Psychology 2600:  
Introduction to Social Psychology 
Discussion Section (Fall, 2010) 

Instructor Information

Rebecca Frazier  
Wednesday, 4:00pm-4:50pm, Cauthen House 134  
Office: 013 Gilmer  
Office Hours: Wed 11:30am-12:30pm; Thurs 2:30pm-3:30pm  
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Purpose

The purpose of these sections is to allow a more in-depth discussion of the issues discussed in the lectures and readings, including applications of these to problems in everyday life. The readings assigned for the discussion section are listed below. These readings are available on the web, in the main class Collab page under Resources.

Tests

None.

Papers

Weekly reaction papers; see below.

Readings for Discussion Section

A series of readings are on electronic reserve on the home page for the 260 main Collab page.

Grading

Your final grade for the discussion section course will be determined as follows:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>22 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reaction papers</td>
<td>36 points</td>
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<td>Total Possible Points</td>
<td>58 points</td>
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Grades: cutoff between A and B = 52 points, cutoff between B and C = 46, cutoff between C and D = 40, cutoff between D and F = 35
**Participation**

For each class, 1 point is awarded for attending, 2 points if the student contributes a comment, an answer, or an insightful question to the discussion. Coming in more than 5 minutes late will result in a 0.5 point reduction in the participation grade for that day.

**Reaction Papers**

For each class, you should write a one double-spaced page reaction to the weekly reading(s). The reaction paper should indicate that you have read the reading(s) for the week and given them careful thought. Only the best 9 out of 10 reaction papers will be taken into account when the final grade is computed.

- Each reaction paper must be typed, 12 pt. font in Times New Roman with 1.25” or smaller margins, double spaced, 1 page long, and submitted at the beginning of class.
- Reaction papers may include your comments, questions, research hypotheses, possible research designs, real-world implications/applications of research discussed in readings, and relevant outside material. Do not summarize the material.
- Late papers can be submitted by e-mail. 1 point will be deducted from the paper for submission after the class has ended, and for every subsequent 24 hours delay. Reaction papers not submitted, or submitted later than 72 hours after class time will get a 0.
- If you do not attend a class, you can still turn in a reaction paper, via email, for that week (if you submit it prior to the start of class it will be considered on time).
- Papers will be returned to you the following week with comments.
- Grading: You will get a maximum of 4 points for each paper:
  - **4 pts.** = intelligent/creative approach, novel ideas, good synthesis/analysis of information; free of factual errors or typos.
  - **3 pts.** = relatively clearly written but underdeveloped; factually correct.
  - **2 pts.** = did not follow directions; lack of clarity or substance; factual errors or logical flaws; multiple typos.
  - **1 pts.** = approach not relevant or appropriate to assignment; minimal effort evident; lacking substance and accuracy; errors in form
  - **0 pt.** = not turned in

**Honor Policy**

Students should fully abide by the UVA Honor Code. You may discuss the materials with other students, yet the writing has to be your own work. You don’t need to write out the honor code each time but please sign your reaction paper as a confirmation that the work is your own, and all quotations and paraphrases are properly cited. Cheating and plagiarism will result in your getting 0 points out of 58.
Readings for Discussion Section

Note: All of the readings except those in the Aronson, Wilson, and Akert textbook can be accessed by going to the main class Collab page and clicking on "Resources." All of the readings marked with an asterisk (*) are in the Aronson, Wilson, and Akert textbook.

August 30-September 3: Orientation, Methodology
- No reading

September 6-10: Cognitive Dissonance

September 13-17: Social Cognition

September 20-24: Social Perception
- Gilovich, T., & Savitsky, K. (1999). The spotlight effect and the illusion of transparency: Egocentric assessments of how we are seen by others. *Current Directions in Psychological Science, 8*, 165-168

September 27-October 1: Self-Understanding

October 4-8: Conformity

October 11-15: Reading days, No Discussion Sections

October 18-22: Attitudes

October 25-29: Group Processes

**November 1-6: Interpersonal Attraction**


**November 8-12: Prosocial Behavior**


**November 15-19: Prejudice**


**November 22-26: Thanksgiving Week, No Discussion Sections**