

UNIT INFORMATION

UNIT CODE	HB241	
UNIT NAME	Social Psychology	
ASSOCIATED HIGHER EDUCATION AWARDS	Bachelor of Human Services	
DURATION	One semester	
LEVEL	Level 7	
UNIT COORDINATOR	Dr Stephen Beaumont	
TEACHING STAFF	Bridget Harding	
CORE / ELECTIVE	Elective Required for Human Behaviour specialisation	
WEIGHTING	Unit credit points	10 (0.125 EFTSL)
	Course credit points	240 (3.0 EFTSL)
DELIVERY MODE	External (online)	
STUDENT WORKLOAD	Engagement with study materials	90 hours
	Assignment preparation	60 hours
	TOTAL	150 hours
	Student requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional one hour per week.	
PREREQUISITES / COREQUISITES / RESTRICTIONS	Nil	

RATIONALE

In order to facilitate constructive human growth and behaviour the social sciences practitioner must have an understanding of the person as a social being. This unit exposes students to a holistic and multi-dimensional understanding of human behaviour that incorporates intrapersonal, interpersonal, and transpersonal aspects of self.

This unit builds upon previous studies in the social sciences and introduces students to a broad range of theories from social psychology that seek to explain the underlying motivations driving individual, group, and societal behaviours. Students are encouraged to evaluate the social determinants of human behaviour through theoretical analysis, an appreciation of the research evidence base, personal reflection, and integration of important Christian theological perspectives relating to society and communal dimensions of humanness and Christian mission.

LEARNING DELIVERY PROCESS

Interactive engagement through online learning modules with full access to CHC's learning portal of resources.

ON-LINE MODE

CHC learning portal (Moodle™) including:

- Synchronous and asynchronous virtual lectures.
- (Multi-user collaborative learning interfaces, lecture capture, interactive Power Point presentation and resources).
- Lecture capture recordings bank.

- Weekly readings.
- Learning guides.
- Assessment guides.
- Collaborative forums: Student forums and News forum.
- Turnitin assessment and feedback tool.

All unit outlines are reviewed prior to the offering of the unit to take account of student and lecturer feedback.

STUDENT FEEDBACK

You will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on the unit throughout and at the of semester to enable us to continually improve the subject. Feedback from previous years has been vital in reshaping course and unit content, materials and assessments.

Assessment task 3 has been changed from presentation to Quizzes based on benchmarking of similar unit in other universities

CONTENT

1. Introduction to Social Psychology:
 - Introduction to the field of social psychology and key thinkers.
 - Introduction to research methods in social psychology.
 - Ethics in social psychology
2. The self in a social world:
 - How self-knowledge is formed through interaction with others.
 - Self esteem
 - Identity formation and regulatory functions of the self.
3. Group roles, norms, and authority:
 - The influence of other people upon our behaviour.
 - Types of social influence, conformity, and obedience to authority.
4. Attribution theory and stereotyping:
 - How we perceive and respond to others.
 - Processing of social information and social cognition.
5. Attitudes and persuasion:
 - How attitudes are formed and their impact on behaviour.
 - Difficulties in changing attitudes and types of persuasion.
6. Group dynamics:
 - Defining groups and how people interact and behave in groups.
 - Group-to-group interaction, membership, socialisation.
 - Group conflict and how to manage it
7. Gender Identity
 - Defining sex, intersex, gender and gender orientation
 - Gender diversity
 - Gender and discrimination
8. Prejudice and discrimination:
 - Understanding the nature of prejudice and how to reduce it.
 - Ingroups versus outgroups, implicit and explicit prejudice.

9. Interpersonal relationships:
 - Attraction, close relationships and intimacy
 - Social support, need to belong, and impacts of exclusion.
10. Prosocial behaviour
 - Theories of why people help others and factors involved in helping.
 - Role of altruism, empathy, selfishness, and the bystander effect.
11. Aggression and antisocial behaviour
 - Forms of conflict, personal and situational variables.
 - Types of violence, motives, and preventing aggression.
12. Stress, health and wellbeing
 - Stress, health and wellbeing
 - Causes of stress
 - Physical responses to stress
 - Treatment of stress
13. Other real-world applications
 - Community psychology
 - Social psychology and the Law
 - Stress, health and wellbeing
 - Business

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of this unit students will have provided *evidence* that they have:

1. Gained an understanding of a range of key social psychological theories and processes including the research base informing these frameworks.
2. Evaluated the motivational basis of individual perceptions, attitudes, and behaviours as it relates to community and relationships.
3. Applied social psychological theories and processes to issues facing the social sciences.
4. Critically analysed and reflected upon social psychology from a distinctly Christian perspective.
5. Communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard with special attention to correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing, and presentation.

ASSESSMENT TASKS

IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A PASSING MARK, STUDENT MUST ACHIEVE A PASSING MARK IN ALL TASKS.

TASK 1: LITERATURE REVIEW

Review the contemporary literature on the social psychological theory of self-esteem. Apply the theory to real life by providing an example – you can choose your own experience or an example that you have observed. Finally, briefly examine the theory of self-esteem from a Christian worldview reflecting on how the Christian worldview might speak to the experience (personal or observed).

Word Length/Duration: 2000 words
 Weighting: 40%
 Learning Outcomes: 1-5
 Assessed: Week 4
 Method of Submission: Turnitin

TASK 2: ESSAY

Explain how stereotypes are formed and the underlying processes involved using an example of a common stereotype in society. Make recommendations addressing the problematic behaviour of stereotyping, drawing upon theories and research in social psychology. The issues should be addressed from both a social psychological and a Christian perspective.

Word Length/Duration: 1500 words
 Weighting: 30%
 Learning Outcomes: 1-5
 Assessed: Week 9
 Method of Submission: Turnitin

TASK 3: ONLINE QUIZZES

Students will be required to complete 6 online quizzes from weeks 3 onwards. These quizzes are intended to cover student's grasp of key concepts covered in the unit. These will be a mixture of short answer and multiple-choice questions.

Word Length/Duration: 6 Online Quizzes
 Weighting: 30%
 Learning Outcomes: 1-5
 Quizzes are **Open** on Weeks 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 14
Wednesdays at 9:00 am:
 Quizzes are **Closed/Assessed** Weeks 5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16
 on **Wednesdays at 2:00 pm:**
 Method of Submission: Moodle

ASSESSMENT ALIGNMENT

Assessment Task	Learning Outcomes	Content	Course Outcomes	Graduate Attributes
Task 1	1-5	1-2	B, D, F	1, 3, 4
Task 2	1-5	3-5	D, G	1, 3, 6
Task 3	1-5	6-12	A, C, G, H	1, 3, 6, 7, 8

SPECIALIST FACILITIES OR EQUIPMENT

Digital recording device.

PRESCRIBED TEXTS

Kassin, S., et. al. (2020). *Social Psychology* (2nd). Australian and New Zealand edition. Cengage.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

BOOKS

Fiske, S.T., Gilbert, D.T., & Lindzey, G. (Eds.). (2010). *Handbook of social psychology* (5th ed.). Wiley.

Hancock, M. (Ed.). (2003). *Christian perspectives on gender, sexuality, and community*. Regent College Publishing.

Hermans, C. A., Immink, G., De Jong, A., & Van Der Lans, J. (Eds.). (2002). *Social constructionism and theology*. Brill.

Hewstone, M., Stobe, W., & Jonas, K. (2015). *An introduction to social psychology* (6th ed.). Wiley-Blackwell.

Sabates, A.M. (2012). *Social psychology in Christian perspective: Exploring the human condition*. Intervarsity Press.

Vaughan, G.M., & Hogg, M.A. (2008). *Introduction to social psychology* (5th ed.). Pearson Education Australia.

JOURNALS

Journal of Social Psychology

British Journal of Social Psychology

Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology

Social Psychology of Education

Social Psychology Quarterly

Journal of Psychology and Theology

International Review of Social Psychology

Journal of Psychology and Christianity

OTHER

In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as The Holy Bible: The New International Version 2011 (NIV 2011) or The Holy Bible: New King James Version (NKJV).

These and other translations may be accessed free on-line at <http://www.biblegateway.com>. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.

SAMPLE