

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

<b>Academic School/Department:</b>	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
<b>Programme:</b>	Psychology
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	3
<b>Course Title:</b>	Foundations in Social Psychology
<b>Course Code:</b>	PSY 3105
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Dr Ira Konstantinou
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	120
Lectures:	45
Seminar / Tutorials:	
Independent / Guided Learning :	75
<b>Semester:</b>	Spring
<b>Credits:</b>	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

### **Course Description:**

This course is designed to expose students to the discipline known as Social Psychology, the scientific study of how people come to understand individuals, groups, and themselves as social entities. 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. Although it may seem that social psychologists merely study “the obvious” (e.g., attractive people are more liked than unattractive people), the field has made a significant impact both theoretically (e.g., theories about the formation of stereotypes and prejudice) and practically (e.g., how organizations can make better decisions). Through a series of lectures, videos and class discussions, this course will examine the influence people have on each other’s thoughts, feelings, and behaviours.

**Prerequisites:** None

### **Aims and Objectives:**

There are four major objectives of this course:

1. To show the range and power of the influence people have on the thoughts, feelings, and the behaviours of others;
2. To present and to evaluate the major theories of social psychology;
3. To examine research methods used to understand social attitudes and behavior;

4. To discuss how social psychological research may be applied to social problems, such as violence and intergroup conflict.

### **Programme Outcomes :**

3A.i, 3B.i, 3C.i, 3D.i

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Develop an understanding of key approaches to the study of social psychology.
- Develop an understanding of the diverse theoretical positions within the discipline such as in the areas of attitudes and persuasions, conformity, obedience, prejudice, aggression and altruism.
- Develop an understanding of the evolution of social psychological theories and research.
- Appreciate the connections between social psychology concepts and their applications in experimentation and “real life” situations.
- Establish an awareness of the cultural and societal influences on social psychology theory and the practice of psychology.
- Become familiar with appropriate journals and research and research methodologies.

### **Indicative Content:**

- Social Psychology Research
- Classical & Unethical Experiments
- The Self
- Social Perception
- Attitudes & Behaviour
- Culture & Social Influence
- Conformity & Obedience
- Persuasion
- Aggression
- Attraction & Intimacy
- Helping & Altruism
- People in Groups
- Intergroup Relations & Conflict
- Understanding Prejudice
- Applying Social Psychology to the ‘Real World’

### **Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on June 28, 2012.

### **Teaching Methodology:**

Course material will be presented in the following ways:

