

Virginia Western Community College

PSY 216

Social Psychology

Prerequisites

PSY 200 or departmental consent.

VCCS Course Description

Examines individuals in social contexts, their social roles, group processes and intergroup relations. Acquaints students with a scientific understanding of how the presence of other people, interactions with other people, and other situational factors influence human thoughts and behaviors. The assignments in the course require college-level reading, analysis of scholarly studies, and coherent communication through written reports (including the production of at least one APA-formatted individual writing assignment).

Semester Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Required Materials

Textbook

Internet Access

Learning Management System Access

Synchronous online sections: Video camera and audio

Textbook

Aronson, E. & Aronson, J (2018). *The Social Animal*. 12th ed. New York, NY: Worth Publishers.

ISBN: 978-1-4641-4418-9

Other Required Materials

None

General Course Purpose

PSY 216 prepares students to complete ethical research and explain other's research related to social psychological topics. This course also connects social influence processes to everyday life and explores social relations and similarities and differences among different cultures. This course can fulfill a requirement for psychology majors and other related fields.

VCCS Course Outcomes

Research Methods

- Differentiate between different research methods in social psychology: experiment,

survey, correlational research, and observational research

Ethical Considerations

- Evaluate ethical issues and principles in social psychological research: informed consent, deception of research participants, consequences of deception

Social Perception

- Explain research on social perception, including perception of the self, of other individuals, and of social groups

Social Influence

- Describe social influence processes, conformity, obedience, and group processes, and how these processes are found in everyday life

Social Relationships

- Identify processes involved in social relations, including attraction, altruism, conflict, and aggression

Culture and Social Implications

- Recognize similarities and differences among different cultures regarding social psychological processes

The Self

- Describe the self-concept, self-esteem, self-control, self-serving bias, self-presentation

Social Cognition

- Identify examples of social cognition: priming, belief perseverance, heuristics and biases, self-fulfilling prophecy, attribution

Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination

- Define and explain the differences between stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination, including social, cognitive, and motivational aspects and consequences

Attitudes

- Define and explain attitudes and their formation, persuasion, and attitude change, and the links between attitudes to behavior and behavior to attitudes

Major Topics to be Included

Research Methods

Ethical Considerations

Social Perception

Social Influence

Social Relationships

Culture and Social Implications

The Self

Social Cognition

Stereotypes, Prejudice, and Discrimination

Attitudes

Note to Instructors

None

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[ADA STATEMENT](#)