

# Course Syllabus

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Department of Psychology

**PSY4090: Special Studies in Social Psychology**

**1 Unit**

**Fall 2021**

**Mandatory Class Meetings: None (please schedule meetings with me as needed)**

**Instructor: Rosemond T. Lorona, Ph.D.**

**Phone: 619.849. 3305**

**Email: [rlorona@pointloma.edu](mailto:rlorona@pointloma.edu) (<mailto:rlorona@pointloma.edu>)**

**Office Hours: M/W/F 8:45-9:45am & by appointment**

**Location: Culbertson 214**

**Zoom Office Hours by appointment**

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/selfsched?>

[sstoken=UUZENFhVN29pR1BzfGRIZmF1bHR8ZTQ2NWNhMmVIYTkzYzU2NDQyZm11ZTcxN2JhZDAwNTE](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/selfsched?_sstoken=UUZENFhVN29pR1BzfGRIZmF1bHR8ZTQ2NWNhMmVIYTkzYzU2NDQyZm11ZTcxN2JhZDAwNTE)

[\\_ \(https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/selfsched?](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/selfsched?)

[sstoken=UUZENFhVN29pR1BzfGRIZmF1bHR8ZTQ2NWNhMmVIYTkzYzU2NDQyZm11ZTcxN2JhZDAwNTE\)](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/selfsched?_sstoken=UUZENFhVN29pR1BzfGRIZmF1bHR8ZTQ2NWNhMmVIYTkzYzU2NDQyZm11ZTcxN2JhZDAwNTE)

**PLNU Mission**

**To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of

faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A study of the theories and methods of social interactions in the development of personal and group behavior. Topics include attitudes, communication, pro-social, and anti-social behaviors.

Social psychologists study individuals in context. In this course, you will learn theories of social psychology and how social psychologists study individuals, contexts, and their interactions. You will learn how to think like a social psychological scientist and how to identify social psychological principles at play in everyday life. We will discuss topics including how people think about the self and others, how humans are influenced by others, why people are unkind and prejudiced, as well as why people can be helpful and well-liked. You will also have the opportunity to read empirical research. I hope your learning in this class will further your personal and professional goals!

## **PRE-REQUISITES**

This course is an advanced supplement to prior lower-division coursework in social psychology. I expect you to already have background knowledge of these topics. We will therefore focus on application of concepts.

## **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Observe and identify examples of social psychological phenomenon in everyday life.
2. Apply and compare social psychological theories and perspectives.
3. Effectively communicate social psychological concepts in written form.

## **REQUIRED TEXT**

Textbook: Social Psychology (13th Ed) by David G. Myers & Jean M. Twenge ISBN-13: 9781260397116; ISBN-10: 1260397114

## **COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION**

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 1 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. For this course, students will spend an estimated 37.5 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules. Dedicating adequate time to your learning will help you succeed and is especially important if you want an A in the course. Think of it as: hours spent à points earned. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS**

## Assignments and Points

**Observation Paper 1 (25% of final grade).** For this assignment, you will go to a public location and observe human behavior. If an appropriate public space is not available due to local laws or social distancing, you may observe a TV show or movie. You can choose any space as long as it is not a private space (i.e., it is a space where people are aware that their behavior is observable to others; privacy or private space is not invaded) and you are not being disruptive in your observation. The identities of observed individuals should be kept confidential and/or anonymous, unless the individuals are public figures or television characters. Identify and discuss 4 specific social psychological concepts you observe. You must select concepts covered in Chapters 1-8 of the textbook. You will not need to spend time defining each concept in detail; but rather, demonstrate your knowledge of the concept by describing the concept in action and discussing how you are able to observe it. Demonstrate your mastery of the concept by clearly identifying the distinguishing features of the observation and how the concept is distinct from similar concepts. The paper should be *at least 3 full* pages of text (plus references, if needed) and have basic APA formatting. If you use outside sources (e.g., for definitions or research support), you must paraphrase and cite your sources. If you do not cite, or cite inappropriately, it may be counted as plagiarism and the paper will receive zero (0) points. A grading rubric is on Canvas.

**Observation Paper 2 (25% of final grade).** For this assignment, you will identify and discuss 4 social psychological concepts as they apply to your faith tradition and/or spiritual journey. If you are not religious, you may apply the concepts to an area of your life in which you find significant meaning and identify as sacred. You must select concepts covered in Chapters 1-12 of the textbook and do not directly overlap with your Observation Paper 1. You will not need to spend time defining each concept in detail; but rather, demonstrate your knowledge of the concept by specifically connecting it to observations of yourself, your practices, your relationship with God, Bible verses or your readings of religious texts, and/or church-going. This is not simply a reflection paper of your faith; you must make clear connections to 4 concepts of social psychology in a similar fashion to Observation Paper 1. The paper should be *at least 3 full* pages of text (plus references, if needed) and have basic APA formatting. If you use outside sources (e.g., for definitions or research support), you must paraphrase and cite your sources. If you do not cite, or cite inappropriately, it may be counted as plagiarism and the paper will receive zero (0) points. A grading rubric is on Canvas.

**Module Learning Demonstrations (50% final grade):** The learning demonstrations will take place at the end of each module (chapter) and will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and/or fill-in-the-blank questions. Learning demonstrations will emphasize material that was addressed in lectures, but to earn an A, you will need to also study the assigned readings. Your lowest 2 scores will be dropped.

## Course Policies and Expectations

### General and attendance

- You are responsible for all content/material that is found on Canvas, including announcements.
- There is no extra credit. The assignments and quizzes are not meant to be tricky – they are meant to be opportunities to show how much you have learned and how much time you are dedicating to

learning the material.

- Regular attendance/participation is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. See [Academic Policies \(https://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=46&navoid=2650#Class\\_Attendance\)](https://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=46&navoid=2650#Class_Attendance) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of participation opportunities (i.e., misses a few assignments), the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent (missing a week of assignments), the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

## Submitting Assignments

- Assignments and learning demonstrations for each module (chapter) are due at the end of the day (11:59pm) on Friday unless otherwise noted. You may submit assignments early. Because this is an accelerated course, you will have multiple modules (chapters) to complete each week.
- Assignments are individual work; you are expected to complete the work on your own.
- Work submitted on Canvas must be in .doc or .docx file types only. The student is responsible for making sure Canvas files work and go through Turnitin. Files that do not open, are in the wrong file type, and/or can't go through Turnitin will be considered late until the problem is rectified.
- Late work is accepted for 3 days, with a 10% deduction for each day, including weekend days. Due dates can be found on Canvas within each module.

## Learning Demonstration Information

- Learning demonstrations will be **open note and open book**. You may use *your own* notes and *your own textbook*. They are **not open-internet**, nor are they group work. Written responses should be written in the student's own words (not lifted from the textbook or lecture). Any LD responses that are not in the student's own words will be treated as academic dishonesty.

## Final Exam

- Completion of this course is dependent on the on-time completion of the final exam. Observation Paper 2 will serve as the final exam for this course. It is due by midnight on our final day of class (December 10th).

**About Contacting Me.** I welcome your questions (about class or otherwise) and would enjoy hearing from you throughout the semester. Do not hesitate to email me or take advantage of office hours. We can schedule meetings outside of office hours if needed. I will give prompt email replies as I am able, but there may be times of the day when I am not available, such as in the evenings. Please do not leave important questions for the last minute!

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Student grades will be posted in the Canvas grade book no later than midnight on Tuesday of each week beginning in Week Two of this course. It is important to read the comments posted in the grade

book as these comments are intended to help students improve their work. Final grades will be posted within one week of the end of the class. Grades will be weighted as listed above and determined based on the following:

A = 93-100%

A- = 90-92.9%

B+ = 88-89.9%

B = 84-87.9%

B- = 80-83.9%

C+ = 77-79.9%

C = 70-76.9%

C- = 65-69.9%

D+ = 62-64.9%

D = 55-61.9%

D- = 50-54.9%

F = 49.9% or less

## **STATE AUTHORIZATION**

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization \(https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-institutional-effectiveness-research/disclosures\)](https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-institutional-effectiveness-research/disclosures) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

## **PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY**

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

## **PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY**

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. Academic

dishonesty also includes such acts as cheating, fabrication of information, misrepresentations, having unauthorized possession of exams or acquiring/providing information about exams to offer/get an advantage. Academic dishonesty may lead to a zero for that assignment or examination, and/or an F for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](http://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=18&navoid=1278) [\\_ \(http://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=18&navoid=1278\)](http://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=18&navoid=1278) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further information.

## **PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY**

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course. Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

## **PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY**

Students taking online courses are expected to attend each week of the course. Attendance is defined as participating in an academic activity within the online classroom which includes posting in a graded activity in the course. (Note: Logging into the course does not qualify as participation and will not be counted as meeting the attendance requirement.)

Students who do not attend at least once in any 3 consecutive days will be issued an attendance warning. Students who do not attend at least once in any 7 consecutive days will be dropped from the course retroactive to the last date of recorded attendance.

## **SPIRITUAL CARE**

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/spiritual-development) [\\_ \(https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/spiritual-development\)](https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/spiritual-development)

## **USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](https://help.pointloma.edu/TDCClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349) [\\_ \(https://help.pointloma.edu/TDCClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349\)](https://help.pointloma.edu/TDCClient/1808/Portal/KB/ArticleDet?ID=108349) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use. If a student is in need of technological resources please contact [student-tech-request@pointloma.edu](mailto:student-tech-request@pointloma.edu) [\\_ \(mailto:student-tech-request@pointloma.edu\)](mailto:student-tech-request@pointloma.edu).

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

**Title IX Office.** If you or someone you know would like help related to an experience of sexual violence including sexual assault, harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking or other type of non-consensual sexual conduct, please contact the Title IX Coordinator at Point Loma Nazarene University. Reporting is also available on the Title IX website. The Title IX office understands the sensitive nature of these situations and can provide information about available on- and off-campus resources, such as counseling and psychological services, medical treatment, academic support, university housing and other forms of assistance. Staff members at the office will also explain your rights and the judicial process options, if you choose to file a complaint. If you or someone you know feels unsafe or may be in imminent danger, please call the PLNU Department of Public Safety (619-849-2525) or local police department (9-1-1) immediately.

**Student Success and Wellness.** If you or someone you know would like help related to a physical or mental health problem, (e.g., depression, anxiety, difficulty focusing on school or managing daily needs, grief, trauma resolution, sleep or eating changes, etc.), and/or would like academic assistance, please contact the appropriate office using the following information.

- Counseling Services 619-849-2574; [sdwellnesscenter@pointloma.edu](mailto:sdwellnesscenter@pointloma.edu)  
(<mailto:sdwellnesscenter@pointloma.edu>)
- Educational Access Center 619-849-2533; [eac@pointloma.edu](mailto:eac@pointloma.edu) (<mailto:drc@pointloma.edu>)
- Medical Services 619-849-2280; [sdwellnesscenter@pointloma.edu](mailto:sdwellnesscenter@pointloma.edu)  
(<mailto:sdwellnesscenter@pointloma.edu>)
- Tutorial Services 619-849-2953; [tutorialservices@pointloma.edu](mailto:tutorialservices@pointloma.edu)  
(<mailto:tutorialservices@pointloma.edu>)

## ASSIGNMENTS AT-A-GLANCE

Please see the module overviews for assignments due each week. Assignments and due dates will always be posted and available in advance.

## Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Fri Sep 3, 2021	 <a href="#">Learning Demonstration 1</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672837">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672837</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Fri Sep 10, 2021	 <a href="#">Learning Demonstration 2</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672832">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672832</a> )	due by 11:59pm
Fri Sep 17, 2021	 <a href="#">Learning Demonstration 3</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672836">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672836</a> )	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Fri Sep 24, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672830">Learning Demonstration 4</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672830">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672830">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672830</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Oct 1, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672835">Learning Demonstration 5</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672835">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672835">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672835</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Oct 8, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672829">Learning Demonstration 6</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672829">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672829">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672829</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Oct 15, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672831">Learning Demonstration 7</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672831">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672831">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672831</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Oct 22, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672826">Learning Demonstration 8</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672826">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672826">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672826</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Oct 29, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672838">Observation Paper 1</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672838">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672838">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672838</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Nov 5, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672827">Learning Demonstration 9</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672827">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672827">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672827</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Nov 12, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672834">Learning Demonstration 10</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672834">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672834">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672834</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Nov 19, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672833">Learning Demonstration 11</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672833">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672833">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672833</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Nov 26, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672828">Learning Demonstration 12</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672828">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672828">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672828</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Dec 3, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672825">Learning Demonstration 13</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672825">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672825">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672825</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Dec 10, 2021	 <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672839">Observation Paper 2</a> <a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672839">(<a href="https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672839">https://canvas.pointloma.edu/courses/57689/assignments/672839</a>)</a>	due by 11:59pm

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#### PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all synchronous class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions (virtual or face-to-face), the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered asynchronously and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See Academic Policies in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.