folders on blackboard. “I didn’t have time to do it this week” **is not a valid excuse.**

Please keep in touch with me if you have a situation that arises that you need an extension. You will be granted one extension per semester without punishment. Please use it wisely.

Class Attendance

Attendance policy is the same as the one in the Montezuma Community School handbook.

Missed or Late Work

I do not accept late work unless I have been notified before the deadline that you need an extension. “I didn’t have time to do it this week” **is not a valid excuse.**

Communication Policy

If I don’t respond to your email within in 24 hours, please send me another email.

Academic Integrity

The very nature of higher education requires that students adhere to accepted standards of academic integrity. The Student Code of Conduct is found in the Student Handbook. Violations include cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, abuse of academic materials, complicity in academic dishonesty, and falsification of records and official documents. Instructors take these violations very seriously, and you should be aware that further administrative disciplinary actions may be taken, up to and including course failure and expulsion from college. **Please learn about plagiarism and how to properly cite other people’s work.**

Consequences of Academic Dishonesty

Academic Integrity: The very nature of higher education requires that students adhere to accepted standards of academic integrity. The Code of Academic Conduct for IVCCD is found in the Student Handbook. Violations include cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, abuse of academic materials, complicity in academic dishonesty, and falsification of records or official documents.

Plagiarism/academic dishonesty is a serious violation of IVCCD’s Student Conduct Code. Instructors handle violations in various ways, but you should be aware that further administrative disciplinary actions may be taken, up to and including course failure and expulsion from college. Please learn about plagiarism and how to properly cite others’ work.

Plagiarism Detection

The Iowa Valley Community College District uses a plagiarism detection system on Canvas, the online learning management system. Students agree that by taking this course, all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the plagiarism detection system on Canvas.



Consequences: Please learn about plagiarism and how to properly cite others' work (Plagiarism.org & Purdue Owl APA). For this course, if you hand in anything that is plagiarized, it will be an **Automatic F** on the assignment. If you have questions about citing, please ask. *Refer to the Student Handbook and the college catalog for all in-depth college policies and procedures which are available on the MCC website.*

Academic Support Services

Student Assistance is available at no cost to students. Services include peer tutors, writing, and math assistance.

Ellsworth CC: The Hub

The [Hub](#) is the Academic Support Center. For tutoring and questions, please contact Tracy Crippin, Director of Student Success, at Tracy.Crippin@iavalley.edu.

Marshalltown CC: Tutoring, StAP, and Student Success Center

At MCC, tutors may be requested by visiting the [Student Success Center](#) (Room 406). MCC Student Assistance Program (StAP): To access the StAP, stop by room 211 on the MCC campus, or to set up an appointment, call 641-844-5753, or email Coordinator Nancy Adams (Nancy.Adams@iavalley.edu).

Iowa Valley Grinnell

Tutoring and academic support is available at IVG, please contact Kelly Davis, Student Advising Specialist, at Kelly.Davis@iavalley.edu.

IT Support

For IT related issues in regard to your email, Canvas access, software, etc., please contact the helpdesk at helpdesk@iavalley.edu.

Course Content Advisement

This course addresses topics that may be sensitive, offensive, and/or controversial. If you are uncomfortable with any topic or the manner in which it is presented, please discuss your concerns with the instructor or the Dean of Instruction.

General College Policies

Student Handbooks

For information regarding the drop/add policy, refunds, academic calendar, weather/school closures, and other general college information, please refer to the Ellsworth Community College Student Handbook which can be accessed on the [ECC Resources for Students](#) website. The current Marshalltown Community College/Iowa Valley Grinnell Student Handbook can be accessed on the [MCC Resources for Students](#) website.

COVID-19 Procedures

“Because of the unknown situations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, IVCCD reserves the right to transition any individual course, academic semester, portion of a course, or portion of an academic semester to an alternative mode of delivery including virtual delivery (synchronous or asynchronous), hybrid, or online.



IVCCD relies on CDC and Public Health guidelines to inform protocols. As of July 26, 2021, masks are optional but strongly recommended for unvaccinated individuals. Masks may be required in designated areas or at certain events on campus.

Masks should cover both mouth and nose in these designated areas. Refusal to comply with expectations may result in Code of Conduct violations and disciplinary actions. If you are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, please do not attend your classes and contact your instructors immediately.

College Plant Services staff strives to maintain a clean and healthy environment. All members of the college community, however, are tasked with assisting with creating a sanitized environment. The following cleaning process will apply to general college classrooms: 1) Instructor will spray horizontal surfaces at the end of each class; 2) each student in the next class will take paper towels and dry their desk before they sit down.

Education Equity Policy Statement

It is the policy of Iowa Valley Community College District that no individual will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any program or activity sponsored or conducted by the District on the basis of actual or potential parental, family or marital status; age; color; creed; gender identity; national origin; physical or mental disability; race; religion; sex; or sexual orientation as required by the Iowa Code §§ 216.6 and 216.9, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d and 2000e), the Equal Pay Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 206, et seq.), Title IX (Educational Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 – 1688), Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794), and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.).

Marshalltown Community College and Iowa Valley Grinnell students who have questions or complaints related to compliance with this policy should contact Dr. Vincent Boyd, Education Equity Officer, at 641-844-5716 or Vincent.Boyd@iavalley.edu. Ellsworth Community College students who have questions or complaints related to compliance with this policy should contact Dr. Amanda Estey, Education Equity Officer, at 641-648-8633 or Amanda.Estey@iavalley.edu. Iowa Valley Continuing Education students who have questions or complaints related to compliance with this policy should contact Jacque Goodman, Education Equity Officer, at 641-844-5640 or Jacque.Goodman@iavalley.edu. Complaints may also be filed with the Director of the Office for Civil Rights U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison St., Suite 1475, Chicago, Illinois 60661-7204 (Ph: 312-730-1560, E: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov) and/or the Iowa Civil Rights Commission at 400 E. 14th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50319 (Ph: 800-457-4416). Retaliation against any individual for reporting discrimination or assisting in providing information relevant to a report of discrimination is strictly prohibited by IVCCD and constitutes a violation of this policy. Disabilities, Accessibility, and Accommodations Statement

Iowa Valley Community College District (IVCCD) is committed to providing equity in access in all matters relating to the College. By working together, students, faculty and staff strive to provide access to support students in the completion of their studies at IVCCD. The College adheres to all requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and will make reasonable accommodations for any student or patron. If you have a physical or mental



impairment that substantially limits learning, additional requirements will need to be fulfilled in order to receive services, including the completion of an application, as well as the establishment that the student has a record of such impairment or are regarded as having such impairment.

Ellsworth ADA Contact

ECC students in need of services should contact Wanda Koehrsen (641-648-4611 or Wanda.Koehrsen@iavalley.edu)

Marshalltown/Iowa Valley Grinnell ADA Contact

MCC students in need of services should contact Martha Schwandt (641.844-5769 or Martha.Schwandt@iavalley.edu).

Non-discrimination Statement

Harassment and discrimination are prohibited and will not be tolerated at the College. Students, faculty, staff, administrators, and board members are responsible for promotion, understanding, and acceptance of College policies. Complete information is available in IVCCD Board Policy 517 or by contacting a College official. Refer to this [handout](#) for more information.

Title IX Procedures

Title IX, of the Education Amendments of 1972, is a federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally funded education program or activity. Issues related to sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic/dating violence and/or stalking are governed by the College's Title IX Policy and Procedures, available from ECC's Title IX coordinator, Tracy Crippin-Haake (Tracy.Crippin@iavalley.edu or 641-648-8513), or at <https://ecc.iavalley.edu/resources-for-students/title-9/>. MCC's Title IX coordinator is Nate Chua (Nate.Chua@iavalley.edu or 641-844-5743). More information can be accessed at <https://mcc.iavalley.edu/resources-for-students/title-9/>.

Tentative Class Schedule

Faculty Statement: The aforementioned requirements, assignments, evaluation procedures, and other contents of this syllabus are subject to change. Students' experiences and needs, as well as emerging knowledge, will be considered in modifying this course syllabus.

Week	Chapter
1	APA
2	Chapter 1
3	Chapter 2
4	Chapter 3
5	Chapter 4
6	Chapter 5
7	Chapter 6
8	Chapter 7
9	Chapter 8
10	Chapter 9
11	Chapter 10



12	Chapter 11
13	Chapter 12
14	Chapter 13
15	Chapter 14
16	Finals

Basic Layout of the class (subject to change)

Exams: There are 5 units in the text. We will take one exam **per** unit, equaling a total of 5 exams

Sections of Text (Total of 14 Chapters):

1. Introduction to Social Psychology and Research
2. Social Perception
3. Social Influence
4. Social Relations
5. Applying Social Psychology

Review Papers: There will be 2 review papers that will need to be done. There will be articles provided in addition to a writing prompt. There are four possible topics that a student can write about:

- Attitudes
- Stereotypes
- Groupthink
- Loneliness

The first paper must be turned in by **February 18th** and the second paper will need to be turned in by **April 29th**. Each paper will be worth 25 points, for a total of 50 points.

You could get both done prior to those dates. When ready, get one of the topics from Ms. Taylor or download from the Social Psychology page.

Experiment/Presentation/Lab Report: Social Psychology concepts are seen in everyday life, however, people rarely take a time out to examine those factors. For your final project you will conduct a Social Psychology experiment, analyzing one of the concepts discussed during the semester. This will be done in a group where there will be one lab report handed in and one group presentation. This final project is worth 150 points of your final grade. This will be due, at the latest, the week of May 9th.

You need to:

1. Pick your research question
2. Develop your hypothesis
3. Supply a brief summary of the background of your topic (i.e. if you do something on colors, than the general psychological topic would be perception or sensation). In other words, why would your question be important to the world of psychology? Has your question or experiment been completed before? What is the current research on this topic? Make sure to include psychological principles and concepts that relates to your project.
4. You must provide detailed information about your experiment methodology (type, sample size, variables, etc.).



5. You will be working in a group for the entire project, handing in one final paper and giving one final presentation together. If in any way you have a falling out with a group member/s, de-friend or unfollow one of your group members on social media, and/or break-up with one of your group members you still have to work together. The real world is tough and you have to work with people you may or may not like; leave your drama at the door.
6. “Test” your question. Create and perform your experiment. When performing the experiment or observation, you CANNOT use your classmates; I hope this is self-explanatory as to why. You must utilize 10 people for your experiment/observation. Make sure you document the methodology process; it will be an integral part of your lab report.
7. Gather your results, analyze your data, draw conclusions and create your lab report/presentation. Presentations should last 7-10 minutes in length and, be prepared, Ms. Taylor will be asking questions.

Deadlines:

- Deadline 1-Topic Proposal
Due: February 7th
- Deadline 2-Methodological Tool (experiment layout, completed surveys, materials, etc.)
Due: Week of February 21st (I want to see a copy of what materials you will be using)
- Deadline 3: Presentation and Lab Report
Due: Week of May 9th

Additional Hints & Reminders:

- Follow the rubric and ask questions to clear up any confusion!
- Make sure that all materials are approved by Ms. Taylor before proceeding
- For presentation, make sure that the ppt. or other presentation method is operational
- Work together on the lab report, but it does need to sound like 1 single person wrote it. It should flow seamlessly.
- DO NOT PROCRASTINATE! If you do not pass the project, it will be detrimental to your grade