



COURSE TITLE: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Course Code: Psy. 422

Nature of Course: Theory and Practical

Paper: II

Full Marks: 100

Theory: 70 + Practical: 30

Total lecture hours 150

Course Description - Social psychology is a scientific study of how the thoughts, feelings, and behaviours of human beings influence other people in the society, and how the same are influenced by other people in social situations. The course covers basic theories, concepts, and research about individual processes, interpersonal processes and group processes.

Course Details

Group A - Theory

Unit I	Introduction to Social Psychology	15
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nature and scope of social psychology2. Brief history of social psychology3. Research methods in social psychology4. Relationship of social psychology with sociology, social work and anthropology5. Current trends and applications in social psychology	
Unit II	Social Cognition	8
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Concept of social cognition2. Schema and its role in cognition3. Affect - influences of affect on cognition, influences of cognition on affect4. Automatic and controlled processing of information5. Errors in social cognition	



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Unit III Social Perception

15

1. Concept of social perception – Nonverbal communication in social perception - the language of expression, gazes and gestures; the basic channel; role of nonverbal communication in social perception
2. Attribution - theory of attribution - Kelly's theory, attribution errors, applications of attribution theory
3. Distortions in social perception
4. Impression formation – process and factors, impression management - the process

Unit IV The Self - Understanding the Self

8

1. Self-concept, Self-esteem
2. Knowing self through different channels - introspection, personal versus social identity, self-esteem, social comparison, social identity
3. Gender - a crucial aspect of identity
 - i. Sex and gender
 - ii. Gender identity and gender stereotypes
 - iii. Gender-role behavior

Unit V Social Behavior

15

1. Concept of social behavior
2. Attitude
 - i. Concept, components of attitude, formation of attitude
 - ii. Attitude and behavior - when and why attitudes influence behavior
 - iii. Attitude change
 - Cognitive dissonance theory - dissonance and attitude change, strategies to reduce dissonance
 - Persuasion: concept, the cognitive approach to persuasion-traditional, resistance to persuasion,
3. Prejudice: nature, causes, effects and cures
4. Discrimination and stereotypes - nature, causes, effects and cures: social inclusion and exclusion





Unit VI Social Influences

1. Concept of social influences
2. Conformity: concept, factors affecting conformity, resistance to conformity, Asch's research on conformity, Sherif's research on conformity
3. Compliance: concept, principles - ingratiation, consistency, reciprocity and scarcity
4. Obedience: concept, causes of obedience, resistance to obedience, Milgram's Experiment, Zimbardo's prison simulation experiment

Unit VII Pro-social behavior

10

1. Concept, steps, basic motives underlying prosocial behavior - sociobiology, social exchange, empathy and altruism, bystander behaviour
2. Personal determinants of prosocial behaviour
3. Situational determinants of prosocial behaviour

Unit VIII Aggression

8

1. Concept, aggression inborn or acquired, aggression across culture.
2. Causes - biological, social, cultural, personal and situational
3. Prevention of aggression

Unit IX Groups and Individuals

8

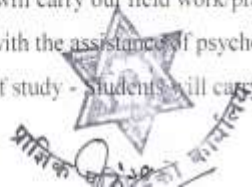
1. Nature of social groups, components of social groups, benefits of joining groups.
2. Group effects on individual performances - social facilitation, social loafing
3. Co-ordination in group
4. Decision making in groups

Group B – Field Work/Practical

1. Format of Report Writing

2. Field work

- i. Student will carry out field work/practicals under the supervision of the concerned faculty with the assistance of psychology laboratory assistant.
- ii. Topics of study - Students will carry out field work/practicals on the following topics:





Details of Practicals/Fieldwork

S. N.	Topic	Name of field work	Name of the Apparatus/Tasks
1	Social Perception	Measurement of Social Perception: Attribution	Students will observe people and make attribution of their behavior based on Kelly's Theory of Attribution (external and internal control of behavior)
2	Social Perception	Impression Management	Students will carry out field survey of social interaction in public places. The students are required to identify the factors of impression management based on how people impress each other, and prepare a report.
3	Understanding the self	Measurement of Self-Esteem	Rosenberg Self-esteem Scale
4	Social attitude	Measurement of Social Attitude	Social Distance Scale
5	Social loafing	Measurement of Social Loafing	Social Loafing (Facilitation) Scale (SLS) (13-15 years) - Q. G. Alam and Ramji Srivastava
6	Discrimination and stereotypes	Measurement of Discrimination	Perceived Discrimination Scale - Dr. V.N. Yadav & Dr. Surajmal
7	Social behaviour	Measurement of Prejudice and Discrimination	Based on the community visit, students will prepare a report on prevailing practices of social prejudice and discrimination in that community
8	Aggression	Measurement of Aggression	Children's Inventory of Anger (ChIA) - Jeffrey M. Halperin, PhD, and Kathleen E. McKay
9	Pro-social behaviour	Measurement of Pro-Social Behavior	Based on the community visit, students will prepare a report on prevailing practices of pro-social behavior in that community
10	Pro-social behaviour	Measurement of Altruism	Altruism Personality Scale

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Internal Evaluation

Title	Marks (30)
Practical Lab Work/ Practical Field Work	20
Mid Term Examination Mark	10
Total marks	30

Textbook:

Baron, Robert A. and Byrne, Donn. 2003. *Social Psychology*. 10th Ed. Prentice-Hall, India
Baron, Robert A. and Nyla R. Branscombe. 2016. *Social Psychology*. 13th Ed. Pearson

Recommended books:

Aronson, Elliot, Wilson, Timothy, D. and Akert, Robin M. 1997. *Social Psychology*. 2nd Ed. Addison-Wesley Educational Publishers, Inc.
Myer, David, G. 2012. *Social psychology*. 11th Ed. New York: McGraw Hill.
Stangor, Charles, Jhangiani, Rajiv and Terry, Hammond. 2011. *Principles of Social Psychology* - 1st Int'l Edition. BCCAMPUS Victoria, B.C.
Taylor, Shelly E., Peplau, Latitia Anne & Sears, David O. 2006. *Social Psychology*. 12th Ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.



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