Course GS-13   **SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY** (45 contact hours) (Second semester)
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Course Description
Social Psychology will provide you with an introduction to the field of social psychology. Social psychology is a subfield of the science of psychology that focuses on the perceptions, thoughts, feelings, and behaviors of individuals and groups within a social context. This class will give you a broad overview of the major theories and findings within social psychology.

Course Goals and Methodology
- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic scientific method underlying social psychological research.
- Demonstrate a general knowledge of the major theories and current findings within each of the research topics covered this semester.
- Recognize and appreciate how basic theory and experimental findings apply to everyday situations.

Course time will be split among lecture, discussion, and in-class activities. Students are expected to keep up with the readings and assignments in order to be responsive in class when discussion is called for and to contribute to in-class activities.

Syllabus

TOPIC	CONTENT
1. Introduction to Social Psychology	What is Social Psychology? How does it explain human behavior? In this chapter we will take off from these questions to introduce Social Psychology as a field, looking at its methodological possibilities and most sound findings.
2. The Social Self	What is the self? And how do we know our selves? To tackle these two questions, we will revise the contributions of the most relevant theories in the field of self-construction and self-evaluation.
3. Social Perception	How are our impressions formed? How do first impressions work? Do we always perceive the others consciously? Do we control how we process information? We will discuss how we "read" situations, people, elaborating impressions that reach our behaviors and our emotions.
First Exam	

4. Prejudice and Discrimination	When considering prejudice, we come across with two other interrelated concepts: stereotypes and discriminations. These three constructs form a triad that are beneath the process of intergroup conflict and contribute to the creation of negative positions, emotions, and behaviors of the ingroup.
5. Close Relations	What is love and how do we feel attracted to others? In this section, we explore these and more questions connected with love, need of affiliation and intimacy. The topic includes comments on non-verbal communication linked to close relations.
6. Group dynamics	What is a group? How do groups evolve? How can we produce efficiently in teams? We will explore the vast literature on psychology of groups in the context of community and organizations. It also includes comments on how virtual teams should be managed.
Second Exam	

Grading System (Evaluation)
Individual final mark in this course will be obtained by taking two non-cumulative, multiple-choice *tests*, and by designing a group dynamic game using a provided template. Exams will be based on lectures, in-class activities, and films/video clips. Tests are designed to gauge your understanding of the material, as well as your ability to analytically apply research findings to everyday situations. The *group dynamic game* will assess student´s ability to create with professional guidelines on how to positively influence groups or workteams.
Each part will account as it follows:
- Tests: 50%
- Group dynamic game: 50%

Basic bibliography
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