PSYC3052D: Advanced Social Psychology  
Spring 2020

**Instructor:** Dr. Zhansheng Chen  
Office: The Jockey Club Tower 665  
Office Hour: Thursday 12:00-1:00pm  
Email: chenz@hku.hk

**Tutor:** Ms. Wendy Lau  
Office: The Jockey Club Tower 613  
Office Hour: Thursday 4:30-5:30 pm  
Email: wlau049@hku.hk

**Lectures:** Thursday 1:30-3:20pm  
**Tutorial Sessions:** Wednesdays 3:30-4:20 pm and 4:30-5:20 pm

**Course Objectives**  
This course will examine a number of major research topics in social psychology. Students are expected to gain substantial knowledge of the field, including major concepts, theories, empirical findings, and controversies. Students will also have the opportunity to communicate critically and creatively about these theories and findings.

**Learning Outcomes**  
1. More knowledgeable about current research in social psychology;  
2. More critical and sensible in interpreting and communicating research reports;  
3. Better at developing research questions and testable hypotheses;  
4. Better at coming up research plans to address research questions;  
5. Able to write coherent research proposals.

**Course Requirements**  
**Discussion questions:** Participation is essential for this class. Students will be randomly assigned into four discussion groups (A, B, C, and D) at the beginning of the semester. You should read all the main readings, and be particularly familiar with one of them. Each group should make sure that they have at least two experts on every single article. You should come up with ONE discussion question based on the readings and submit your question to Wendy via Moodle by 5pm on Monday of the lecture week. The purpose of this assignment is to prepare students for the group discussions during the lecture.

**Class participation:**  
During each lecture, two presentation readings will be presented by students. In addition, students will engage in group discussions. Towards the end of each lecture, one group will be selected to share their thoughts with the rest of the class. Further, by 5pm on Wednesday of the next lecture week, this chosen group need to submit their comments/thoughts (single-spaced, no more than 2 pages), which will be distributed to the whole class.
Research proposal outline: You are expected to come up with a testable hypothesis addressing issues related to the topics covered in the class. You are required to submit a 2 page, single-spaced proposal outline by **5pm, March 22**. It should state clearly the research question, hypothesis, and research method. Before turning in the final proposal, you will have a chance to present your proposal to the class.

The final research proposal should be submitted by **5pm, May 13**. This proposal should be double-spaced and not exceed 12 pages, excluding title page, abstract, and references. Please use the style described in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th edition).

**Grading System**
Weekly questions 12%
Class participation
   Empirical article presentation 10 %
   Discussions 5%
   Group presentation 10%
Group writing assignment 10%
Research proposal
   Outline 5%
   Proposal presentation 10%
   Final paper 30%
Tutorial sessions 6%
Departmental research seminar 2%

**Important notes**
Late assignments will be penalized by 30% of maximum point for each day of delay (including Saturday and Sunday).

**Plagiarism:** A hardcopy and a softcopy are required for all written assignments. The softcopy will be checked for plagiarism against a database of articles, books, webpages, and essays submitted by students at HKU and other universities. No credit will be given for an assignment that contains plagiarized materials. Further penalties will also be applied. These penalties include a zero mark for participation in course tutorials and a zero mark for the course. Plagiarism will also be reported to the Department/Faculty Office/University Disciplinary Committee for consideration of possible disciplinary action.

**Academic honesty:** Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any student who engages in any form of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on exams, plagiarism, self-plagiarism, interfering with grading, falsification and fabrication of data in any academic exercise, etc.) will receive a grade of F on the component(s) of assessment concerned or in this course and will be reported to the Department/Faculty.
Office/University Disciplinary Committee for further disciplinary action. There will be no exceptions. If you are not sure what constitutes the academic offense of plagiarism, checkout the webpage at http://www.hku.hk/plagiarism. Department of Psychology has formulated departmental polices/guidelines on student misconduct. Visit the website at https://www.psychology.hku.hk/?page_id=1814 for more information.
**Tentative Schedule**

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<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Deadlines</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>Organizational meeting</td>
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<td>Jan 28</td>
<td>We or I? The social self</td>
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<td>Feb 04</td>
<td>Mental representation of social world</td>
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<td>Feb 25</td>
<td>Need to belong</td>
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<td>Mar 04</td>
<td>Objectification</td>
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<td>Mar 11</td>
<td><em>Reading/Field Trip Week</em></td>
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<td>Mar 18</td>
<td>Morality</td>
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<td>Mar 25</td>
<td>Aggression</td>
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<td>Research proposal outline (Mar 22)</td>
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<td>April 01</td>
<td>Ego-depletion and will power</td>
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<td>April 08</td>
<td>Replication crisis and open science practices</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
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<td>May 06</td>
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<td>May 13</td>
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