## Social Psychology Dr. Pam Terry

## PSYC 3040 312 Russell Hall

## Spring Semester 2018 678-359-5207

## p\_terry@gordonstate.edu

**Dr. Pam Terry**  **Office Hours**

**Russell 312 T 12:30-3:00**

**678-359-5207 W 2:00-3:00**

[p\_terry@gordonstate.edu](mailto:p_terry@gordonstate.edu) **R 12:30-3:00**

**F 10:30-12:30**

## General Course Description

Social Psychology is the scientific study of the behavior of individuals in social situations and how the behavior and mental processes of individuals are affected by other people and groups. It considers how diverse individuals think, feel and behave with regards to others and covers such topics as the social self, group processes, stereotyping and prejudice, attitudes, conformity, attraction and relationships, aggression, and helping others.

**Textbook**

Greenberg, J., Schmader, T., Arndt, J. & Landers, M. (2015). Social *Psychology: The Science of Everyday Life.* New York: Worth.

**Student Learning Objectives**

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to discuss the theories and research findings of social psychology. They should have developed understanding, skills, and techniques for using a scientific approach to analyze human behavior; they should be able to describe the principles used in perceiving others, themselves and groups. They should recognize forms of social influence such as conformity, obedience, and compliance, and should be able to apply the lessons of social psychology to everyday life.

**Course Requirements & Grading Breakdown**

The semester grade will be the result of weighted averages calculated for tests (three test scores (45%; 15% each)); assigned projects, papers, and/or presentation (25%); classroom and homework activities (15%); final exam (15%).

**Grading Scale**

A - 90 – 100 B - 80 - 89 C - 70 - 79

D - 60 - 69 F - Below 60

**Academic Honesty**

See the *Gordon College Academic Catalog* for the official college policy. Evidence of cheating on examinations or plagiarism of written assignments will in this class, at minimum, result in a grade of zero for the test or assignment. Any work turned in must be your original work, and any information taken from outside sources must be referenced. (Your report should clearly indicate the source from which the information was taken.) This includes facts, statistics, and words and ideas of others, even if they are paraphrased. It is best to avoid all question or appearance of cheating and plagiarism by not working together too closely on project reports, avoiding overuse of wording borrowed from your reference sources, and making sure that all sources are cited in reports.

**Title IX**

Gordon State College is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.  If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these incidents, know that you are not alone. All faculty members at Gordon State College are mandated reporters.  Any student reporting any type of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking must be made aware that any report made to a faculty member under the provisions of Title IX will be reported to the Title IX Coordinator or a Title IX Deputy Coordinator.  If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, you must contact the Counseling and Accessibility Services office, Room 212, Student Life Center.  The licensed counselors in the Counseling Office are able to provide confidential support.

Gordon State College does not discriminate against any student on the basis of pregnancy, parenting or related conditions.  Students seeking accommodations on the basis of pregnancy, parenting or related conditions should contact Counseling and Accessibility Services regarding the process of documenting pregnancy related issues and being approved for accommodations, including pregnancy related absences as defined under Title IX.

**ADA and 504**

If you have a documented disability as described by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, you may be eligible to receive accommodations to assist in programmatic and/or physical accessibility.  The Counseling and Accessibility Services office located in the Student Center, Room 212 can assist you in formulating a reasonable accommodation plan and in providing support in developing appropriate accommodations to ensure equal access to all GSC programs and facilities.  Course requirements will not be waived, but accommodations may assist you in meeting the requirements.  For documentation requirements and for additional information, contact Counseling and Accessibility Services at 678-359-5585.

**HB 280**

For information regarding House Bill 280, see the University System of Georgia at the following link: <http://www.usg.edu/hb280> .

**Resources**

***The professor’s web page:*** The syllabus, PowerPoint lecture slides, study guides, and assignment instructions will be hyperlinked to my *www.gdn.edu* web page. Materials are updated periodically during the semester, so check the site frequently prior to tests and assignment due dates for any relevant changes. This is actually a better source of information, and a faster one, than contacting me by email. Use it first.

The page can be found on the Gordon website. From the homepage, click on *My Gordon.* Scroll down under *Resources* to *Faculty Credentials and Web Pages*. When you reach that page, click on *T* (rather than scrolling down). My name should appear near the top of the screen. Click on

The words *Personal Web Page* under my name. There you should find the name of your course. Click on it to find the information you need. In the event of hyperlinking or other electronic difficulties, check your Gordon email to determine whether the relevant study guides or other information have been mailed to you.

***E-mail:*** You may use e-mail to inform me of absences, etc., or to ask specific questions or make requests. If you do, **please identify yourself and your section.** For example, “This is Jane Doe from your Human Growth MW 2:00 section.” I will not respond to emails not fully identified other than to ask for further information. I also do not respond to email questions regarding those things already posted on the web page, such as assignment and test dates, or those things already covered in this syllabus such as policies regarding make-up tests, tardy assignments, or excused absences other than to refer you back to the web page. You often will find an answer more quickly on the web page or in the syllabus than from me.

**Brightspace/D2L:** This resource may be used for storage of an extra copy of the syllabus, turning in papers through Dropbox/Assignments and use of Turn It In, Gradebook, and /or establishment of links to outside resources.

**Tests**

Tests may include material from the textbook not covered in class as well as material covered in class that may not be in the textbook. Study guides are provided for download from my faculty web page which will direct you to the most important information to study for the tests. Study guides do not contain the actual test questions. They are for the purpose of assisting you in focusing your study on the most important material.

***Make-up tests.*** There will be no make-up tests. If a test is missed, the score on the next in-class test will be counted twice and substituted for the missing score. In the event that the professor decides to drop the lowest test score, that will be the missing score.

***Final exams*.** According to Gordon College policy, final exams may not be taken early. They must be taken on the date and time published in the Schedule of Classes. Students with three or more final exams on the same day or with a documented hardship may petition the Business and Public Service Department Chair for a change of exam schedule.

**Assignments**

***Completion of assigned work***

Assignments may be required to be submitted in print copy or electronically through [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com), either directly or through the Brightspace/D2L drop box. Work assigned to go through TurnItIn will not receive credit until the electronic copy has cleared. Late assignments will be accepted with a 5-point penalty during the first week, a 10-point penalty during the second week, and an additional 5-point penalty per week after that.

***Keeping copies and records.*** *(A word of advice).* It is advisable to keep a copy of all computer files and hard copies of work that you turn in and to keep returned/graded papers and returned tests and SCANTRON sheets until the end of the semester. These will be useful in resolving any questions about your work or grades that might arise. Having lost or deleted a computer file will not be accepted as an excuse for not completing an assignment or *turnitin.com* submission.

**Student Responsibilities**

***Attendance and class participation.*** Records of attendance will be kept. While class attendance will not directly affect the course grade, it is expected that students will attend class, and they are responsible for awareness of information and announcements provided in class. Class participation, discussion of relevant topics, and asking questions is always encouraged.

***Classroom Courtesy.*** While lively classroom discussion is a welcome and important part of the learning process, care should be taken to be courteous and not offend those with whom we disagree. Private conversations, use of electronics and other disruptions in the classroom are not acceptable.

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***Awareness and Communication*:** It is the student's responsibility to: 1) be aware of course policies, test dates and assignment due dates; 2) make sure that he/she is recorded present for class; 3) make arrangements to make up any work/tests missed during absences; 4) obtain notes or other information missed; 5) make sure that the instructor actually received any work turned in; 6) communicate to the instructor any special circumstances, events, or needs that will interfere with the student’s completion of his or her course work in a timely fashion.

**The Professor’s Philosophy**

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. . . . The remarkable thing is that we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we embrace for that day. We cannot change our past . . . . . We cannot change the fact that people act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have . . . and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you . . . . We are in charge of our attitudes. Chuck Swindoll

**Reading Schedule: Social Psychology**

**Fall Semester 2017**

**Topic Read Chapter Week of:**

Course Introduction Aug. 10

Science of Social Psychology 1 Aug. 15

Fundamentals of Social Behavior 2 Aug. 22

Social Cognition 3 Aug. 29

Forming Impressions 4 Sep. 5

**Test 1 (Ch. 1-3)**

The Self 5 Sep. 12

The Self Sep. 19

Key Self Motives 6

Social Influence 7 Sep. 26

Persuasion, Attitudes & Behavior 8 Oct. 3

**Test 2 (Ch. 4-6)**

Group Processes 9 Oct. 12

Prejudice 10

Prejudice 11 Oct. 17

Interpersonal Aggression 12 Oct. 24

Prosocial Behavior 13 Oct. 31

**Test 3 (Ch. 7-11)**

Interpersonal Attraction 14 Nov. 7

Close Relationships 15 Nov. 14

**Final Exam (Ch. 12-15) : Wed., Dec. 6, 10:15-12:15 a,m,**