DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR:

PS 3026 SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY-LEVEL 5   3/0/3
                                                                     UK CREDITS: 15
(Revised Spring 2015).

PREREQUISITES: None

**CATALOG
DESCRIPTION:**   Systematic analysis and evaluation of theoretical constructs,
                     principles and research in relation to the social psychological
                     nature and causes of behaviour. Theoretical explanations and
                     research findings are discussed within the context of the social
                     world.. Topics include an introduction to the history of social
                     social psychology, social perception-including impression
                     formation and attribution theories, attitude formation, and
                     persuasion, group processes-including group performance and
                     group decision making, leadership theories conformity,
                     compliance and obedience.

RATIONALE: This course aims to provide an understanding of knowledge in
                     the social-psychological theoretical and research domains,
                     complementing PS 2257-Diverity and Social Interactions. It is
                     designed for Psychology Majors, who have foundational
                     knowledge from any two 2000 modules in Psychology,
                     although students from other areas who wish to acquire an
                     understanding of social-psychological research and theory can
                     benefit.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
                     As a result of taking this course, students should be able to:

                     1. Identify and discuss the areas of social-psychological study
                        and examine the evolution of this field, whilst evaluating
                        the ethical implications of the complexity of social and
                        cultural issues.
                     2. Analyze the topic of social perception and evaluate how
                        people form impressions of others, and of themselves.
                        Identify themes in relation to udgment accuracy.
                     3. Explain the principles of attribution theory, and critically
                        evaluate the fundamental attribution error- and attribution
                        biases.
                     4. Explain the components of attitudes and the course of
                        persuasion, and discuss them in relation to the theories of
                        cognitive consistency and dissonance..
                     5. Explain the various aspects of social influence, including
                        leadership issues and apply this knowledge in relation to
                        cultural and social differences.
                     6. Examine concepts in relation to group decision making,
                        group performance and deindividuation.

7. Analyze the topics of conformity, compliance and obedience and discuss in relation to group processes and social influence.

METHOD OF TEACHING
AND LEARNING: In congruence with the learning and teaching strategy of the college, the following tools are used:

> ➢ Class lectures, interactive learning (class discussions, group work) video presentations, and practical problems solved in class.
> ➢ Exercises and primary source documents are assigned as homework, the solutions of which are reviewed in class.
> ➢ Office hours
> ➢ Blackboard site

ASSESSMENT:

In- class Non Formally Assessed Practical – **Formative**	0%	Problems/essay questions (choice 3 out of 5)
Critical Review Paper - **Summative**	40%	Critical appraisal of literature on a selected topic (2,500-3,000 words)
In-class final examination (2 hours, comprehensive) - **Summative**	60%	Essay questions (Choice: 3 out of 5)

The formative test aims to prepare students for the examinations.
The critical review paper assesses Learning Outcomes 1, 2, and 5
The Final Examination assesses Learning Outcomes 3, 4, 5 6 and 7.

READING LIST:

Required Textbooks:
Kassin, S., Fein, S., Markus, H.R. *Social Psychology.* Wadsworth Cengage Learning, latest Edition.

.

2.Further Reading:
Sanderson, C. *Social Psychology*. Wiley, latest edition.

Allport, G.W. (1985). The historical background of social psychology: In G. Lindzey & E. Aronson (Eds). Handbook of social psychology (3rd ed., Vol I, pp-1-46). New York;Random House.

American Psychological Association. (2002). Ethical Principles of psychologists and code of conduct. American Psychologist, 57, 1060-1073.

Aronson, E. (1999). Dissonance, hyprocisy, and the self-concept. In E. Harmon-Jones & J. Mills (Eds). *Cognitive dissonance: Progress on a pivotal theory in social psychology* (pp-103-126). Washington DC: American Psychological Association.

Baumeister, R. F. (1982). A self-presentational view of social phenomena. *Psychological Bulletin*, 91, 3-26.

Cialdini, R. B. (2007). *Influence. The Psychology of Persuasion.* Harper Collins, New York, latest edition.

Elms, A. C. (2009). Obedience lite. *American Psychologist,* 64, 32-36

Brandt, R. M. (1981). Studying Behaviour in Natural Settings, University Press of America. Washington, D.C.

Gilbert, D.T. & Malone, P.S. (1995). The correspondence bias. *Psychological Bulletin*, *117*-21-38.

Halliwell, E., Diedrichs, P.C. (2013, May 13). Testing a Dissonance Body Image Intervention Among Young Girls. Health Psychology: Advance online publication. Doi: 10.1037/a0032585

Haslam, S.A. Jetten, J., Postmes, T., Haslam, C. (2009). Social identity, health, and well-being: An emerging agenda for applied psychology: *Applied Psychology. An international review, 58,* 1-23

LaPiere, R. T. (1934). Attitudes vs. action. *Social Forces, 13,* 230-237.

Porter,S., Brinke, L., Baker, A. and Wallace, B. (2011). Would I lie to you? Leakage in deceptive facial expressions relates to psychopathology and emotional intelligence. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 51,133-137

Petty, R. E. & Cacioppo, J.T. (1986). *Communication and persuasion: Central and peripheral routes to attitude change*. New York: Springer-Verlag

Zajonc, R.B. Heingartner, A., & Herman, E.M. (1969). Social enhancement and impairment of performance in the cockroach. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology. 13*, 82-92.

RECOMMENDED MATERIAL: British Journal of Social Psychology
British Journal of Psychology
Time Magazine (weekly)

WWW. RESOURCES: www.apa.org
www.bps.org
www.cengage.com/psychology/kassin
www.socialpsychology.org

INDICATIVE CONTENT:

1. Social Psychology in Perspective

2. Impression Formation and Judgment Accuracy

3. Attribution Theory and Attribution Error

4. Attitudes and Persuasion: Theories of Cognitive Consistency and Cognitive Dissonance

5. Social Influence:Leadership

6. Social Influence: Group Decision making and Group Performance

7. Social Influence: Conformity, Compliance, Obedience