

Evidence of Learning in a Core Course

Evidence of Learning: PSY 3460 Social Psychology					
Program Learning Goals	Measurable Learning Outcome	Method of Measurement	Findings Linked to Learning Outcomes	Interpretation of Findings	Action Plan/Use of Results
Students will...	Students will...	Direct and Indirect Measures*			
Goal 1: Knowledge. Students will explore the field of social psychology, including social cognition (i.e., <i>how we think about the social world</i>), social perception (i.e., <i>how we come to understand other people</i>), social influence (i.e., <i>conformity, persuasion, group influence</i>), and social relations (i.e., <i>prejudice, attraction, altruism</i>). Students also will understand a core set of content knowledge addressing the biological, cognitive,	1A: Students will be able to identify, describe, and make use of critical facts and concepts (e.g. <i>biases and heuristics</i>), and understand and evaluate the major theories (e.g., <i>social comparison, attribution</i>) in social psychology, and summarize their role in the theories and/or theoretical approaches in social psychology.	Measure 1: Between 20 and 100 MC questions on 5 exams. Measure 2: Between 2 and 8 essays on 5 exams. Measure 3: Between 3 and 10 homework assignments, Measure 4: Between 0 and 4 writing assignments. Measure 5: Between 0 and 1 final project.			
	1B: Students will be able to identify the authors of key research (e.g., <i>Heider, Carlsmith & Festinger</i>), summarize the details of the research design (e.g., <i>experimental analysis of control, low dissonance, & high dissonance</i>), and judge how they empirically support psychological ideas.	Measure 1: Between 20 and 100 MC questions on 5 exams. Measure 2: Between 2 and 8 essays on 5 exams. Measure 3: Between 3 and 10 homework assignments, Measure 4: Between 0 and 4 writing assignments. Measure 5: Between 0 and 1 final project.			

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behavioral, personality, and social aspects of social behavior.	1C: Students will be able to describe and explain the techniques used to study mind and behavior in social psychological contexts (e.g., <i>fMRI measures the change in blood flow related to neural activity; reaction time measures speed of responses</i>) and interpret the significance of the data (e.g., <i>fMRI: threat responses, RT: Implicit Associations</i>).	Measure 1: Between 5 and 30 MC questions on 5 exams. Measure 2: Between 0 and 1 writing assignments.			
Goal 2: Application. Students will be able to critically apply social psychological concepts, theories, knowledge, and research of social psychology to everyday life and social issues.	2A: Students will be able to illustrate how their own/others' everyday behavior is explained by various psychology theories or theoretical approaches (e.g., <i>fundamental attribution error</i>), analyze their own less adequate explanations of or beliefs about the behavior (e.g., <i>people are rational</i>), and revise their inadequate beliefs or explanations (e.g., <i>accepting irrationality assumption</i>).	Measure 1: Between 5 and 20 MC questions on 5 exams. Measure 2: Between 2 and 4 essays on 5 exams. Measure 3: Between 4 and 10 homework assignments. Measure 4: Between 0 and 2 writing assignments. Measure 5: Between 0 and 1 final project.			

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	2B: Students will be able to describe how psychological theories, methods or techniques can be applied to understand, evaluate, and improve their own/others' behavior (e.g., <i>identifying effective persuasive techniques based on target audience</i>).	Measure 1: Between 5 and 20 MC questions on 5 exams. Measure 2: Between 2 and 4 essays on 5 exams. Measure 3: Between 4 and 10 homework assignments. Measure 4: Between 0 and 6 writing assignments. Measure 5: Between 0 and 1 final project.			
Goal 3: Values Students will learn about key values adopted by scientific psychologists, including (but not limited to) skepticism and intellectual curiosity, and humility regarding the limits of their psychological knowledge and skills. Students will also grasp the spirit of the APA Code of Ethics,	3A: Students will be able to describe critical aspects of ethical research with human subjects (e.g., <i>informed consent, debriefing</i>).	Measure 1: Between 1 and 10 MC questions on 5 exams. Measure 2: Between 1 and 2 essays from 5 exams.			
	3B: Students will understand and discuss the ethical controversies underlying classic social psychological research (e.g., <i>Milgram's obedience studies</i>).	Measure 1: Between 1 and 10 MC questions on 5 exams. Measure 2: Between 0 and 2 essays on 5 exams.			
	3C: Students will identify the values and beliefs necessary to be "scientists of behavior" (e.g., <i>skepticism, curiosity,</i>	Measure 1: Between 1 and 10 MC questions on 5 exams. Measure 2: Between 0 and 2 essays on 5 exams.			

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understand key issues in research ethics (e.g., informed consent, deception, debriefing, confidentiality), and recognize the necessity of ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of psychology.	<i>ambiguity</i>) and begin to adopt these values as psychology students.	Measure 3: Between 0 and 2 homework assignments.			
Goal 4: Communication Students will exhibit skills to professionally communicate their understanding of terms, concepts, research, and theories of the discipline to others via written and oral formats. Students will also have	4A: Students will define key social psychological terms and concepts.	Measure 1: Between 20 and 50 MC/TF questions on 5 exams. Measure 2: Between 2 and 8 essays on 5 exams. Measure 3: Between 0 and 2 writing assignments. Measure 4: Between 0 and 1 final project.			
	4B: Student will be able to write short answers to direct questions about social psychology.	Measure 1: Between 2 and 8 essays on 5 exams. Measure 2: Between 0 and 2 writing assignments.			

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interpersonal and collaborative skills necessary to effectively work in groups with others who hold diverse opinions, beliefs, and attitudes.	4C: Students will be able to write papers demonstrating their understanding and application of social psychological facts, concepts, and theories to everyday life and social issues.	Measure 1: Between 0 and 2 writing assignments. Measure 2: Between 0 and 1 final project.			