



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Social Processes of Behaviour						
Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
PSY	2010	40402	1, 2005	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOSCI
Academic org:	FOS005
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	090701

STAFFING

Examiner: Nola Passmore

Moderator: Tony Machin

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: USQ69100 or PSY1010

OTHER-REQUISITES

Email and internet access to USQConnect

RATIONALE

This course introduces students to the scientific study of social behaviour, and to the process of empirical research and report writing as an essential skill for applied psychology.

SYNOPSIS

Social behaviour is introduced as the study of social processes at a number of levels from the individual level through to more broadly based social phenomena. Some of the major concepts and areas of social psychology are introduced (e.g., social research methods, socialisation, self-esteem, altruism, aggression, communication and social skills, interpersonal relationships, family issues, prejudice, group processes, culture considerations, leadership and social influence. This course has a strong research component and students will be required to write a research report in a style suitable for psychology as part of their assessment. Students will also require email and internet access to USQConnect for this course.

OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. identify major theories, concepts and facts from social psychology relating to social processes of behaviour which operate at the level of individuals, groups and society;
2. analyse and interpret social life by application of relevant theoretical concepts;

3. make informed judgements and predictions about the effects of social influences on individuals in interpersonal, group, and other social settings;
4. apply scientific methods to selected areas covered in practical projects;
5. collect research data following appropriate ethical guidelines;
6. write a research report that follows the style requirements of psychology.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Social processes of behaviour: Definitions, research methods, and cultural considerations.	8.33
2.	Socialisation.	8.33
3.	The social self.	8.33
4.	Language and communication.	8.33
5.	Social skills.	8.33
6.	Affiliation, attraction, and loneliness.	8.33
7.	Love, marriage, and family issues.	8.33
8.	Aggression.	8.33
9.	Altruism.	8.33
10.	Groups and intergroup behaviour.	8.33
11.	Leadership and social influence.	8.33
12.	Prejudice and discrimination.	8.37

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Burton, LJ 2002, *An interactive approach to writing essays and research reports in psychology*, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Qld.

Vaughan, G & Hogg, M 2005, *Introduction to social psychology*, 4th edn, Prentice Hall, Sydney. (Students can use either the 3rd or 4th editions of the textbook by Vaughan & Hogg.)

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Other reference materials, including information relating to the practical report, are included in the Selected Readings.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Examinations	3.00
Private Study	130.00
Report Writing	40.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
DATA RETURN	2.00	2.00	09 Mar 2005
PRACTICAL REPORT	40.00	40.00	26 Apr 2005
3 HR RESTRICTED EXAM (M/C)	100.00	58.00	END S1 (see note 1)

NOTES

1. Examination dates will be available during the Semester. Please refer to the examination timetable when published.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration. Students are also strongly advised to regularly access the online discussion group and course home page via their Study desk on USQConnect.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To satisfactorily complete the practical report and exam, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each of those assessment items. To satisfactorily complete the Data Return assignment, students must submit their data following the guidelines explained in the course material.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 5% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for the first day late, and then a penalty of 5% for each additional week or part of a week late.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by: (i) satisfactorily completing the examination and practical report; and (ii) obtaining at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for all summative assessment items. Students who do not qualify for a Passing grade may, at the discretion of the Examiner, be assigned additional work to demonstrate to the Examiner that they have achieved the required standard. It is expected that such students will have gained at least 50% of the total marks available for all summative assessment items.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:

The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course. The following cut-offs will be used in assigning grades: HD 85%, A 75%, B 65%, C 50%, F < 50%.

6 Examination information:

In a Restricted Examination, candidates are allowed access to specific materials during the examination. The only materials that candidates may use in the restricted examination for this course are: writing materials (non-electronic and free from material which could give the student an unfair advantage in the examination); Translation dictionary. Students whose first language is not English, may take an appropriate non- electronic translation dictionary into the examination. Translation dictionaries will be subject to perusal and may be removed from the candidate's possession until appropriate disciplinary action is completed if found to contain material that could give the candidate an unfair advantage.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:

Any Deferred examinations for this course will be held during the examination period at the end of the semester of the next offering of this course. There will be no Supplementary examinations in this course.

8 University Regulations:

Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 9 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner.
- 10 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required by the Examiner.
- 11 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 12 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media.
- 13 The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile.
- 14 Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the examiner of the course to negotiate such special arrangements.
- 15 In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the Examiner's convenience.
- 16 Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in a course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of a course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete - Make up). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non directed personal study.

- 17 Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).
- 18 Students will require access to email and internet access to USQConnect for this course.
- 19 Two teletutorials will be held in this course. A recording of the teletutorials will be uploaded onto the course homepage immediately following each teletutorial. Students who are unable to attend the teletutorials, should listen to the audiorecording.