

Course Outline
Psy 207
Social Psychology
3 Credit Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Social Psychology

Studies psychological principles and research pertaining to the social influences on behavior and mental processes; covers attitude formation and change, conformity, social exchange, prejudice, altruism, structure and function of groups, persuasion, motivation, aggression, and interpersonal attraction; examines culture's impact on social behavior and human interactions.

Prerequisite: PSYC 101

Overall Course Objectives (list only those objectives that will be common to all sections of the course)

After completing course the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of how scientific methodology is applied to social interaction
2. Demonstrate knowledge of major theories which attempt to explain social behavior
3. Demonstrate a knowledge of current findings and latest research related to social interactions
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of the relation between social setting, and individual behavior
5. Demonstrate a knowledge of how understanding of social psychology principles can be applied to practical issues such as advertising and persuasion
6. Demonstrate an understanding of some of the causes of racism, sexism, and other forms of prejudice
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the effects of prejudice on group and individual behavior
8. Demonstrate an understanding on the impact of an individuals unique culture on social behavior and human interactions
9. Demonstrate an understanding of research techniques used to address the validity of theoretical approaches to social interactions
10. Demonstrate an understanding of social factors influencing interpersonal attraction and sexual behavior

Major Topics

1. Introduction and history of social psychology
2. Research methods, statistics
3. Conformity, social approval, compliance
4. Social exchange
5. Competition and cooperation
6. Racism and bigotry

7. Negotiation behavior; group decisions
8. Attribution theory; cognitive dissonance
9. Authoritarianism; obedience
10. Leadership; aggression; prosocial behavior
11. Interpersonal attraction; sexual attitudes and behavior

Course Requirements (List only those requirements that will be common to all sections of the course)

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include examinations with the number and structure determined by individual faculty

Writing: The individual faculty member will determine specific writing assignments.

Other Course Information

This course is an elective within the psychology department and a recommended course within the transfer pattern

This course may be offered as an honors section

This course may require independent research and laboratory work

Additional Information

1. The Course Outline is not intended to replace an individual faculty member's course syllabus, nor is it necessarily meant to limit the scope of the course. It is simply an indication to the student of the minimum expectations for all students taking the course, regardless of the campus or center where the course is offered.
2. All information in the Course Outline must be included in the individual faculty member's course syllabus, but individual faculty members may include additional objectives, topics and requirements in their syllabus.
3. Course Outlines should not exceed two pages in length.
4. Course Outlines will be posed on the Web and will be available to students as an extension of the CCBC Catalog.
5. The college will publish a single CCBC catalog in January 2001.
6. Course Outlines for all courses in the college catalog must be completed no later than September 1, 2000.
7. All new course proposals must include a Course Outline as part of their materials submitted to the Curriculum Committee of the Learning and Academic Affairs Council.

Approval Process:

1. Once the Common Course Outline is completed, the appropriate Academic Division Deans will sign the attached approval form.
2. The signed approval form with a hard copy of the Course Outline attached will be sent to Dr. Bradley Ebersole, assistant to the VCLSD, who will collect and file the approved Course Outlines and monitor the entire process.
3. An electronic copy of the approved Course Outline (a Microsoft Word document as an attached to an Outlook email message) must also be sent to Dr. Ebersole (no disks, no WordPerfect files).

