Virginia Western Community College
PSY 216
Social Psychology

Prerequisites
PSY 200

Course Description
Examines individuals in social contexts, their social roles, group processes and intergroup relations. Includes topics such as small group behavior, social behavior, social cognition, conformity, attitudes, and motivation.

Semester Credits: 3   **Lecture Hours: 3**

Required Materials

1.   Textbook
2.   Internet access
3.   Canvas

Textbook:
Aronson, E. (2012). *The Social Animal*. 11th ed. New York, NY: Worth Publishers.
ISBN: 978-1-319-09716-5

Other Required Materials:
None

Virginia Western Community College   **3082 Colonial Ave SW**
School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences   **Roanoke, VA 24015**
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Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:
- Explain how research contributes to the understanding of social behavior: to evaluate and use research findings to investigate topics of interest to them.
- Explain how ones' interpersonal behaviors and the development of "self" affect social behaviors.
- Identify relationships between thought processes (e.g., attributions, attitudes, bias, and perception) and social behavior.
- Discuss obedience, conformity, and compliance in relation to behavior.
- Describe the power of the situation.
- Describe how group dynamics influence behavior.
- Discuss the nature and effects of stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination.
- Discuss influences upon pro-social (e.g., altruism) and anti-social (e.g., aggression and conflict) behaviors.
- Discuss factors influencing attraction and relationships.
- Identify factors involved in influencing and persuading others.
- Discuss social and cultural diversity.
- Discuss psychological research examining diversity among individuals.

Topical Description

1	Introduction to Social Psychology
2	Psychology as a Science, Research Methods and Ethics
3	Conformity
4	Mass Communication, Propaganda, and Persuasion
5	Social Cognition
6	Self-Justification
7	Human Aggression
8	Helping Behavior
9	Group Behavior
10	Prejudice
11	Social Relations: Liking Loving Interpersonal Sensitivity

Notes to Instructors
None