

PSYC 4412 001: Advanced Topics in Social Psychology

Fall 2023

Instructor Information

Instructor(s):

Jared Kenworthy

Office Number:

Life Sciences 525

Office Telephone Number:

817 272 0746 (Teams call)

Email Address:

kenworthy @ uta.edu (please use Canvas email)

Faculty Profile:

<https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/jared-kenworthy>

Office Hours:

Tuesdays, 14:00 – 15:00, or by appointment

Course Information

Section Information:

PSYC 4412 001

Time and Place of Class Meetings:

LS 424; Tue/Thur 12.30 – 13.50

Description of Course Content:

This course and lab will cover 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 Other Course Materials:

No textbook will be used in this course. Required articles and other materials for lecture sessions and lab presentations will be provided on Canvas as the course progresses.

Technology Requirements:

The use of Canvas will be required. Teams (for communication) is optional.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:

- 1. “Reading” Quizzes:** “Readings” will be a mix of articles, 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 is worth 5 points, and the deadline for each is available in Canvas. Missing the deadline for these quizzes will result in a loss of one point per day following the deadline. Late submissions (with no penalty) will only be accepted with a documented, University-approved (see policy below) excuse. 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. **(10 @ 5 points each, for 50 points total)**
- 2. Practical Application Assignment written reports:** These will consist of carrying out ten practical assignments, as described in class sessions, and then writing approximately 200-500 words to describe your experience and reaction to it. Along with your written report, you must provide some kind of evidence of your activities, when appropriate. **Five specific practical assignments are required for everyone** (indicated in class and on Canvas), and you may choose from among the others. Failure to complete the *required* practicals will prevent other assignments from being available to you. The deadlines for submitting these assignments will vary based on lecture course pacing, but will be provided in class and on Canvas. Missing the submission deadline for these assignments will result in a loss of one point per day following the deadline. Late submissions will only be accepted with a documented, University-approved (see policy below) excuse. **(10 @ 10 points each, for 100 points total)**
- 3. Exams:** There will be two (2) exams administered in class on the dates specified in the schedule below. Exams are non-cumulative. Content will be a mixture of lecture, “reading”, and practical content. For each of the exams, I will supply a series of questions covering the course content from the material indicated in the schedule below. Each short-answer question will have its own point value (e.g., 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 15, etc.). You will attempt to answer your choice of questions that add up to no more than 50 possible points. Any points attempted beyond 50 possible will be deducted from your final score, at the scorer’s discretion. More details to follow. These exams will be graded primarily for their content, but you will lose points for poor grammar, spelling, and logical flow/coherence. A topical guide and sample/practice exam will be provided. You only need to bring pencils/pens to the exams. **(2 @ 50 points each, for 100 points total)**
- 4. Practical #1 Presentations (30 points):** The in-class presentations will occur between 25 April (including during lab time) and 02 May (see schedule below). You have approximately 7-8 minutes to present, using PowerPoint (or similar), a summary of your paper, including the model, the methods/techniques, the findings, and a report of the data collected. The order of presentations will be determined randomly and will be shown in class and published to Canvas prior to presentations. Presentation files are due by 10 AM on the first day of presentations. Scoring details and guidelines to be provided separately. Missing your assigned presentation slot without an approved, documented excuse (submitted electronically via Canvas within 3 days of

the missed date) will result in a score of zero. You can make it up on a different presentation day with a late penalty of 5 points per missed session.

5. **Attendance:** 1 point per session, up to **25 points**.
6. **Laboratory (130 points total):** The syllabus for your lab section is provided separately. Your lab instructor sets the rules and policies for the lab, and any questions should be directed to that person. You may earn up to a total of 130 points in the lab. Those points will be sent to me at the end of the semester, to be combined with your lecture section points.

Grading Information

Grading:

THE FINAL COURSE GRADE will be determined by dividing the total number of earned points on all scored categories described above by the total points possible (435). Grades will be determined as follows:

A: > 90% (390 points or above)

B: 80 – 89% (345 – 389 points)

C: 70 – 79% (302 – 344 points)

D: 60 – 69% (258 – 301 points)

F: < 60% (257 or below)

If you are doing poorly in this course, do not wait until after the final to see me about doing better. It is your responsibility to verify with me that the points and percentages that you think you've earned are accurate. If you are near the border of a grade boundary (e.g., between a B and an A), this is especially important. I will not make grade changes based on your failure to verify percentages before the final grades are issued.

Do not ask to be bumped to the next letter grade up if you are near a letter grade boundary.

Make-up Exams:

Make-up exams will only be given to those with University-approved excuses (see Catalog) or at the discretion of the instructor. All requests for make-ups or late assignment submissions must be submitted in writing (with appropriate documentation) via Canvas email. Written documentation of a death in the family, personal illness, or accident, etc., must be submitted to Dr. Kenworthy (via Canvas email) within 3 calendar days of missing an exam or assignment. If you fail to provide documentation (even for valid excuses) within 3 days, you forfeit the opportunity for a make-up exam or assignment. Make-ups exams will cover the same material as the original exams, but will not be identical in format or content. Note that some assignments may not be available for make-up or late submission (see above).

Grade Grievances:

Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. Please also [visit this link](#).

Course Schedule

	Tue/Thu: 11.00 am – 12.20 pm	Approximate quiz deadlines See Canvas for specific dates/times
Week 1		
22 aug	1. Syllabus / introduction	
24 aug	2. MOD 1: The Self	
Week 2		
29 aug	3. MOD 1: The Self	Reading 1 quiz
31 aug	4. MOD 1: The Self	
Week 3		
05 sep	5. MOD 1: Self-regulation	Reading 2 quiz
07 sep	6. MOD 1: Self-regulation	
Week 4		
12 sep	7. MOD 1: Self-reg. / Behavior change	Reading 3 quiz
14 sep	8. MOD 1: Self-reg. / Behavior change	Due: Practical 1A
Week 5		
19 sep	9. MOD 2: Stress and Coping	Reading 4 quiz
21 sep	10. MOD 2: Positive Psychology	
Week 6		
26 sep	11. MOD 2: Positive Psychology	Reading 5 quiz
28 sep	12. MOD 2: Positive Psychology	Reading 6 quiz
Week 7		
03 oct	13. MOD 3: Attitudes and influence	Reading 7 quiz
05 oct	14. MOD 3: Interpersonal influence & Exam review	
Week 8		
10 oct	Exam 1	
12 oct	15. MOD 3: Aggression & Social Influence	
Week 9		
17 oct	16. MOD 3: Aggression & Social Influence	
19 oct	17. MOD 3: Aggression & Social Influence	
Week 10		
24 oct	18. MOD 4: Groups & Intergroup Relations	Reading 8 quiz
26 oct	19. MOD 4: Groups & Intergroup Relations	
Week 11		
31 oct	20. MOD 4: Groups & Intergroup Relations	Reading 9 quiz
02 nov	21. MOD 4: Groups & Intergroup Relations	
Week 12		
07 nov	22. MOD 5: Critical Social Thinking	Reading 10 quiz
09 nov	23. MOD 5: Critical Social Thinking	

Week 13		
14 nov	24. MOD 5: Critical Social Thinking	
16 nov	25. MOD 5: Critical Social Thinking Order of presentations announced	Due: Practical 1B
Week 14		
21 nov	26. Presentations	Presentation files due: 21 NOVEMBER, 11 AM
23 nov	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
Week 15		
28 nov	27. Presentations	
30 nov	28. Presentations	
Week 16		
05 dec	29. Presentations and Exam review	
Finals Week		
12 Dec	Exam #2: Tuesday, 12 DEC 2023, 11.00 am – 1.30 pm, in class	

This schedule is subject to change, as needed.

Institution Information

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](http://www.uta.edu/provost/administrative-forms/course-syllabus/index.php) page (<http://www.uta.edu/provost/administrative-forms/course-syllabus/index.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

Face Covering Policy:

Face coverings are not mandatory, all students and instructional staff are welcome to wear face coverings while they are on campus or in the classroom.

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, my policy is that you can earn 1 point per session attended, up to 25 points. 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.

Distance education courses require regular and substantive online interaction and participation. Students must participate in online course activities to demonstrate attendance; logging into an online class is not sufficient by itself to demonstrate attendance

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, located in either direction. 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](https://www.uta.edu/student-success/course-assistance) (https://www.uta.edu/student-success/course-assistance). To request disability accommodations for tutoring, please complete this [form](https://www.uta.edu/student-success/course-assistance/tutoring/request) (https://www.uta.edu/student-success/course-assistance/tutoring/request).

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

- *I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*
- *I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>. Faculty are encouraged to discuss plagiarism and share the following library tutorials <http://libguides.uta.edu/copyright/plagiarism> and <http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/>

Instances of academic dishonesty will result in, at the very least, a score of zero for the assignment or exam in question. Multiple instances will likely result in a grade of F for the course. Further measures may be taken at the discretion of the instructor.

ADDITIONAL COURSE RULES

1. **Use Canvas Inbox email or Teams to communicate.**

2. **Do not email or call to ask what materials will be in missed classes.**

Material covered in class is your responsibility. If you miss class, find a classmate with whom you can share resources.

3. **Do not email or call if you will miss (or have missed) an exam or assignment.**

I require written documentation of a University-approved excuse. Email me with the request for a make-up, including documentation, within three calendar days of the missed assignment. That's all I need.

4. **Do not email or call asking to be bumped up to the next letter grade.**

I don't entertain these requests. Put in the work ahead of time.

5. **Do not email using poor communication form.**

I consider email to be a formal channel of communication. Therefore, I expect you to identify yourself, to use proper capitalization, spelling, and punctuation. Do not use « text language » or associated abbreviations. When you address me, please make an effort to spell my name correctly, etc.

6. **Outside of my office hours, please make an appointment instead of dropping in.**

7. **Do not email or call about anything that is already explained in the syllabus.**

In other words, before you email with a question, please check the syllabus first to make sure your question is not already covered.

Any emails received in violation of these rules may be ignored or returned without a reply.