

# PSYC 4412: Advanced Topics in Social Psychology

Fall 2021

Tuesdays & Thursdays @12:30 in SH 330

## Instructor Information

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### Instructor

John M. Adams, PhD

### Office Number

LS 407

### Email Address

John.Adams@uta.edu

### Office Hours

Monday 10am-2pm

Wednesday 10am-2pm

**\*\*Please email me in advance to let me know you are coming**

## Course Information

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### Time and Place of Class Meetings

Tuesdays & Thursdays @12:30pm-1:50pm in SH 330. This is an on-campus course.

### Description of Course Content

This course and lab will cover foundational and current topics in Social Psychology using a combination of lecture sessions and an interactive, participatory lab that complements the lecture portion. The course will focus on specific content: topics that are especially relevant today to better understand and use advanced concepts in Social Psychology. Topics include self-regulation, human aggression, social influence, positive psychology, social biases, group processes, and intergroup relations. Completion of the course is essential for students who are interested in pursuing a career in Social Psychology research, or related, applied fields.

### Student Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to describe and discuss the major cognitive and motivational underpinnings of human social behavior. Students will be able to recognize (and, when appropriate, resist) social influence techniques. Students will identify and explain theories of group behavior, group interaction, intergroup conflict, human aggression, helping behavior, and interpersonal relationships. Students will describe and apply key terms and concepts from experimental and statistical methods used in social psychological research. Students will correctly recognize and apply other major concepts. Students will verbally present their reactions and experiences to course content, both informally and formally

## Required Textbooks and Course Materials

You don't have to purchase any books or materials for this course. Articles, videos, and other materials will be posted to Canvas.

## Technology Requirements

You need a computer with MS Teams (in case the university switches to fully remote).

## Descriptions of major assignments and examinations + calculating your final grade

1. **“Readings” Quizzes (15% of final grade).** “Readings” will be a mix of articles, chapters, podcasts, and videos across the course topics. The quizzes will consist of short multiple-choice assessments of the basic points and concepts from the “readings.” Each quiz will be available on Canvas. Missing the deadline for these quizzes will result in a grade of zero. Late submissions (with no penalty) will only be accepted with a documented, University-approved excuse, which you must provide before the quiz deadline. **You must score at least a 2 out of 5 to progress to the next reading and quiz, and most quizzes (timed at 15 minutes) will allow only one attempt.**
2. **Lecture Quizzes (30% of final grade).** Each lecture will have an associated quiz, covering the content of the session. I encourage you to attend the lectures on time and to take notes as you would for an in-person class. The quizzes are timed and have deadlines typically within a day or two of the lecture. There will be one quiz for each content session. Missing the deadline for these quizzes will result in a grade of zero. Late submissions (with no penalty) will only be accepted with a documented, University-approved excuse.
3. **Exams (25% of final grade).** There will be three exams in this course. Exams 2 and 3 will be cumulative. Each exam is worth the same amount.
4. **Laboratory (30% of final grade).** The syllabus for your lab section is provided separately. Your lab instructor (Sarah Lee or Jessica Stephens) sets the rules and policies for the lab, and any questions should be directed to them. At the end of the semester, within each lab section, I will z-score the final lab grades; consequently, the grades between the two lab sections will be mathematically identical (i.e., there will be no “easier” or “harder” lab section, because I will make both sections have the same grade distribution).

**NOTE:** Your auto-generated grade in Canvas is incorrect. Do not trust it. Instead:

### To Calculate your Final Grade...

... Multiply your average Readings-Quiz percentage-grade by 0.15

... Multiply your average Lecture-Quiz percentage-grade by 0.3

... Multiply your average Exam percentage-grade by 0.25

... Multiply your final Laboratory percentage-grade by 0.3

... Finally, add those four products together. This sum represents your final grade in the course.

## Course Schedule

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1DKolGQY0WmctwXpIQeSM1p-NrWm1fLZdriLYv5wKRfg/edit#gid=0>

## Institutional Information

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UTA students are encouraged to review the below institutional policies and informational sections and reach out to the specific office with any questions. To view this institutional information, please visit the [Institutional Information](https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php) page (<https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php>) which includes the following policies among others:

- Drop Policy
- Disability Accommodations
- Title IX Policy
- Academic Integrity
- Student Feedback Survey
- Final Exam Schedule

## Additional Information

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### Face Covering Policy

*While the use of face coverings on campus is no longer mandatory, all students and instructional staff are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings while they are on campus. This is particularly true inside buildings and within classrooms and labs where social distancing is not possible due to limited space. If a student needs accommodations to ensure social distancing in the classroom due to being at high risk they are encouraged to work directly with the Student Access and Resource Center to assist in these accommodations. If students need masks, they may obtain them at the Central Library, the E.H. Hereford University Center's front desk or in their department.*

### Attendance

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator of student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I will not count attendance toward your final grade. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report must the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Canvas. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

### Emergency Exit Procedures

Should we experience an emergency event that requires evacuation of the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, [which is located \[insert a description of the nearest exit/emergency exit\]](#). When exiting the building during an emergency, do not take an elevator but use the stairwells instead. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

### Academic Success Center

The Academic Success Center (ASC) includes a variety of resources and services to help you maximize your learning and succeed as a student at the University of Texas at Arlington. ASC services include supplemental instruction, peer-led team learning, tutoring, mentoring and TRIO SSS. Academic Success Center services are provided at no additional cost to UTA students. For additional information visit: [Academic Success Center](#). To request disability accommodations for tutoring, please complete this [form](#).

## **Emergency Phone Numbers**

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In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381