

# Welcome to Psyc 220-741

## Social Psychology

With Corey Fenstemacher, Psy.D.

### Course Description

This is an 8-week, asynchronous online course. The course includes the study of how the behaviors, thoughts, and feelings of the individual are influenced by the presence of other persons. Topics such as obedience to authority; attitude formation and influence; altruism and aggression; the self in context; group processes and prejudice will be discussed. In addition, various empirical research methods will be examined and applied to these topics.

The purpose of this course is to develop the practice of thinking at a contextual level rather than an individual level. The purpose is also to enhance the awareness of self and others. Both are accomplished through reflection and analysis.

### Required Textbook

Please be sure to purchase / rent the first required reading prior to the beginning of the term as the course requires weekly reading assignments from it.

1. Aronson, E., Wilson, T. D., Akert, R. M., & Sommers, S.R. (2023). Social psychology (11th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson. ISBN: 9780137633647 Available from the bookstore
2. Smith, K.K. (2003). *Yearning for home in troubled times*. Pilgrim Press. ISBN: 9780829815368 – file will be provided in Brightspace
3. Alderfer, C. (2010). *The practice of organizational diagnosis: Theory and methods*. Oxford University Press, Incorporated.
  - Abigail's Story pp. xxi-2
  - Chapter 6: The Five Laws of Embedded Intergroup Relations TheoryThis book is available online through the Marist library and link will be provided.

### Required Viewing

Please be sure to have access to viewing the following films in their entirety:

1. Alvarez, K.P. (2015). *The Stanford Prison Experiment*. United States: IFC Films. **To be viewed in week #1.**
2. LaGravenese, R. (2007). *Freedom Writers*. Paramount Pictures.



### About the Instructor

I started my career in sales in advertising. My second career began when I returned to school to earn a doctorate in Organizational Psychology. There, I discovered a passion for instruction and facilitation, particularly working with adult audiences. I have worked for global consulting firms and have facilitated group dynamics courses internationally. I have also held positions within the Human Resource department of Time Inc./Time Warner. For almost 20 years, I have been teaching adult college students, managers and executives. My favorite thing about teaching is that no matter how many times I teach the same course, or the same students, I learn something new from each group. The course is always different because no group of students is the same – *I hope you will appreciate this idea more fully after this course*. I'm originally from the Utica area. My husband and I spend time between Brooklyn and the Cooperstown area with our two 9 year old rescue cats. In my free time, I consult to business leaders, serve on Boards, co-facilitate Group Dynamics workshops and volunteer with animal welfare organizations.

I love the material in this course and hope you will enjoy it as much as I do! Looking forward to getting to know you in our classroom.

Corey

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