

**South Plains College**  
**Common Course Syllabus: PSYC 2319, Section 151**  
**Last Revised 8/2023**  
**Spring 2025**

**Department:** Behavioral Sciences

**Discipline:** Psychology

**Course Number:** PSYC 2319

**Course Title:** Social Psychology

**Available Formats:** conventional and online

**Campuses:** Lubbock Downtown Center and Online

**Course Description:** Study of individual behavior within the social environment. Topics may include socio-psychological processes, attitude formation and change, interpersonal relations, group processes, self, social cognition, and research methods.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Credit:** 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

**Textbook:** *Noba Textbook Series: Social Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF Publishers.

Note: See Instructor's Course Information for specific link to Noba textbook. Modules assigned will vary across sections.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Students who have successfully completed this course are expected to be able to:

1. Define social psychology and related terminology.
2. Discuss the relationship between the person and the situation and its influence on attitudes, prejudice, aggression, prosocial behavior, and interpersonal relationships.
3. Describe the dynamics of group behavior in areas of social influence, such as altruism, conformity, obedience, deindividuation, leadership, intergroup relations, and conflict and cooperation
4. Identify and evaluate the current and historical research, and research methods of social psychology, including ethical considerations.
5. Apply social psychological principles to real-world issues.

**Course Evaluation:** See the Instructor's Course Information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance. However, all courses will have multiple exams and written work that is designated by the instructor of record.

**Attendance Policy:** Individual instructors will create an attendance policy that is consistent with the "Class Attendance" policies stated in the *SPC General Catalog: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.*

*When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.*

*Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course*

*and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.*

*It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.*

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another’s work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student’s work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student’s;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else’s paper.

**Student Code of Conduct Policy:** Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others’ behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Students can find the Intellectual Exchange Statement, Disabilities Statement, Non-Discrimination Statement, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement, and CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team Statement, and Campus Concealed Carry Statement on the following webpage:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.

## **Instructor's Course Information: PSYC 2319.151 – Spring 2025**

PSYC 2319, Social Psychology: Study of individual behavior within the social environment. Topics may include socio-psychological processes, attitude formation and change, interpersonal relations, group processes, self, social cognition, and research methods.

**Instructor: M. Miller, MA, Associate Professor of Psychology**

**Instructor Office Hours:** SS117 (Levelland Campus). I can be available for virtual meetings via Collaborate upon request.

Monday through Thursday: 9 am – 10:30 am

Tuesday: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Friday: 9 am – 11 am

**Email Address:** [mamiller@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:mamiller@southplainscollege.edu)

**Course Website:** This is an online course and will be conducted completely on Blackboard ([southplainscollege.blackboard.com](http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com)). All assignments, discussions, and exams will be submitted in Blackboard. All course resources can be found on Blackboard. You may contact your instructor using Messages in Blackboard.

**Textbook:** We will use 12 modules from the *Noba Textbook Series: Social Psychology*. Champaign, IL: DEF Publishers. Our specific book accessed for free at <http://noba.to/u2myekrn> and you can download a free PDF on the same page.

### **Instructor's Course Policies:**

**Attendance & Withdrawal Policy:** It is in the student's best interest to "attend" class frequently. This course is completely online, and does not have a set time for class meetings. Student attendance, in this case, refers to frequently logging into the course on Blackboard and completing coursework by specified deadlines (See Course Calendar). The last day to withdraw/drop with a grade of "W" is **April 24**. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from this course if they wish. Otherwise, students will earn a letter grade at the end of the course based on their performance. For more information regarding drops/withdrawals, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/apply/schedulechanges.php>.

**Technology Policy:** Blackboard is the learning management system used to deliver this course (<http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>). *It is essential that you have reliable access to the Internet, appropriate devices/software, and a working knowledge of Blackboard.* You should always have a backup plan in place should you encounter computer or internet problems. There are open computer labs available to all enrolled SPC students on all campuses. It is also the student's responsibility to have the required computer skills to complete this course. More information about online courses is available when you login to [southplainscollege.blackboard.com](http://southplainscollege.blackboard.com) on the Institution Page. Should you

encounter technical difficulties contact your instructor immediately as well as **SPC technical support at blackboard@southplainscollege.edu** or call (806) 894-9611, ext. 2180. Be sure to include your full name, course number, section number and a number where you can be reached when contacting technical support. *Not knowing how something works or having personal computer or Internet difficulties will not suffice as an excuse for missed deadlines and will not constitute extensions or do-overs.*

**Communication:** You are expected to frequently check your SPC email, Blackboard Messages, and Blackboard Announcements. Your instructor will check SPC email & Messages each business day and will respond to communication within 1 business day.

**Student Conduct & Online Behavior:** In conjunction with the Student Conduct policy stated in the Common Course Syllabus, one must uphold proper and respectful communication with the instructor and fellow classmates at all times. All interactions will remain civil just as they would in a traditional classroom. Repeated violations of this policy may result in the student being dropped from the course with an 'X' or 'F.'

**Written Work:** All written work should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. This will relate to all written work done in the course.

**Late work: Late work is not accepted in this course.** All deadlines can be found on the course calendar provided in your Blackboard course. All deadlines occur at midnight (think of it as 11:59 PM) on the listed date. All coursework must be submitted by the deadline to receive credit. It is best to plan ahead and not wait until the last minute to submit any coursework. Most coursework can be submitted early, so take advantage of that and don't get stuck.

However, in the event that you miss a deadline on a Discussion or Assignment you can use what I call a "Freebie," which means you can receive full credit on that specific piece of coursework. **You can only do this once during the course**, so use it wisely. To use this option, you will message your instructor using Messages in Blackboard within one week after the deadline, state that you would like to use your Freebie, and specifically state the piece of coursework to which you would like it applied (e.g., "Dear Professor Miller, I would like to use my Freebie on the Unit 2 Discussion: Presentation of Self. Thank you so much and have a great day! Sincerely, your name"). If used on a Discussion, this accounts for the response and replies collectively (i.e., full credit). This doesn't happen automatically; no Message within a week of the deadline, no credit, it's all on you. This option cannot be used on an exam (see Exams policy for more).

**Course Calendar:** At the end of this document a weekly list of coursework deadlines is provided. This document can also be found in your course on Blackboard. You are strongly encouraged to develop a system for keeping up with these deadlines. This might include printing out the Course Calendar document and hanging in your home. Other options include writing deadlines in your own planner or calendar, adding reminders in your phone or on other devices, or adding the deadlines to the Blackboard calendar on your own. It should be noted that even on days when you are not submitting coursework, you should still be studying, reading, re-reading, reviewing course materials on your own.

**Academic Integrity:** In addition to the Plagiarism and Cheating policy in the Common Course Syllabus, it should be understood that students found guilty of cheating or plagiarism will earn a

zero on the work in question for the first offense and will be dropped from the course with an ‘F’ should a second offense occur. Any amount of dishonesty is subject to these consequences, whether a lot or a little; this can include but is not limited to one copied sentence in an essay, a missing or incorrect citation, an entire paper copied from someone/somewhere else (including AI generated content), one plagiarized idea or post on a discussion board, one copied exam item or an exam, other coursework completed by someone other than yourself, or dishonestly using Internet searches or AI generated content to complete your work. You have also committed academic dishonesty when sharing course content, assignments, items, or answers. This includes sharing course content with classmates or other students as well as sharing or posting course content on websites such as Quizlet, Course Hero, or similar “study applications.” The information and assignments in this course are proprietary and are not yours to share. For further information and examples please see the Catalog, Student Guide, or refer to [www.plagiarism.org](http://www.plagiarism.org)

### Grading Policy & Method of Evaluation:

It is possible to earn up to 900 points in this course. At the end of the semester, all points earned by you this semester will be added up for a grand point total. Your Point Total will determine your final letter grade by using the following scale/point ranges:

A= 806 - 900 points  
B= 716 - 805 points  
C= 626 - 715 points  
D= 536 - 625 points  
F= 535 points or less

**Blackboard Gradebook:** All grades and feedback will be posted in the Blackboard Gradebook. Grades and feedback are available for each item of coursework. Students are responsible for staying informed about their grading progress throughout the term.

- **Overall Grade** provides an indication of how many points a student has earned out of how many they have attempted. For example, if a student’s Overall Grade shows “312/400” this means that the student has attempted 400 points in the course and has earned 312 of those points, or about 78% of the attempted points. As the student completes more work, both numbers should increase accordingly (more attempted, more earned). If the same student later completed an exam, which is worth 100 points, and earns a 72 on that exam, their new Overall Grade will be “384/500.”
- **Grading Color Scheme (Blackboard):** You will notice that each graded item presents in a color pill. The overall grade does as well: > 90% = green, 89–80% = yellow/green, 79–70% = yellow, 69–60% = orange, 59–50% = red (as shown below).



**Coursework Items:** All coursework will be submitted through Blackboard. Below is a brief description of all coursework that will be submitted for credit in this course:

**Exams (100 points each):** This semester you will take 5 exams (1 exam per Unit). The exams will contain 50 multiple choice questions over the assigned chapters. You will be provided with materials to help you prepare for each exam and it is in your best interest to read all related chapters and spend time preparing. The exams are timed (1 hour), so be sure you are ready to complete the exam in one sitting before you begin an exam. I advise you to complete all coursework in a given unit and review any feedback given before attempting to complete an exam.

- Your lowest exam grade will be dropped. This is why you only see 400 points for exams in the chart above. Exam grades won't be dropped until the last unit exam deadline passes.

**Discussions (50 points each):** At times you will be required to engage in a discussion related to course material. You will be given a prompt with a topic and specific instructions for how the discussion should be conducted. For each discussion, you will first post an initial **Response**, which will contain an original response to the prompt (you will not be able to see the posts of other students until you post a Response). Once you have posted your **Response**, you are to submit **at least 2 Replies** on the discussion board. See the Course Calendar for specific posting deadlines; keep in mind that Responses and Replies will have different deadlines in order to encourage on-going discussion.

The primary goal for this portion of the course is to discuss what you are learning and how it applies to various situations. Treat this as you would any other academic, written work; it is an opportunity to demonstrate your ability to understand the information. Therefore, you will be evaluated based on your ability to post useful, meaningful, and valuable information that demonstrates your individual understanding of the course material. Below you'll find some tips for how to be successful on discussion:

- Be original: You should avoid showing little originality or thought in your posts. Remember that these should demonstrate that you understand what you're learning in class. Each post should add a *new* idea, perspective, example, or explanation of the assigned topics.
- Be original, part 2: You should avoid repeating yourself or someone else. If you repeat yourself or others in postings you will not receive full credit as repeating yourself shows limited understanding and repeating others shows nothing about your own understanding.
- Do more: You should avoid simply agreeing with or praising others. Stating "I agree" or "I love the way you said that" (or any similar comment) is not detailed or complex enough to earn points. You'll need to add more to meet the requirements.
- Write well/Proof-read: You should avoid using poor spelling grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. Keep in mind that a discussion is essentially a written assignment, which means that spelling, grammar, and proper writing will be factored in to your score.

**Assignments (50 points each):** On five (5) occasions this semester you will complete assignments. These are detailed in the units/weekly folders. See the course calendar for specific due dates. Your work on these assignments will be evaluated based on your ability to incorporate the information you are learning in the course and demonstrate your understanding of the assigned topics. All assignments will be completed in Blackboard. Always double check to your submission after you're done make sure your work is saved and submitted properly.

## Course Calendar: PSYC 2319 Section 151 – Fall 2024

| Weekly Coursework to be Completed                                | Deadline: Midnight (11:59 pm) |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>UNIT 0: Welcome to the Course</b>                             |                               |
| <b>Week 1: Begins Unit 0 - Welcome to the Course</b>             |                               |
| Syllabus Assignment  | Friday Jan 17                 |
| Discussion: Introductions (post at least 1 Response & 2 Replies) | Friday Jan 17                 |
| <b>UNIT 1: Introduction to Social Psychology</b>                 |                               |
| <b>Week 2: Begin Unit 1 – Introduction to Social Psychology</b>  |                               |
| Discussion: Intro to Social Psychology – Response Post           | Thursday, Jan 23              |
| <b>Week 3</b>  |                               |
| Discussion: Intro to Social Psychology – Reply Posts (2)         | Thursday, Jan 30              |
| Assignment: Research in Social Psychology                        | Thursday, Jan 30              |
| <b>Week 4</b>  |                               |
| Unit 1 Exam  | Thursday, Feb 6               |
| <b>UNIT 2: Social Cognition</b>                                  |                               |
| <b>Week 5: Begin Unit 2 – Social Cognition</b>                   |                               |
| Discussion: Presentation of the Self – Response Post             | Thursday, Feb 13              |
| <b>Week 6</b>  |                               |
| Discussion: Presentation of the Self – Reply Posts (2)           | Thursday, Feb 20              |
| Assignment: Persuasion   | Thursday, Feb 20              |
| <b>Week 7</b>  |                               |
| Unit 2 Exam  | Thursday, Feb 27              |
| <b>UNIT 3: Relating to Others</b>                                |                               |
| <b>Week 8: Begin Unit 3 – Relating to Others</b>                 |                               |
| Discussion: Love – Response Post                                 | Thursday, Mar 6               |
| <b>Week 9</b>  |                               |
| Discussion: Love – Reply Posts (2)                               | Thursday, Mar 13              |
| Assignment: Bias & Social Identity                               | Thursday, Mar 13              |
| <b>Week 10</b>   |                               |
| Unit 3 Exam  | Thursday, Mar 27              |
| <b>UNIT 4: Social Influence</b>                                  |                               |
| <b>Week 11: Begin Unit 4 – Social Influence</b>                  |                               |
| Discussion: Obedience & Conformity – Response Post               | Thursday, Apr 3               |
| <b>Week 12</b>   |                               |
| Discussion: Obedience & Conformity – Reply Posts (2)             | Thursday, Apr 10              |
| Assignment: Prosocial Behavior                                   | Thursday, Apr 10              |
| <b>Week 13</b>   |                               |
| Unit 4 Exam  | Thursday, Apr 17              |
| <b>UNIT 5: Groups</b>  |                               |
| <b>Week 14: Begin Unit 5 – Groups</b>                            |                               |
| Discussion: Integration of Social Psych. – Response Post         | Thursday, Apr 24              |
| <b>Week 15</b>   |                               |
| Discussion: Integration of Social Psych. – Reply Posts (2)       | Thursday, May 1               |
| Assignment: Films & Social Psych.                                | Thursday, May 1               |
| <b>Week 16</b>   |                               |
| Unit 5 Exam  | Tuesday, May 6                |