



Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
The faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences

Syllabus

Department of Psychology 2015-2016

Course Name: Selected Issues in Social Psychology (for MA) 10-12

Course Number:

Lecturer : Dr. Tal Eyal

Reception hours: Tuesday 14:00

Course Objectives:

The primary goals of this course are (1) to familiarize students with classic themes and current issues in social psychology, and (2) to critically discuss theoretical and empirical questions.

Course Structure and Bibliography:

Week 1 (26.10)	What is Social Psychology?
Week 2 (2.11)	Introduction Ross, L., & Nisbett, R. E. (1991). <i>The person and the situation</i> (pp.59-89). New York: McGraw Hill.
Week 3 (9.11)	Person Perception 1. Chen, S., & Andersen, S. M (2009). The relational self in transference: Interpersonal and intrapersonal consequences in everyday social life. In J.V. Wood, A. Tesser, & J.G. Holmes (Eds.), <i>The self and relationships</i> (pp. 231-253). New York: Psychology Press. *Guest speaker: Dr. Ido Liviatan, Open University
Week 4 (16.11)	Self Esteem 1. Baumeister, R. F., Campbell, J. D., Krueger, J. I., & Vohs, K. D. (2003). Does high self-esteem cause better performance, interpersonal success, happiness, or healthier lifestyles? <i>Psychological Science in the Public Interest</i> , 4, 1-44. 2. Swann, W. B., Chang-Schneider, C., & McClarty, K. L. (2007). Do people's self-esteem matter? <i>American Psychologist</i> , 62, 84-94. 3. Schmeichel, B. J., Gailliot, M. T., Filardo, E. A., McGregor, I., Gitter, S., & Baumeister, R. F. (2009). Terror management theory and self-esteem revisited: The roles of implicit and explicit self-esteem in mortality salience effects. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i> , 96, 1077-1087.

<p>Week 5 (23.11)</p>	<p>Self Esteem and Culture</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pyszczynski, T., Greenberg, J., Solomon, S., Arndt, J., & Scott, J. (2004). Do people need self-esteem? A theoretical and empirical review. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, <i>87</i>, 15-32. 2. Heine, S. J., Lehman, D. R., Markus, H. R., & Kitayama, S. (2001). Is there a universal need for positive self-regard? <i>Psychological Review</i>, <i>108</i>, 163-196. 3. Yamaguchi, S., et al. (2007). Apparent universality of positive self-regard and self-esteem. <i>Psychological Science</i>, <i>18</i>, 498-500.
<p>Week 6 (30.11)</p>	<p>Culture</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jinkung, N., Grossmann, I., Varnum, M. E. W., Kitayama, S., & Nisbett, R. E. (2010). Cultural differences are not always reducible to individual differences. <i>PNAS</i>, <i>107</i>, 6192-6197. 2. Vandello, J. A., Bosson, J. K., Cohen, D., Burnaford, R. M., & Tashiro, H. (2008). Precarious manhood. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, <i>95</i>, 1325-1339. 3. Maddux, W.W., & Galinsky, A. D. (2009). Cultural borders and borders: The relationship between living abroad and creativity. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, <i>96</i>, 1047-1061.
<p>Week 7 (7.12)</p>	<p>Attitudes and Persuasion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Briñol, P., & Petty, R. E. (2009). Persuasion: Insights from the automaticity hypothesis. In M. P. Zanna (Ed.), <i>Advances in experimental social psychology</i> (pp. 69-118). New York: Academic Press. 2. Albarracín, D., & Handley, I. M. (2011). The time for doing is now: Change: Effects of general action and inaction goals on attitude change. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, <i>100</i>, 9-20. 3. Kaufman, G. F., & Libby, L. K. (2012). Changing beliefs and attitudes through experience-taking. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, <i>103</i>, 101-112.
<p>Week 9 (14.12)</p>	<p>Stereotyping and Prejudice</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plant, E. A., & Devine, P. A. (2009). The active control of prejudice: The intentions guiding control efforts. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, <i>96</i>, 640-652. 2. Nosek, B. A., et al (2009). National differences in gender-science stereotypes predict national sex differences in science and math achievement. <i>PNAS</i>, <i>106</i>, 10593-10597. 3. Mahajan, N., Martinez, M. A., Gutierrez, N.L., Diesendruck, G., & Santos, L. R. (2011). The evolution of intergroup bias: Perceptions of rhesus macaques. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, <i>101</i>, 101-112. 4. Dar Nimrod, I., & Heine, S. J. (2006). <i>Science</i>, <i>314</i>, 435.
<p>Week 10 (21.12)</p>	<p>Morality and Moral Judgment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Haidt, J. (2007). The new synthesis in moral psychology. <i>Science</i>, <i>314</i>, 435. 2. Gray, K., Schein, C., & Ward, A. F. (2014). The myth of harm aversion: Automatic dyadic completion from sin to suffering. <i>Experimental Psychology: General</i>, <i>143</i>, 1600-1615. 3. Monin, B., & Miller, D. T. (2001). Moral credentials and the reduction of prejudice. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, <i>81</i>, 101-112.
<p>Week 11 (28.12)</p>	<p>Evolutionary psychology</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confer, J. C., et al. (2010). Evolutionary psychology: Current prospects, and limitations. <i>American Psychologist</i>, <i>65</i>, 110-120. 2. Huang, J. Y., & Bargh, J. A. (2008). Peak of desire: Activation of mate preference changes life-stage preference across living kinds. <i>Psychological Science</i>, <i>19</i>, 578.

	3. Ackerman, J.M., Griskevicius, V., & Li, N.P. (2011). Let's get Communicating commitment in romantic relationships. <i>Journal of Social Psychology, 100</i> , 1079-1094.
Week 12 (4.1)	Skim all articles in 2 recent issues of JPSP. Read the one you important/interesting.
Week 13 (11.1)	Skim all articles in 2 recent issues of JPSP. Read the one you important/interesting.
Week 14 (18.1)	Summary: Social psychology - what is it good for? Martin, L., & Erber R. (2005). <i>Psychological Inquiry</i> .

Course Requirements:

Class Participation (20% of grade): Discussion is a central component of this class. It is therefore very important that you attend class and participate actively. You may be absent from one class session.

Discussion questions (20% of grade): Each week, you must submit discussion questions by Sundays at 19:00 via the course website. These discussion questions should be thoughtful responses to the reading. In forming discussion questions, you may want to challenge the conclusions drawn by authors, consider implications of the findings, or relate the readings to other topics. You may skip handing in discussion questions once during the semester without penalty.

Final paper (60% of grade): A research proposal for a study or series of studies related to one of the topics we cover. In motivating the study, you should incorporate at least one article from the course (and preferably more), as well as several articles not assigned in the course.