

Psychology 310: Psychology and Sociology of Diverse Populations  
Texas A&M University-Commerce, Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. Stephen Reysen

Class Meeting: Online August 27<sup>th</sup> to December 14<sup>th</sup>

Office hours: Mon. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and by appointment

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Skype: sreysen

I typically answer emails the same day, however, please allow 2-3 days for a reply. Email is the best way to reach me.

**Themes of the course:**

The course is not going to be a typical cross-cultural psychology course in which we are going to compare and contrast, looking for universals and differences in psychological functioning among various cultures. Instead, we will concentrate major theories in psychology and how they relate to diversity.

A main theme **diversity in psychological functioning** considers whether results from typical psychological studies are observed in more varied settings. Most studies in psychology are based on a limited range of world's people: predominantly young, middle-class, European-American, college students. But what will happen if the same studies are conducted with more diverse populations, such as people outside the USA, older adults, or people residing in rural areas in Texas?

The landscape covered will include topics: social psychological theory applicable to ethnic/racial relations, diversity in the workplace and educational settings, stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination.

On ecollege you will find video lectures. You may need Quicktime player to view these videos. You can download Quicktime player (for pc or mac) for free from the following website...

<http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>

Also, please use firefox web browser for the videos. Firefox is a free download from the following website...

[www.mozilla.com/firefox/](http://www.mozilla.com/firefox/)

**Grading:**

**1. Reaction Papers:** Over the course of the semester all students are required to post online (in the discussion section for that week) **twelve** 1 to 2-page (double spaced) reaction papers. The paper must be posted by Sunday at midnight for that week (see below for topics we are discussing). For example, if we discuss social identity theory the week of September 10<sup>th</sup>, you need to post your reaction by Sunday (September 16<sup>th</sup>) at midnight. The only exception is that the last week of class the reaction papers are due by

Friday December 7<sup>th</sup> 11:59PM. The purpose of the reaction paper is to apply the concepts in a given lecture/article to your own life (e.g., past experience, expectations, ideas of how the concepts can be applied in other areas of life, research ideas). There is no specific requirement for these papers except to show that you have thought about the concepts presented in lecture and articles. **Within each paper please write one multiple choice question on that topic.** Each paper is worth 10 points.

**2. Exams:** There will be two online exams. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions, and are worth 50 points each. You will have 3 hours to complete each exam. Please allow yourself at least a full hour on the computer for each exam (you cannot start and stop the exam time).

**3. Global Class Participation:** A goal of this class is to help assess your understanding of globalization and how the interconnected world affects each of us. You may complete two online surveys (one at the beginning of the semester and a second survey at the end of the semester) to earn a reduction in the number of reaction papers needed for the class. Each survey should take less than 30 minutes to complete. I will email you the link to the survey at the beginning and at the end of the semester with dates/times of the deadlines to complete each survey. I will not access your responses on either survey until after your grades are turned in (i.e., your participation in this project will in no way affect your grade in this class). If you choose to participate you will not have to complete **four** of the reaction papers. In other words, if you choose to participate you only have to complete 8 reaction papers (instead of 12).

Assessment:

Reaction papers: 120 points

Exams: 100 points

A = 198-220

B = 176-197

C = 154-175

D = 132-153

F = 131 and below

Class and Research Participation Extra Credit:

There is a small amount of extra credit available for this course. 10 points are available for posting comments, thoughts, and reactions to other students' work online. These points are determined at the discretion of the instructor. In addition, I will offer another 10 points of extra credit for participation in online research studies (beyond the global class surveys). I will offer 2 points for each 0.5 credits of research (max 10 raw points or 2.5 experiment credits). You can find a guide to participating in research at the bottom of the syllabus. If you would like an alternative assignment for extra credit instead of participating in research contact me. Additionally, the first time you log into SONA (the web system the psychology department uses to schedule participation) you will be asked to complete a prescreen survey. Completion of the prescreen is worth 0.5 experiment credits if done in the first two weeks of the semester.

#### Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Gee Library, Room 132, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

#### Respect:

More generally, if you have any problems or concerns regarding this course, please contact me as soon as possible. Your feedback (both positive and negative) is more than welcome. We should strive to respect and value the diversity that exists in TAMUC classrooms (e.g., age, gender, ethnicity, national origin, disability, geographic backgrounds, political orientation, sexual orientation). While we may sometimes disagree with each other on topics discussed in class, it's important that we remember that appreciating diversity in perspectives is an important part of the learning process (and good life skill). If you ever feel that you are not being given the respect you deserve in class, please let me know.

#### Recording:

Course materials prepared by the instructor, together with the content of all lectures and review sessions presented by the instructor are the property of the instructor. Video and audio recording of lectures and review sessions without the consent of the instructor is prohibited. On request, the instructor will usually grant permission for students to audio tape lectures, on the condition that these audio tapes are only used by the individual making the recording. Unless explicit permission is obtained from the instructor, recordings of lectures and review sessions may not be modified and must not be transferred or transmitted to any other person, whether or not that individual is enrolled in the course. **PLEASE DO NOT DISTRIBUTE THE VIDEO LECTURES. THESE ARE JUST FOR YOU FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLASS.**

#### Cheating:

Warning: If I detect you engaging in academic misconduct you will automatically FAIL this course. Academic misconduct includes disruption of classes, giving or receiving unauthorized aid on examinations, knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work, or otherwise acting dishonestly. This includes both cheating on exams and plagiarism of any written work that you hand in for this course. Information on the academic misconduct policy of Texas A&M-Commerce can be found at [http://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/en/report\\_custom.asp?clientid=20504](http://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/en/report_custom.asp?clientid=20504)

**WEEK 1:** August 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>

**Lecture 1:** Introduction and Syllabus

(Please participate in the first part of the research project this week)

[NOTE: NO REACTION PAPERS FOR THIS WEEK]

**WEEK 2:** September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>

**Lecture 2:** Robbers Cave Study

**WEEK 3:** September 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>

**Lecture 3:** Identity

**Article:** Tajfel, H., & Turner, J. C. (1979). An integrative theory of intergroup behaviour. In S. Worchel & W. G. Austin (Eds.), *The social psychology of intergroup relations* (pp. 33-47). Monterey, CA: Brooks-Cole.

**WEEK 4:** September 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>

**Lecture 4:** Culture

**Article:** Adams, G., & Markus, H. R. (2004). Toward a conception of culture suitable for a social psychology of culture. In M. Schaller & C. S. Crandall (Eds.), *The psychological foundations of culture* (pp. 335-360). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

**WEEK 5:** September 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>

**Video:** Merchants of Cool (Frontline video, watch the whole video (not the individual parts))

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/cool/>

Then click on "Watch the Full Program Online"

(Question: how does this video relate to the previous lecture?)

**WEEK 6:** October 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>

**Lecture 5:** Stereotypes

**Article:** Jussim, L., & Harber, K. D. (2005). Teacher expectations and self-fulfilling prophecies: Knowns and unknowns, resolved and unresolved controversies. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 9, 131-155.

**WEEK 7:** October 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

**Lecture 6:** Prejudice

**Article:** Leyens, J.-P., Paladino, P. M., Rodriguez-Torres, R., Vaes, J., Demoulin, S., Rodriguez-Perez, A., & Gaunt, R. (2000). The emotional side of prejudice: The attribution of secondary emotions to ingroups and outgroups. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 4, 186-197.

**WEEK 8:** October 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>

**Lecture 7:** Discrimination

**Article:** Hebl, M. R., King, E. B., Glick, P., Singletary, S. L., & Kazama, S. (2007). Hostile and benevolent reactions toward pregnant women: Complementary interpersonal punishments and rewards that maintain traditional roles. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 92, 1499-1511.

**WEEK 9:** October 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>

**Lecture 8:** Reducing Prejudice

**Article:** Park, B., & Judd, C. M. (2005). Rethinking the link between categorization and prejudice within the social cognition perspective. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 9, 108-130.

**EXAM ONE THIS WEEK (Covers weeks 2 to 9;this includes the reducing prejudice lecture & article)**

**WEEK 10:** October 29<sup>th</sup> to November 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Lecture 9:** Ageism

**Article:** Kite, M. E., Stockdale, G. D., Whitley, B. E., Jr., & Johnson, B. T. (2005). Attitudes toward younger and older adults: An updated meta-analytic review. *Journal of Social Issues*, 61, 241-266.

**WEEK 11:** November 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>

**Lecture 10:** Gender

**Article:** Swim, J. K., & Hyers, L. L. (1999). Excuse me—What did you just say?!: Women's public and private responses to sexist remarks. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 35, 68-88.

**WEEK 12:** November 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>

**Lecture 11:** Sexual Orientation

**Article:** Herek, G. M. (2000). The psychology of sexual prejudice. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 9, 19-21.

**WEEK 13:** November 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>

THANKSGIVING BREAK

**WEEK 14:** November 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>

**Lecture 12:** Diversity at School

**Article:** Steele, C. M. (1997). A threat in the air: How stereotypes shape intellectual identity and performance. *American Psychologist*, 52, 613-629.

**WEEK 15:** December 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>

**Lecture 13:** Diversity at Work

**Article:** Adams, G., Biernat, M., Branscombe, N. R., Crandall, C. S., & Wrightsman, L. S. (2008). Beyond prejudice: Toward a sociocultural psychology of racism and oppression. In G. Adams, M. Biernat, N. R. Branscombe, C. S. Crandall, & L. S. Wrightsman (Eds.), *Commemorating Brown: The social psychology of racism and discrimination* (pp. 215-246). Washington, DC: APA Books.

**EXAM TWO THIS WEEK (covers weeks 11 to 15)**

If you are participating in the global class surveys, then please complete the second survey this week by Friday December 7<sup>th</sup> 11:59PM (a link will be sent to you by email). If you are doing online research for extra credit for the class, these are due by midnight of Friday December 7<sup>th</sup> 11:59PM (all research studies shut down after Friday December 7<sup>th</sup>).  
**ALL CLASS WORK SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY FRIDAY AT 11:59PM.**

### **Frequently Asked Questions about the Class**

**Q:** I am having problems viewing the video lectures.

**A:** There are four main culprits for the lectures not appearing...

1. Install and update the latest version of firefox browser.
2. Install and update the latest version of quicktime player.
3. If the above two options do not help there may be a problem with the settings for firefox. In other words, firefox is trying to open the video quicktime files with windows media player. In firefox's preferences/options you need to change the defaults so that any quicktime files will be opened with quicktime plugin and not windows media. Here is a link to firefox's help page for this problem:

[http://kb.mozillazine.org/Quicktime#Quicktime\\_browser\\_settings](http://kb.mozillazine.org/Quicktime#Quicktime_browser_settings)

4. You may have a slow internet connection. If you have a slow internet connection you may need to wait a few minutes for the video to load. In other words, click on the lecture link and wait a few minutes for the video to load.

**Q:** I am doing the research study for the class, which 8 reaction papers do I need to do?

**A:** There are 13 possible reaction papers that you can write. You can pick and choose which 8 of those 13 topics you would like to write about.

**Q:** What is the best way to study for the test?

**A:** Print out and read over the articles. Also, look over the lecture slides one more time (they are in the doc sharing section of ecollege).

## **Undergraduate Graduation Checklist**

<http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/registrar/pdfs/UndergradChecklist.pdf>

1. Total Hours for degree met? (Must be at least 120 hrs)
2. Required Institutional-25% of course work taken at TAMU-Commerce?
3. Last Number Institutional Required-24 out of last 30 hrs?
4. Overall GPA at least 2.00 (2.50 for Certification Students)?
5. University Studies Met?
6. Major (plus support if applicable) Course Requirements Met?
7. Major GPA is at least 2.00 (2.50 for Certification Students)?
8. Major Required courses have C's or better?
9. At least 6 hours are advanced in Major?
10. All Certification Requirements Met? (Internship/Residency/Etc.)
11. 2nd Major (plus support if applicable) Course Requirements Met?
12. 2nd Major GPA is at least 2.00 (2.50 for Certification Students)?
13. Minor (plus support if applicable) Requirements Met?
14. Minor GPA is at least 2.00 (2.50 for Certification Students)?
15. Junior Level Essay Met?
16. Senior Level Check Met (minimum 60 hrs)?
17. Advanced Hour Check Met?
18. 24 Advanced Hours taken at TAMU-Commerce?
19. A&M Commerce GPA 2.00 Met (2.50 for Certification Students)?

**Students' Guide to Research Participation for Extra Credit**  
**Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education**  
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**

- **What is Research Participation?**

Exposure to research is essential to your gaining a better understanding of the scientific study of psychology. It is how we add new knowledge in psychology. Being involved in research is a good way to experience first-hand and learn about the scientific enterprise. We believe there are two key ways to experience research activity at this level: 1) read about related scientific investigations; 2) experience research as a volunteer participant; or some combination of both. The class in which you received this handout offers extra credit through one or both of these activities.

- **What if I am not yet 18 years old?**

In order to participate in research you must be at least 18 years old. If you are not yet 18 years old, please see your instructor, and ask him/her about alternative ways of earning extra credit.

- **In what type of research studies will I participate?**

All studies you will participate in have been reviewed and approved by the Texas A&M University-Commerce Institutional Review Board (IRB) and by the Department of Psychology, Counseling, & Special Education. Studies vary widely. Many involve completing questionnaires or carrying out tasks on the computer. Some are even fun, and you'll learn something from all of them.

- **What are my rights as a research participant?**

Your participation is voluntary and you may withdraw from any study at any time. Your data will be kept confidential. If you have any further questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the IRB head, Carmen Salazar (Carmen.Salazar@tamuc.edu). More information about your rights will be provided to you prior to each study for which you sign up.

- **How will my research participation credit be calculated?**

You will receive 1 credit for each hour of research participation. Studies lasting 15 minutes or less are worth 0.25 credit. For example, a 15 min. study = 0.25 research credits; 30 min. = 0.5 credits; 45 min. = 0.75 credits; 60min = 1 credit; 1½ hours = 1.5 credits... etc.

- **How many research credits may I complete?**

You are encouraged to participate in as much research as you wish, but your instructor will inform you of how many credits are offered for extra credit.

- **What if I do not wish to participate in research studies?**

Participation in research is voluntary. Your instructor is offering you the opportunity to earn extra credit by participating in research (and helping psychology).



- **How do I find and sign up for research participation opportunities?**

Throughout the semester, researchers in the Psychology Department will post their research studies in the Experiment Management System (EMS) online. It is up to you to check the EMS regularly to find and sign up for research studies that fit into your schedule. Detailed instructions for how to use the EMS are listed in the following pages of this handout.

- **What if I cannot go to a study I signed up for?**

If for whatever reason you cannot attend a study that you have signed up for you need to cancel your appointment before the start of the study. There are 2 ways to cancel an appointment. First, if you cancel 24 hours before a study you can do this online through the Experiment Management System (EMS) website. Second, if it is the same day of the study you can call or email the experimenter – their contact information will be available in the EMS.

## How do I use the Experiment Management System (EMS)?

(Create a new participant account unless you already have one and your login information works. If you do not remember your login information click on the “lost your password?” on the front page of the EMS website and follow the directions on the site, and if that does not work email [curt.carlson@tamuc.edu](mailto:curt.carlson@tamuc.edu). A list of courses will be presented, from which you must select the courses you are taking this semester for which you will receive credit for participation. If your course is not listed, see the instructor for that course.)

### A. How to create a participant account on the EMS

1. Go to <http://tamuc-commerce.sona-systems.com/>
  - a. Click on New Participant “request an account here” link on the left of the screen.
  - b. This takes you to a screen on which you must enter your name, a unique User ID, your University ID number, and primary email address (reminders of studies you sign up for will be sent to that email address). You will also need to highlight the course(s) in which you are enrolled, and for which you will be earning credits. If more than one, highlight all that will be involving you in research participation. However, each study in which you participate will only provide you credit for ONE course. In other words, there is no “double-dipping” allowed. BE CAREFUL TO SELECT THE CORRECT COURSE AND SECTION # – IF YOU CHOOSE THE WRONG ONE, YOUR INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT BE INFORMED OF YOUR CREDITS! After you submit your information, you will be emailed your login information. (After you have received your login information, I recommend that you login into EMS and go to your “Profile” and change your password to something that you can remember.)

If you encounter any problems with creating your account (e.g., login information not sent to you), contact the EMS administrator, [curt.carlson@tamuc.edu](mailto:curt.carlson@tamuc.edu) with your full name and a detailed description of the problem.

2. When you first log into the EMS at the beginning of the semester you will be asked to take a prescreen survey. This is a short survey that

researchers will use to decide if you meet the specified requirements for some studies (e.g., as a researcher I may only allow participants who are female. If you do not complete the prescreen you will not be eligible to participate in this study). In other words, if you do not complete the prescreen you will have fewer studies that you are eligible to participate in. **IF YOU COMPLETE THE PRESCREEN IN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE SEMESTER YOU WILL GET 0.5 CREDIT.** Take it even if you have done it before – it has probably changed, and you will still earn the 0.5 credit.

3. You are now ready to use the EMS to sign-up for research studies.

### **B. Sign-up for studies—login to the EMS with your User ID and password that was emailed to you after creating your account**

1. Click **Study Sign-Up**. A list of all available studies for which you qualify will appear. You can sign-up by clicking on either the study name or **Timeslots Available**, and you will go to a new screen showing more information about the study, with a link to **View Time Slots for This Study**.
2. Click the **Sign-Up** button to schedule your time. You should then write down or print out the study information (name of study, place, time, name and contact information of experimenter, etc.) that appears in the final window. You will also receive an email reminder the day before the study time you have selected.

### **C. Canceling a Sign-Up (MUST be done if you know you will not show up)**

1. If you need to cancel a timeslot you have signed up for, you can do this from the **My Schedule and Credits** page. Choose the **My Schedule and Credits** option from top toolbar.
2. You will see listed all of the studies for which you have signed up, as well as those you have completed (see the Tracking Your Progress section below for more information).
3. Studies for which you have signed up that you are allowed to cancel will have a **Cancel** button next to them. If you cannot attend the study session you signed up for, you need to cancel it, either within the EMS system or by contacting the researcher directly prior to the start of the study. Keep in mind that there is a time limit before the study is to occur, when it is too late to cancel online. This restriction is listed at the bottom of the page (it can be 24 hours before your timeslot, or much less, such as just 2-4 hours). If you cannot cancel online please email or call the experimenter to

cancel. **IF YOU DO NOT CANCEL ONLINE, BY EMAIL, OR OVER THE PHONE BEFORE THE START OF THE STUDY YOU WILL BE COUNTED AS A “NO SHOW.”**

4. If you cancel the first part of a two-part study, the second part will also be cancelled. If you cancel the second part of a two-part study, the first part will *not* be cancelled, but you will need to ask the researcher to sign you up for the second part again, if you would like to participate in it at a later date. However, this is up to the researcher.

#### **D. Tracking Your Progress**

1. You may track your progress at any time by choosing the **My Schedule and Credits** option from the top toolbar.
3. When you view this page, you will see at the top a list of the number of credits you are required to earn, and how many you have earned so far. Below that, if you have signed up for any studies, those are listed as well. In the list of studies, you will see information about your credit status. If you have a no show for a study you will see that the status for that study is “failure to appear.”

Note: Your login session will expire after a certain period of inactivity, usually 20-60 minutes. This is done for security purposes. If this happens, you can always log in again. When you are finished using the system, it is better to explicitly log out, to prevent any problems that may arise if someone uses your computer before the session expires. This is especially important if you are using a public computer lab.

#### **E. Frequently Asked Questions**

*1. Immediately after I login, as soon as I click on any menu option, I am taken back to the login page and I see a message that my authentication has expired. What does this mean?*

Your web browser is not properly configured to accept cookies. You should turn on cookies in your web browser, use a different web browser (for example, try Firefox if you are currently using Internet Explorer), or try a different computer. Detailed instructions can be found if you go to the site and enter the URL “cookie\_help.asp” in place of “default.asp” in the address bar of the browser, when you are on the front page of the site.

*2. I participated in a study, but I have yet to receive credit. How do I receive credit?*

The researcher must grant you credit. This is usually done within a few days after your participation. If it has been some time and you have still not received credit, contact the researcher (his or her contact information should be listed when you click on the study name within the system).

*3. How do I change the email address where email notifications from the system are sent?*

You can change the email address where notifications are sent by going to **My Profile** and editing the email address you see there.

*4. I forgot where and when a study is that I signed up for. What do I do?*

If you forget when or where your study is, check your e-mail for the **EMS reminder**, or logon to EMS and check your appointments.

*5. Should I keep some sort of record of my participation and credits earned?*

The system will keep track of the credits you earn and your instructor will have access at the end of the semester to a report of credits earned by students enrolled in the class. It is a good idea, however, to occasionally print a personal copy of your credits earned and hold on to that printout as a back up to the system.

*6. I showed up for a study on time, and no one was there! What do I do?*

First refer to your information about that study session, to make sure you are in the right place at the right time. If you are, then wait at least 10 minutes for the researcher. If they are still not there at that point, you can leave and must send them an email within 24 hours, stating that you were present at the correct place and time for the study (refer to the study name). It is up to the researcher to try to reschedule with you.