SO 460  Society and Personality Spring 2015

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR
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Telephone 620-341-5723

REQUIRED MATERIALS
Canvas: canvas.emporia.edu
Student Gmail: Every student is expected to check their student gmail account regularly for course announcements as well as emails from the instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is a study of human behavior and social life from a sociological perspective. This course will help students understand the world in which they live including how humans are influenced by others as well as how to be active consumers of information.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:
• Understand how the self and person perception impacts our understanding of situations,
• Discuss orally and in writing topics associated with prejudice, discrimination, and groups,
• Obtain and analyze previous research and theories associated with concepts from social psychology,
• Analyze contemporary media and personal observations in regards to topics discussed,
• Complete a project with professionalism.

JOB SKILL OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course and acceptable completion of the assignments, you will gain/maintain the following job skills:
• Organization, Timeliness, and Accountability
• Critical Thinking, Communication, and Conflict Resolution Skills
• Project Management
• Professional Writing, Public Speaking, and Presentation Skills
• People Skills (don’t ever just put people skills on your resume though … explain what is meant by people skills)

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS (See course schedule for due dates)
Assignments in this course are the way in which the instructor is able to assess your knowledge gained. Since there are no exams in this course, some type of assessment must be used to determine if each student is gaining the necessary skills and knowledge expected by the instructor.
Below are general course assignment instructions,
• All assignments will be submitted via CANVAS unless otherwise noted. Emailed documents will NOT be accepted.
• All assignment instructions and rubrics are located on CANVAS in the modules
• Only put your E# at the top of each assignment (no names, no course name, no date)
• Cite any sources you use – this includes prior learning so I understand where your thoughts are coming from; otherwise, the paper will receive a zero for plagiarism.
A list of assignments, points possible, and due dates is available in the module section of CANVAS; however, other assignments, pop quizzes, exams can be added to the course in the event the instructor determines they are necessary for a better understanding of the material.

This course uses a fabulous resource called an “embedded librarian.”

The current librarian for the department is Alex Mudd.
He is listed as a teaching assistant in this course.

He has/will also be developing LibGuides to help walk you through how to find credible peer-reviewed articles for your topic.
Another way to get help is to actually go to the library if you are able.

EXTRA CREDIT
Extra Credit is offered in this course based on the following instructions and opportunities.

Choose two events to attend that will apply to the course. Write at least 400 words including the event details (no more than a paragraph) and how this event applies to the course by using concepts and terminology from the textbook (no more than one paragraph). Submit your work under the extra credit module. In the event a submission is made without a clear connection to the course, the submission will be refused; otherwise, valid and accurate submissions will receive up to 5 extra credit points (2 points for simply attending so signing in is required and 3 points for the essay).

GRADES:
Final course grades will be based on the plus/whole grade grading system. I do NOT give out grades over email. If the concept research and presentation isn’t completed, the highest grade that can be earned in this course is a D. The final grade will be based upon the following assignments unless additional assignments were added:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessments (3 @ 10)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview Evaluation</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concept Research and Presentation</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Class Activities</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>150</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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A  90% and up
B+ 85-89%
B  80-84%
C+ 75-79%
C  70-74%
D  60-69%
F  59% and below

INCOMPLETES:
The grade “I” (incomplete) is given only for personal emergencies that are verifiable and when the student has completed passing work in the course. The student has the responsibility to take the initiative in completing the work and the student is expected to make up the “incomplete” as soon as possible during the following semester. For further information about this university policy, please see pg. 28 of the University Catalog or consult with your professor and department chair.
EARLY WORK AND LATE WORK POLICY:
Every assignment has a due date and all assignments are due by 11:59 of the day they are due unless otherwise noted.

One day late (starting at midnight!) = 20% reduction in possible points
Two days late=40% reduction in possible points
Three days late=60% reduction in possible points
Four days or more late=80% reduction in possible points

After one week (7 days), late work will not be accepted.

If your computer malfunctions, use a university computer or library computer in your home town.

Be sure to save your work as you go and store it in more than one place so as to not lose your work (I use OfficeLive.com and dropbox.com to store my work).

Be sure to allow yourself enough time to problem solve if you happen to have technical difficulties or any other difficulties. (i.e. your home computer won’t let you on Canvas to submit a paper so now you have to go on campus to submit your work OR you have the flu and the due date is tonight).

Create goals to get assignments done earlier than the due date to allow for possible illnesses, disasters, tragedies, etc.

Lack of preparation on YOUR part does not constitute an emergency on MY part!

If you submit work early (my definition of early is at least 1 week before the due date), you can earn an extra 10% of the possible points.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

My expectations of YOU:

- **Attend class and Be responsible for your own education:** It has been shown through research that attendance in class is a high predictor of academic achievement. Class attendance allows for community learning by listening to your classmates and instructor while also providing insight from your viewpoint. The best way to retain the information is to discuss it with others. The instructor will NOT cover everything in the textbook; however, you are responsible for the information. If you don’t understand something, take the time to ask. Who knows, someone else in the classroom may have the same questions. On that same note, if you are having difficulties in general with the material or understanding a concept, please come to me and ask. I cannot help you if I don’t know you need help.

- **Be respectful of others:** There are two parts to respecting others. First, arrive on time and stay attentive during class. Engaging in private conversations or packing up before the end of class is distracting and does not enhance the learning environment. *This includes the need to turn off cell phones.* Secondly, while we are discussing issues in class, some people may voice views that are not in correlation with your own views. Disrespect of another person’s views will not be accepted (including sitting behind someone and rolling your eyes). Diversity of thought is valuable and is expected to be respected in this classroom. If you or another person in the classroom chooses to spew hatred comments about “others,” I will take care of the situation.

My expectations of ME:

- Be prepared and organized for class and open to suggestions. If there is something that could improve the class or a topic you feel would work well with what we are learning, tell me. I love other’s inputs.

- Make expectations clear for assignments, exams, readings, Canvas navigation, etc. If you are not clear on anything, please come to me so we can rectify the problem.

- Provide assistance when asked. You do have to ask but once I know you need help, I will help.

- Take into account individual differences if needed and be fair in evaluations and grading.
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY:
Students who compromise the integrity of the classroom are subject to disciplinary action on the part of the University. Violations of classroom standards include:
   a. Cheating in any form, whether in formal examinations or elsewhere.
   b. Plagiarism, using the work of others as one’s own without assigning proper credit to the source.
   c. Misrepresentation of any work done in the classroom or in preparation for class.
   d. Falsification, forgery, or alteration of any documents pertaining to academic records.
   e. Disruptive behavior in a course of study or abusiveness toward faculty or fellow students.

University policy states the following:

The faculty member in whose course or under whose tutelage an act of academic dishonesty occurs has the option of failing the student for the academic hours in question. The department chair should be advised of any action taken by the faculty member regarding academic dishonesty. The faculty member may consent to refer the case to other academic personnel for further action. Departments, schools, and colleges may have provisions for more severe penalties than set forth above. Emporia State University may impose penalties for academic dishonesty up to and including expulsion for the university. The student has the right to appeal the charge of academic dishonesty in accordance with the university’s Academic Appeals policy and procedure as set forth in section 9A-04 of the Faculty Handbook.

FACULTY INITIATED STUDENT WITHDRAWAL:
If a student’s absences from class, disruptive behavior, lack of prerequisites, or academic dishonesty become detrimental to the student’s progress or that of the other students in the class, the faculty member may advise the student to withdraw from the class. Withdrawal may also be advised if the student is inappropriately enrolled in the class. If the faculty member chooses to withdraw the student, he/she shall attempt to notify the student in writing that a faculty initiated withdrawal is in progress. This notification will be copied to the department chair and Academic Affairs office to serve as the request for withdrawal. If efforts to contact the student have been unsuccessful, or unacknowledged, the faculty member shall then seek the aid of the Academic Affairs office in contacting the student. The Academic Affairs office shall provide the student with information about the existing appeals procedures. Upon receiving a written request for withdrawal from the faculty member, the Academic Affairs office may initiate a student withdrawal from the class. None of the above implies or states that faculty members are required to initiate any student withdrawal.

ELECTRONICS POLICY:
Absolutely no cell phones are allowed to be on during class time. If your phone has an exceptionally loud vibration, please shut the phone off completely. Using a computer to take notes is permitted; however, if you are choosing to shop or check out Facebook, the instructor will ask you to no longer bring the laptop. If I see that you are choosing to text or browse rather than participate or listen, I may have to resort to other strategies to make you value your education and the opportunity you have to be in this class.

FACEBOOK AND OTHER SOCIAL NETWORKING POLICIES:
While I greatly appreciate the idea of “friending” my students or accepting “friending” invites, in order to keep a balance between family and work life as well as encouraging healthy boundaries, I will not accept a friend request from a current or possible future student. However, I have a group page you can join called Dr. Rowley’s Classes. This is a fabulous resource where you can get assistance from fellow classmates and prior students who know how I teach and my expectations.

FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974)
FERPA is a Federal law which provides that the institution will maintain the confidentiality of student education records. I am not allowed to reveal any aspect of your educational experience to others without prior written authorization (FERPA release form) provided by you; therefore, do not have other people contact me to discuss your grade in my class without first providing the necessary documentation. You can find the release form at Information Release Form.