Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Course
Social Psychology (K001091)

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020
Roets, Arne
PP07 lecturer-in-charge
Van Hiel, Alain
PP07 co-lecturer

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020
A (semester 2) Dutch seminar: coached exercises 5.0 h
lecture 40.0 h

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020
Bachelor of Science in Sociology

Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
Social perception, social influence, attitudes, aggression, stereotypes and prejudice, multiculturalism, political world

Position of the course
This course is an introductory course aiming to provide students with insights in the main domains of social psychology and their relevance to sociology.

This course contributes to the following competence training in sociology:
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• Taking a reasoned and scientifically based stance on contemporary social phenomena and problems.
• Basic knowledge in the auxiliary sciences of sociology: biology, (social) psychology, economics, law, political science, communication sciences.
• Understanding of a specific auxiliary science of sociology.
• Understanding of social structures, institutional frameworks and processes of decision- and policy-making in political and/or social structures.
• Translating social phenomena and problems into a clear sociological problem.

Contents
INTRODUCTION
• People are social animals
• Social psychology: definition and related disciplines
• A brief history of social psychology
• Social psychology in the 21st century

PERSON PERCEPTION
• The raw materials of the first impression
• Attributions: from elements to dispositions
• Integration: from dispositions to impressions
• Confirmation biases: from impressions to reality

SOCIAL INFLUENCE
• Social influencing as an automatic process
• Conformity: majority and minority influence
• Compliance
• Obedience to authority

Study time 120 h
Contact hrs 45.0 h
Credits 4.0
Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

(Approved)
ATTITUDES
• Attitudes: basic findings
• Persuasion by communication
• Persuasion by behavior
• Advertisement and information

HELPING OTHERS
• Why do people help?
• When do people help?
• Who is likely to help?
• Interpersonal influences: Whom do people help?

AGGRESSION
• What is aggression?
• Cross-national and intracultural differences
• The origin of aggression
• Social psychological theories of aggression
• The impact of violent media
• Hidden violence

STEREOTYPES AND PREJUDICE
• The tentacles of prejudice
• The roots of prejudice
• Social categorization and stereotypes
• Sexism

THE DIVERSE SOCIETY
• Diversity
• Intergroup contact
• Intergroup contact practices
• Living together in school and at work
• Well-intended measures, media, laws and rules

TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE WORLD
• Self-interest versus a prosocial orientation
• Ecological behaviour
• Conflict resolution
• To have or to be?

THE POLITICAL WORLD
• Political knowledge and attitudes
• Ideological attitudes
• Personality profiles of politicians
• Terrorism

Initial competences
None

Final competences
1 To be able to independently and critically take note of, and examine, specialist literature and developments within the field of study.

2 To be able to apply principles from social psychology to social problems and realistic cases.

3 To be able to critically compare, integrate and combine knowledge contents from social psychology.

4 To be able to independently express, substantiate and assess findings from social psychology.

5 To be able to situate the social-psychological perspective in a social context.

6 To be able to situate (wo)man in his or her interpersonal, social and cultural context (for example, family, work, social context) and to adequately employ this information.

7 To be able to compare the social-psychological research paradigm with the perspective used in sociology.

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract
Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

(Approved)
Lecture, seminar: coached exercises

Extra information on the teaching methods
Lectures with demonstrations
‘Tutorials’ (4) per group providing deepening of understanding and rehearsal of lecture highlights.

Learning materials and price
MINERVA (with aims and slides for each chapter)
Estimated cost: 55.0 EUR

References

Course content-related study coaching
- During the intervals and before or after the lectures
- Interactive support using Minerva (documentation, demonstrations, feedback).
- Office hours: Dr. Monday 10am to 12am or by appointment

Evaluation methods
- end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
- Written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
- Written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake
- in case of permanent evaluation
- examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods
- Written exam with 40 multiple choice questions testing insight and application of knowledge, in keeping with the targeted final competences.

Calculation of the examination mark
- Periodic assessment (100%)