

PSYC 5322: Social Psychology – Fall 2023

Instructor Information

Instructor

Jared Kenworthy, Ph.D.

Office Number

Life Sciences 525

In Teams: Kenworthy, Jared B

Office Telephone Number

Voice or video call via Teams (or 817 272 0746)

Email Address

Use Canvas Inbox mail or Teams chat for course-related correspondence

Faculty Profile

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

Individual Office Hours

2-3 pm, Thursdays, or by appt.

Course Information

Section Information

PSYC 5322.001

Time and Place of Class Meetings

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 9.30 – 10.50 am

Life Sciences 101

Description of Course Content: General survey of topics in social psychology. The theories and research dealing with individual behavior in the social environment. Social influence processes, interpersonal attraction, aggression, conformity, attitude formation and change, group processes and dynamics, prejudice and intergroup relations.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to describe and discuss the major cognitive and motivational underpinnings of human social behavior, and how they are applied to real-world settings. Students will also gain experience in critiquing scientific articles and in presenting course material to an audience. Specific topics of this course are the self, social cognition, emotion, group dynamics, interpersonal relationships, prejudice and intergroup conflict, prosocial behavior, and human aggression.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials: Reading list provided separately in Canvas

Required Technology and Online Apps/Platforms:

- Canvas
- Microsoft Teams

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations

1. Exams: There will be two (2) exams in this course. Exams are closed-note exams testing comprehension and application of the course content (lecture and readings). The exam items will be a mix of short-answer and essay items. An exam review guide will be provided in Canvas, and some class time will be set apart for exam review. See make-up policy below.

Exam 1: Exam 1 will be administered on Tuesday, 10 October 2023. This exam will cover all lecture and reading material up through 05 October 2022. This exam will be worth 60 points.

Exam 2: The second exam will cover text and lecture material from the second half of the course. This exam will take place on the final exam day scheduled for our course (Tuesday, 12 December 2023; 8:00 – 10:30 am). This exam will total 90 points.

150 points total

2. Proposal Paper: This portion of the course grade consists of proposing a novel research idea based on a session's topic/readings.

The proposed research design must propose a fully experimental, factorial design. Please download the *Research Proposal Papers Guide* from Canvas for all required elements. Discuss the background and context of the idea, and briefly describe the hypotheses and methods for testing it. You must propose hypotheses in the language of main effects and/or interactions. You are proposing novel research to test theory or advance knowledge in a given domain. Thus, you need to provide an explanation of your methodology in enough detail that a reader knows what participants will be experiencing when in your study. What are your independent variables, and how are they to be operationalized? What is your dependent variable (or variables)? The introduction should be a brief, concise, logical rationale for why you expect your independent variable(s) to impact the dependent variable. If you are using a previously-published study as a springboard, describe in your own words that study's authors' rationale for why the effects should be observed. Then, give a logical rationale for why your novel addition should change things. If you are starting from scratch (e.g., based on your own model), then each variable needs a conceptual definition and operationalization, along with the accompanying logic for why it should impact your dependent variable. Finally, why is your idea novel and important? Does it test a theory in some way, or offer a practical application? Or both? This last point should be included in your introduction.

Ensure that you are not proposing an idea that has already been tested and published (i.e., do a thorough literature search). Use APA formatting throughout, and include a references page. Apart from the quality of the idea, papers are also evaluated on professionalism (formatting, grammar, spelling, logic). Submissions after the deadline lose 10% per day. Papers are worth 50 points.

Stipulations: (1) Your ideas must be based directly on the course readings, or a citation from within the course readings. Identify the source of your “inspiration” explicitly in your introduction. (2) Your paper should cite at least 3-4 other sources. (2a) Attach the PDFs of any and all articles that you cite (apart from the textbook chapter). (3) Your proposed study must be an *in-lab experiment* – no “field” or workplace experiments unless you have prior authorization.

The research proposal paper is to be submitted by 8.00 am on 11 December 2023. Submit this paper as an attachment in *.docx format via the submission portal in **Canvas** (“Research Proposal Paper submission”) and include your student last name in the filename (e.g., Garfunkel_paper.docx).

50 points total

3. Participation: In this course, participation includes thoughtful and respectful responses to the lectures, readings, and to others' ideas and discussion questions/points (when applicable). Demonstrate that you have spent some time thinking about the readings. Be prepared to talk about the topic, and show that you have read the material.

Points for participation are earned in two segments. (1) **10 points:** You will earn a running average of 10 participation points for the course (where 1 = never participates; 5 = participates an average amount; some absences 10 = regular participant in discussions; shows evidence of having read materials; attends all sessions). This score will be updated regularly on Canvas. Points will be lost for absences, lateness, disruptions, etc. (2) **20 points:** For four instances (5 points each) of substantive class participation, you will have prepared a serious discussion question based on the reading(s), and will bring it up in live sessions. You must also have researched an answer to this question, which must not be a "softball" question. To earn the 5 points for each of these, you go to Canvas (Assignments → Discussion #N) within 24 hours of the class session in question, and must record your question and your researched answer, a summary of the response/discussion in class, and the date of the class session during which you raised your question. You can do this up to four times, but will not receive "extra credit" beyond four. Failure to record your participation in Canvas within 24 hours will result in a forfeiture of your participation for that instance, and it must be attempted again. Also, only one recorded instance per class session is allowed.

30 points total

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 (**230**). Grades will be determined as follows:

A: > 90%

B: 80 – 89%

C: 70 – 79%

D: 60 – 69%

F: < 60%

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. **Note:** Do not necessarily rely on percentages and letter grades provided in Canvas. Those are largely out of my control and may not reflect all calculations. Your grade is based on the total number of points earned divided by the total number of points possible.

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

Make-up Policy: Make-up assignments 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-up exams will cover the same material as the original exams, but will not be identical in format or content. Mid-term exam make-ups will only be scheduled during “dead week” following the last day of class.

Attendance: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in 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 have established the following attendance policy: See the Participation section above.** 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.

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:

A general rule of thumb is this: for every credit hour earned, a student should spend 3 hours per week working outside of class. Hence, a 3-credit course might have a minimum expectation of 9 hours of reading, study, etc.

Course Schedule

Session	Date	Topic
1	22 Aug	Syllabus / Course Business
2	24 Aug	Experimental methods in social psychology 1
3	29 Aug	Methods 2
4	31 Aug	The Self
5	05 Sep	Social Cognition
6	07 Sep	Emotion 1
7	12 Sep	Emotion 2
8	14 Sep	Attitudes and Attitude Change
9	19 Sep	Attitudes and Attitude Change
10	21 Sep	Cognitive Dissonance
11	26 Sep	Dissonance 2
12	28 Sep	Social Influence
13	03 Oct	Social Influence 2
14	05 Oct	TBA
	10 Oct	Exam 1
15	12 Oct	Human Aggression
16	17 Oct	Aggression 2
17	19 Oct	Prosocial behavior
18	24 Oct	Prosocial 2
19	26 Oct	Group / Team Processes

20	31 Oct	Group / Team Processes
21	02 Nov	Group / Team Processes
22	07 Nov	Intergroup relations
23	09 Nov	Intergroup relations
24	14 Nov	Prejudice reduction
25	16 Nov	Prejudice reduction
	<i>21 Nov</i>	<i>TBA</i>
	23 Nov	Thanksgiving break
26	28 Nov	Interpersonal / Close relationships
27	30 Dec	Positive psychology
28	05 Dec	Exam 2 review
	12 Dec	Exam 2 (8 – 10:30 am)

**Note: This schedule subject to change as circumstances dictate. – J.B. Kenworthy

General Course Rules

- Always use Canvas Inbox email or Teams to communicate for course business, and not my regular UTA email address. I reserve the right to ignore violations of this policy.
- Any fraud, plagiarism, collusion, or other instances of Academic Dishonesty will result in, at the very least, a score of zero for that assignment. Additional penalties at my discretion. Multiple violations will result in a letter grade of F for the course, but even single violations can result in dismissal from the program.

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

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 take formal attendance for the purpose of grading, but the course does have a participation score component (see above). For the first two weeks (at least) of the semester, this will be a Tuesday/Thursday hybrid course that rotates students through the face-to-face session. Half the class meets on Tuesday face-to-face, and the other half meets online through Zoom. On Thursday, students switch. Students are expected to attend both sessions.

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.

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.

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 either to the left or to the right. 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.

Student Success Programs: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](#) by appointment, [drop-in tutoring](#), [mentoring](#) (time management, study skills, etc.), [major-based learning centers](#), [counseling](#), and [federally funded programs](#). For individualized referrals, students may call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at [Resource Hotline \(http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/programs/resource-hotline.php\)](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/programs/resource-hotline.php).

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/>

As noted above, 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.

Ask for Help

- [Academic Plaza Consultation Services](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) (library.uta.edu/academic-plaza)
- [Ask Us](http://ask.uta.edu/) (ask.uta.edu/)
- [Research Coaches](http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach) (http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach)

Resources

- [Library Tutorials](http://library.uta.edu/how-to) (library.uta.edu/how-to)
- [Subject and Course Research Guides](http://libguides.uta.edu) (libguides.uta.edu)
- [Librarians by Subject](http://library.uta.edu/subject-librarians) (library.uta.edu/subject-librarians)
- [A to Z List of Library Databases](http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php) (libguides.uta.edu/az.php)
- [Study Room Reservations](http://openroom.uta.edu/) (openroom.uta.edu/)