

PS 4963 SOCIAL COGNITION(Previously PS 4363)
(Spring 2019)**LEVEL 6**
UK CREDITS: 15**PREREQUISITES:**

PS 1000 Psychology as a Natural Science – Level 4
 PS 1001 Psychology as a Social Science – Level 4
 PS 2010 History of Psychology – Level 4
 PS 2047 Analysis of Behavioural Data – Level 4
 PS 2207 Developmental Psychology: Preschool Years – Level 4
 PS 2236 Human Learning & Memory
 PS 2257 Diversity and Social Interaction – Level 4
 PS 2260 Psychologists as Researchers – Level 4
 PS 3618 Research Methods in Psychology – Level 5
 PS 3626 Social Psychology – Level 5
 PS 3734 Experimental Cognitive Psychology – Level 5

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Integration of two major fields of psychology, social and cognitive psychology. Critical analysis of theories, methods and practical applications centered on how people think about themselves and make sense of their social environment. Emphasis on the cognitive processes as well as on the shared and interactive nature of people's perceptions and experiences in contemporary, everyday contexts.

RATIONALE:

This course aims to provide an in-depth knowledge and understanding of social psychological phenomena by examining the underlying cognitive processes. Further, it aims to explore how the field of Social Cognition is applied to everyday settings and contributes to our understanding of social self and the social environment. Topics to be covered include but are not limited to attribution theories and errors, stereotypes, schemas formation and change, self-schemas, self-regulation and self-presentation, processes of social cognition, the role of affect, cognitive approaches to attitudes and behavior. It is designed for Psychology majors and students interested in understanding the intrapersonal, interpersonal, intragroup and intergroup processes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to:

1. Explain the tensions, the theoretical underpinnings as well as the methodologies used to investigate this new area of integration of cognitive and social psychology.
2. Organize and critically evaluate the theories, evidence, and practical applications centered on the basic issue of how people make sense of their social environment.
3. Combine new developments in cognitive psychology on attention, memory and inference with those emerging from the study of social phenomena (e.g. attitudes, attributions, stereotyping, prejudice).
4. Critically evaluate ethical issues, and compare and contrast theories as well as quantitative and qualitative

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| | (e.g. discourse approaches) methodological approaches in the study of social cognition. | | | | | | |
| METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING: | <p>In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lectures in combination with group discussions ➤ Office hours ➤ Use of Blackboard site | | | | | | |
| ASSESSMENT: | <p>Summative:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Critical Review Paper: a critical discussion and evaluation of theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of a key topic of social cognition</td><td>50%</td></tr> <tr> <td>In-class final examination: 2 hour, comprehensive essay questions (3 out of 5)</td><td>50%</td></tr> </table> <p>Formative:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>In-class assignments: essay questions and discussion, practical exercises.</td><td>0%</td></tr> </table> <p>The formative assessments aim to prepare students for the summative assessments.</p> <p>The critical review paper assesses learning outcomes 2 and 4. The Final Examination assesses learning outcomes 1, 2 and 3 with emphasis on 1 and 3.</p> | Critical Review Paper: a critical discussion and evaluation of theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of a key topic of social cognition | 50% | In-class final examination: 2 hour, comprehensive essay questions (3 out of 5) | 50% | In-class assignments: essay questions and discussion, practical exercises. | 0% |
| Critical Review Paper: a critical discussion and evaluation of theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of a key topic of social cognition | 50% | | | | | | |
| In-class final examination: 2 hour, comprehensive essay questions (3 out of 5) | 50% | | | | | | |
| In-class assignments: essay questions and discussion, practical exercises. | 0% | | | | | | |
| INDICATIVE READING: | <p>REQUIRED READING: Fiske S.T. and Taylor, S.E. (2013) <i>Social Cognition From Brains to Culture</i> (2nd ed.), NY: Sage</p> <p>RECOMMENDED READING: Augoustinos, M., Walker, I., & Donaghue, N. (2014). <i>Social Cognition: An integrated Introduction</i>. London: Sage</p> <p>Bandura A. (1986), <i>Social foundations of thought and action: A social cognitive theory</i>, Englewood Cliffs, N.S.: Prentice Hall</p> <p>Devine P.G., Hamilton D.L. and Ostrom T.M. (Eds.) (1994), <i>Social Cognition: Contribution to classic issues in social psychology</i>, N.Y. Springer – Verlag</p> <p>Hamilton, D. L. (Ed.) (2005), <i>Social cognition: Key readings</i>, Psychology Press</p> <p>Legens S.P., Yzerbyt V.Y. and Schadron G. (1994), <i>Stereotypes and Social Cognition</i>, London: Sage</p> <p>Martin L.L. and Tessel A. (Eds.) (1992), <i>The Construction of social judgments</i>, Hillsdale N.S.: Erlbaum</p> | | | | | | |

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| | Resnick L.B. Levine S.L. and Teasley S.D. (Eds.) (1991), <i>Perspectives on socially shared cognition</i> , Washington D.C.: American Psychological Association |
| INDICATIVE MATERIAL: (e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.) | REQUIRED MATERIAL: N/A RECOMMENDED MATERIAL: N/A |
| COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS: | Individual project submitted in Word Academic use of English, both oral and written. |
| SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS: | Blackboard, MS office, Search Engines |
| WWW RESOURCES: | American Psychological Association www.apa.org British Psychological Society www.bps.org.uk |
| INDICATIVE CONTENT: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic concepts in social cognition 2. Elements of Social Cognition 3. Social cognition and the self 4. Processes of social Cognition <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1. Social attention and encoding 4.2. Memory 4.3. Social inference-Heuristics 5. Attributions 6. Attitudes 7. Stereotyping and prejudice 8. Beyond Cognition <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8.1. Affect and cognition 8.2. Behavior and cognition |