

University of North Texas at Dallas

Spring 2024 Syllabus

Social Psychological Theory in Close Relationships • PSYC 3370 • 3 hrs.			
Department of	Sociology & Psychology	School of	Liberal Arts & Sciences
Instructor Name:	Milos Lack, M.S. (<i>he/him/his</i>)		
Office Location:	FH 302A		
Office Phone:	N/A		
Email:	Milos.Lack@untDallas.edu		
Office Hours:	Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11:30am-12:30pm, 2:30pm-3:30pm. Virtual appointments via Microsoft Teams and Zoom are available by request. If you send an email, I will respond within 24 hours on weekdays and within 48 hours on weekends. I will make myself available to meet in person, individually, or as a group whenever a need arises outside of normal office hours. Note: All written communication will be delivered via e-mail or Canvas.		
Classroom Location:	Founders Hall, Room 307		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Tuesday/Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.		
Course Catalog Description:	Draws on psychology, family studies, sociology, communication studies, and neuroscience, is a comprehensive and current overview of relationship science.		
Prerequisites:	General Psychology, PSYC 1630 or 1650		
Required Text:	Miller, R. (2021). <i>Intimate Relationships</i> (9th ed.). New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Education. Print ISBN: 978-1260804263		
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-1616 web: http://www.untDallas.edu/library email: library@untDallas.edu UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652 web: http://www.untDallas.edu/bookstore e-mail: untDallas@bkstr.com		
Supported Browsers:	Getting Help with Canvas: Canvas 24/7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-668-8634 Canvas Help Resources: Web: Canvas Student Guide https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701 For additional assistance, contact Student Assistance (Distance Learning): Founders Hall, Rm 124 phone: (972)338-5580		
Chrome 67 & 68 Firefox 60 & 61 Flash 29, 30 (for audio/video) Internet Explorer 11 Edge 41, 42 Respondus Lockdown Browser Safari 10, 11 Supported Devices: iPhone Android			

<p>Chromebook (Tablet users can use the Canvas app)</p> <p>Screen Readers:</p> <p>VoiceOver (Safari) JAWS (Internet Explorer) NVDA (Firefox) <i>Note: There is no screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome</i></p>	<p>email: distancelearning@untDallas.edu</p> <p>If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, make sure to keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress.</p> <p>If you have a course-related issue (course content, assignment troubles, quiz difficulties) please contact me during office hours or by email.</p>
Course Goals or Overview:	
	<p>This course will examine a broad range of topics relevant to close relationships. The course will begin with an overview of the building blocks of relationships, including influences such as culture, personal experience, and social interactions. Students will then explore factors that contribute to personal attraction and theories of social cognitions in relationships. Students will examine forms of communication and levels of interdependency, friendship, and love. Relationships aspects such as sexuality, stress, conflict, power, and violence will be explored. Finally, students will explore relationship dissolution and loss of relationships, including ways to maintain and repair relationships. Various levels of empirical research will be explored through writing, student activities, class discussions, and critical thinking exercises.</p>
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to:	
1	<p>Demonstrate a working knowledge of the fundamentals of close relationships; intimacy and the influence of culture, experience, individual differences, human nature, and personal interactions. Students will discuss these topics in the framework of relevant research studies in the social sciences.</p>
2	<p>Explain the role of interpersonal attraction, and how it is developed through proximity, physical attractiveness, reciprocity, and similarity. Students will also describe how first impressions and social cognitions contribute to attraction.</p>
3	<p>Describe various forms of communication, verbal, non-verbal, and dysfunctional forms. Students will describe how relationships are maintained and enhanced, and what happens when relationships end through break-up, loss, or growing apart.</p>
4	<p>Explain how friendships develop, including types of friendships across the lifespan, and related friendship difficulties. Students will explain how love is developed in various forms of relationships, and how it can evolve into a romantic relationship, including theories of sexuality and sexual behaviors.</p>
5	<p>Identify the factors associated with strain on relationships; hurt feelings, ostracism, jealousy, deception, lying, betrayal, conflict, power, and violence. Students will also demonstrate how forgiveness impacts individuals and relationships.</p>

COURSE SCHEDULE

All in-class assignments will be completed via written or discussion-based format and will be completed in-class the day of the assignment. All other assignments and exams are due by 11:59pm of the assigned date and should be submitted via Canvas. The schedule is subject to change, as necessary. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated via email or Canvas announcement. Additional readings and activities may be added, these will be noted in Canvas.

Weekly Topics	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 1	Jan. 16	Jan. 18
Chapter 1: The Building Blocks of Relationships	Syllabus Day	In-Class Assignment 1
Week 2	Jan. 23	Jan. 25
Chapter 2: Research Methods	In-Class Assignment 2	In-Class Assignment 3
Week 3	Jan. 30	Feb. 1
Chapter 3: Attraction	In-Class Assignment 4	In-Class Assignment 5
Week 4	Feb. 6	Feb. 8
Chapter 4: Social Cognition	In-Class Assignment 6	In-Class Assignment 7
Week 5	Feb. 13	Feb. 15
Chapter 5: Communication	In-Class Assignment 8	Exam 1 (due 11:59pm via Canvas)
Week 6	Feb. 20	Feb. 22
Chapter 6: Interdependency	In-Class Assignment 9	In-Class Assignment 10
Week 7	Feb. 27	Feb. 29
Chapter 7: Friendship	In-Class Assignment 11	In-Class Assignment 12
Week 8	Mar. 5	Mar. 7
Chapter 8: Love	In-Class Assignment 13	In-Class Assignment 14
	Mar. 12	Mar. 14
	Spring Break, No Class	Spring Break, No Class
Week 9	Mar. 19	Mar. 21
Chapter 9: Sexuality	In-Class Assignment 15	In-Class Assignment 16
Week 10	Mar. 26	Mar. 28
Chapter 10: Stresses & Strains	In-Class Assignment 17	In-Class Assignment 18
Week 11	Apr. 2	Apr. 4

Chapter 11: Conflict	In-Class Assignment 19	Exam 2 (due 11:59pm via Canvas)
Week 12	Apr. 9	Apr. 11
Chapter 12: Power & Violence	In-Class Assignment 20	In-Class Assignment 21
Week 13	Apr. 16	Apr. 18
Chapter 13: The Dissolution & Loss of Relationships	In-Class Assignment 22	No Class – Conference
Week 14	Apr. 23	Apr. 25
Chapter 14: Maintaining & Repairing Relationships	In-Class Assignment 23	In-Class Assignment 24
Week 15	Apr. 30	May 2
Chapter 14: Maintaining & Repairing Relationships	In-Class Assignment 25	In-Class Assignment 26 Film Critique (due by 11:59pm via Canvas)
Week 16	May 7	May 9
	Exam 3 (due 11:59pm via Canvas)	

GRADES

It will be your responsibility to monitor the progress of your course grade by using the grading table provided below. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions about how to calculate your grade. You can use the table provided below to track points you've earned for each assignment. If you have concerns regarding your grade at any point, please contact me as soon as it arises. Also, it is your responsibility to contact me as soon as possible if you are having difficulty understanding the course material.

Final grades will be determined as follows:

ASSIGNMENTS	TOTAL POINTS	YOUR POINTS
Exam 1	25	
Exam 2	25	
Exam 3	25	
Film Critique	12	
In-Class Assignments/Participation	13	
TOTAL:	100	

GRADE SCALE

Final grades will be determined as follows:

PERCENTAGE	POINT SCALE
A = 90% and above	A = 900 - 1000 points
B = 80 to 89.9%	B = 800 - 899 points
C = 70 to 79.9%	C = 700 - 799 points
D = 60 to 69.9%	D = 600 - 699 points

F = 59.9% or below	F = 0 - 599 points
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University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see Disability Services Office www.untDallas.edu/disability. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDisability@untDallas.edu or at Building 2, room 204.

Canvas Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is also provided [https:// www.canvaslms.com/accessibility](https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility).

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy

Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy

All assignments will be administered via Canvas. For additional information on final grade percentages and calculations, please see the grade table provided above.

In-Class Participation: Students will be frequently asked to participate in miscellaneous in-class assignments (e.g., group discussions, brief writing summaries, etc.) that will be described, detailed, and collected during class. Students will receive points for completing these assignments, and they cannot be made up if one misses class. These activities will require critical thinking or applications of course topics and will be used to start the class discussion. The purpose of class participation is to aid in processing material, to promote class discussion, and to emphasize the practical applications of some of the

concepts learned in class materials and in your readings. Students will NOT be able to make up these daily assignments.

Film Critique: Students will be required to complete one film critique. A list of educational films relating to course topics will be provided. These films will be available for check out in the UNT-D Library. Students will be required to write a 3-5 page (not including title page and reference pages), essay-style analysis of a film related to the course topic of close relationships. Students should demonstrate an exceptional understanding of discussed close relationships principles, and use original sources in order to provide facts not identified in the text, lecture, or during in- class discussions. The paper should be formatted using current APA conventions (e.g., double-spaced, one-inch margins all around, black ink, 12-point Times New Roman font). This assignment is graded on the quality and depth of both the writing and the information provided. Additional instructions and supplemental materials will be provided via Canvas.

Make-Up Assignments: No make-up activities are allowed without proper documentation (e.g., doctor's note, auto- mobile accident report, funeral announcement, etc.). Additionally, make-ups will not be allowed until your documentation has been verified, which means that documentation must provide a contact name and number. Exceptions will be made for legitimate emergencies at the instructor's discretion (e.g., illness, death in the family), but only if you contact me immediately. Computer problems, like crashes or lost/corrupted files, are not acceptable emergencies. Be sure to make back-up files of your work. Legitimate make-up work will only be allowed within one week of the missed assignment. If arrangements are not made in a timely manner, I will need documentation (e.g., hospital notice, etc.) explaining the delay. Otherwise, make-ups will not be allowed beyond one week. Since participation must involve classmates, missed participation cannot be made up once a week has ended.

Exam Policy

We will have three exams throughout the duration of the course. Assessments are designed to test your knowledge of assigned readings. Exams will cover material from the texts, assigned readings, lectures, and class discussions, and will typically consist of multiple choice, short answer, and/or essay questions. Each assessment will be administered via Canvas. Assessment details (availability and due dates) will be provided in the syllabus calendar and in Canvas.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to UNT Dallas' Student Code of Academic Integrity for complete provisions of this code:

www.untdallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of an- other person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Classroom Policies

Classroom Policies

1. Since discussion is an essential part of this course, please come to class prepared and on time.
2. Please turn off your cell phones and pagers.
3. Do not come into class late or leave early.
4. You are responsible for tracking your own grade progress (see course requirements and grading scheme to help you keep track of available points). If you have questions about your grade come to office hours, make an appointment, or contact me via email. Please do not make specific inquiries about your grade in class.
5. No late work will be accepted unless you have a valid, documented excuse (documented illness or death in the family). If you miss an assignment and you have a valid, documented excuse, notify me as soon as possible via email so we can arrange a reasonable time for you to make up the missed assignment.
6. All work must be turned in during class. I will not accept emailed work unless you have a valid, documented excuse.

Attendance and Participation Policy

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible for notifying the instructor if they will be missing class, and they must share their reason for missing class. Students are also responsible for making up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes if class is missed.

To get the most out of this class your attendance is required.

- An attendance sign-in sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class. Sign your name in the sheet to document your attendance. Failure to sign the sheet will be considered an absence.
- Students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of this class. Students are also expected to be on time for all scheduled class meetings. Students who come to class late will be counted as absent. **After 3 absences, 5 overall points will be deducted for every class period missed.**
- If you have a documented excuse for your absence let me know as soon as possible and bring it to class. A valid, documented excuse consists of a doctor's note documenting your illness or death in the family.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

Technology Assistance

In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus.

If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Student Assistance (Distance Learning) at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721>
- Canvas Instructure Supported & Unsupported Operating Systems
<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/>