



Psyc 206: Introduction to Social Psychology

6-Week Summer Session
CRN 51025

Dear Student,

Thank you for your interest in my Distance Education class! Before you consider enrolling, please read through all of the following information and make sure that you are willing and able to make all the demands of this course.

If you enroll, I will email you (through your mycuesta email account), a few days prior to the start of the term, information including the Syllabus and a Getting Started document. (There will be NO face-to-face orientation!) Once the term begins, I will be communicating with you primarily through [Canvas](#) so be sure to check this site on a regular basis.

You will need to login to [Canvas](#) during the first day of the course (the syllabus will include instructions on how to login). (Though you may be able to access our [Canvas](#) site before the first day of the course, the site will not be ready until the first day of the term.) If you have any problems logging in to Canvas during the first week of the term, email me immediately. (For a quick reference sheet to Canvas, [click here](#). And technical support for Canvas can be found [here](#).)

There are a few additional things to consider before enrolling in my class. First, this course demands that you are self-motivated. It is your responsibility to keep on top of the reading assignments, to log-on to the course site frequently, to turn in the required work on time, and to take the examinations during the time period specified (you will have a 48-hour window to take exams—more on this later). Thus, I recommend this course only to those who are well organized and self-disciplined.

Second, this course requires a large amount of reading and a significant time commitment – expect to spend at least 9 hours per week dedicated to this course. Much of the instruction in this course will be coming to you in written form, videos, links, and through the discussions. If you are a quick reader and someone who retains the material you have read, this won't be a problem for you. However, if you are a slow reader, or don't retain information you've read, this course could be quite difficult. Only you can evaluate whether this type of course is for you, but I urge you to take this [self-assessment](#) to determine whether you have the learning style that is compatible with an online course. If that self-assessment survey does NOT describe you, then taking this class online is NOT for you and I strongly suggest that you drop the online class and enroll in a traditional classroom section.

Regards, Katy

Contact Information:

Instructor: Katy Dittmer (previously Katy Neidhardt)

E-mail: katherine_dittmer@cuesta.edu

Voice Mail: 546-3100 Ext 2683

Office: SLO campus, room 6209



Instructor Contact Expectations

Please note that email is the best way to get in contact with me (I do not check my voicemail often!). I will make every attempt to answer your emails within 24 hours. I expect all email correspondence to be presented in a formal manner, meaning that you have a subject line for the email, you address me in the email, and you use correct capitalization, punctuation and sentence structure. **Sloppy, unedited, and informal emails will not be read.** Federal law also prevents me from having a discussion of your course grade via email.

Course Environment:

This online course will be using the Web-based Learning Management System, Canvas, as the method to disseminate information. Canvas provides the framework for the course including PowerPoint presentations, data files, the tools to receive and send course materials, and a grade book. Using the communication tools, you can communicate using email, and you can share materials and ideas with other course participants via discussion forums and groups.

Computer and Class Requirements:

- You must have access to a computer
- Email account
- Reliable Internet connection. You will also need to have a backup plan in case your internet provider or computer goes down.
- It is also essential that you understand the basic concepts of email, web navigation and online communication to succeed in this course.
- Must obtain the following textbooks prior to the first day of class.

Technical Support:

Cuesta students are encouraged to direct all technical support inquiries to suport@my.cuesta.edu. If you are having issues with Canvas, you should contact the Canvas Support Hotline at (877)921-7680, or click on the help button on the Canvas Navigation to report a problem. If you are having difficulty viewing the course or logging in, it may be because you are not using the correct url: <https://cuesta.instructure.com/> or you are using your phone or using an unsupported browser. Canvas is best accessed through a desktop or laptop computer, using Firefox or Chrome. This may solve the problem! Please review the [browser requirements and minimum computer specifications](#) here.

Required textbook (ebook or hardcopy fine):

Gilovich, Keltner, Chen, & Nisbett (2016). *Social psychology* (4th Ed.). New York: W. W. Norton & Co., Inc.

Technology tools:

- A working Cuesta e-mail account, access to [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#). (download for free [here](#)), Quicktime and the Internet (and a back-up plan if your internet access or computer go down).
- Basic computer experience
- For information on the minimum hardware and software requirements for Canvas, please click [here](#).

You should also Review the [Canvas Quick Reference for Students Online](#).

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the basic concepts, theories and vocabulary necessary to the understanding of social psychology.
2. Analyze and evaluate the basic theoretical perspectives and research methods utilized by psychologists in the study of social behavior.
3. Apply basic theoretical perspectives and research methods in the scientific analysis of their own as well as other people's social behavior and cognition.
4. Describe and analyze cognitive and social influences on various types of inter-personal and inter-group relations including attraction, altruism, aggression, prejudice, sexism, racism, discrimination, social conflict and conflict resolution.

Course Policies

Drop Policy

Students who fail to log in on the first day of the class (without prior approval from me) will be dropped. Students who fail to take an exam during the 48-hour exam window may be dropped as well. Otherwise it is your responsibility to drop yourself!

Please review the [campus add/drop policy](#).

Academic Honesty:

You are expected to complete your own assignments and exams. If you are caught cheating, both you and the other students involved will receive an F.

What do we mean by “cheating?”

- Sharing answers with another student to complete assignments or exams
- Submitting someone else files as your own
- Submitting either your assignments or another student’s files from a previous semester
- Helping someone or receiving help on an exam
- Getting someone else to take your exams
- Using resources such as the book while taking an exam.

What happens if you cheat?

Both you and the other students involved will receive an F on the assignment, exam, and/or for the entire course.

For more information, see the [Student Code of Conduct](#) in the General College Catalog.

Accommodations:

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WHO ARE REQUESTING ACCOMMODATIONS SHOULD USE THE FOLLOWING CUESTA PROCEDURE:

1. Contact the [DSPS office](#). (805) 546-3148 dspinfo@cuesta.edu
2. Present documentation of disability for review by a disabilities specialist
3. Discuss options for support through DSPS
4. Present a signed DSPS authorization for accommodation to your instructor

Regular Effective Contact Policy:

Regular and effective contact between the instructor and the students will be achieved by some of the following means: 1) Weekly online discussions with appropriate instructor participation; 2) Email, phone or messaging to individual students; 3) Weekly announcements to students; 4) Weekly constructive feedback on student work; 5) Instructor office hours will be available by individual appointment; and 6) Weekly Instructor prepared lectures.