COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department: Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

Programme: Psychology

FHEQ **Level:**   5

Course Title: Social Psychology

Course Code: PSY 5220

Course Leader: Dr. Ira Konstantinou

Student Engagement Hours: 120
Lectures: 30
Seminar / tutorials: 15
Independent / Guided Learning   75

Semester: Spring

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
                                               6 ECTS credits
                                               3 US credits

Course Description:
Social psychological processes influence how we perceive, judge, remember, and behave toward people. These processes shape, and are shaped by, our social expectations, social roles, social goals, and social interactions. This course is designed to illustrate the relationship between the individual and society and to demonstrate the multiple ways that social psychology can be applied to the individual - society interface in specific topic areas. Students are encouraged to critically reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of various social psychology theories, to consider their research methods and their applications to real life situations.

Prerequisites:
PSY 3100 or PSY 4205

Aims and Objectives:
During this course, students will be encouraged to critically reflect on the range and power of the influence people have on the thoughts, feelings, and the behaviours of others. They will also get the chance to develop a detailed awareness of the connections between social psychological theories and their applications and will also be able to critically evaluate these. Furthermore, the course aims at developing students' critical thinking skills in relation to research, as they will be given the opportunity to examine research methods used to understand social attitudes and behaviour. Finally, a major objective of this course is to demonstrate how social psychological research may be applied to real life social problems, such as violence and intergroup conflict.

Programme Outcomes:
5A.i, 5A.ii, 5B.iii, 5C.i, 5C.iii, 5D.i, 5Dii

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and found at:
https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/

Learning Outcomes:
By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:
1. Critically evaluate the major theoretical frameworks in which social psychologists have described and explained human behaviour in a social context.
2. Demonstrate a critical awareness of the relationship between theoretical perspectives and research methodologies.
3. Identify and evaluate key issues, philosophical debates and controversies within social psychology
4. Identify and critically evaluate ways in which theories and issues central to social psychology have emerged from, and been applied to, various 'real-life' settings.

Indicative Content:
Self and Identity
Attitudes and Attitude Change
Social Cognition
 Attribution
Social Influence: Obedience and Conformity

People in Groups
Prejudice and Discrimination
Intergroup Relations and Conflict
Prosocial Behaviour
Attraction and Close Relationships
Applications of Social Psychology to the 'Real World'
Social Constructionism

Assessment:
This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:
The course material will be covered in the following ways:
    I.   Formal lectures
    II. Discussions of key ideas
    III. Recommended Readings & Websites
    IV. Films

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list.

IndicativeText(s):

Hogg, M. A. & Vaughan, G. M. (2014). *Social Psychology* (7th ed.). Harlow, Prentice Hall.

Myers. D., Abell, J., Kolstad, A., & Sani, F. (2010). *Social Psychology*. London, McGraw-Hill, European Edition.

Journals:

British Journal of Social Psychology
European Journal of Social Psychology
Journal of Applied Social Psychology
Journal of Experimental Social Psychology
Journal of Personality and Social Psychology
Journal of Social Psychology

Web Sites:
http://www.socialpsychology.org/

http://www.bps.org.uk/networks-and-communities/member-networks/social-psychology-section

 Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry