



Course Description

SOP2002 | Social Psychology | 3.00 credits

This course combines a knowledge of psychology and sociology, in an interdisciplinary approach to the study of human interaction. Main themes deal with the nature of attitudes, how attitudes may be changed, the processes of interaction and the nature of group structures.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the foundations of social psychology by:

1. Defining social psychology as a subfield of psychology
2. Examining historical events and perspectives in social psychology
3. Describing the relationship between social psychology and other disciplines

Competency 2: The student will identify social psychology as a science by:

1. Describing the scientific method and how it relates to social psychological research
2. Describing research methods employed in the field of social psychology
3. Identifying current and previous research studies in the field of social psychology
4. Identifying ethical codes and guidelines that govern research in social psychology
5. Analyzing hallmark research studies in social psychology that were considered unethical

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate knowledge of basic human motives and behaviors by:

1. Describing the relationship between attitudes and behavior
2. Analyzing the roles of introspection and self-evaluation as they relate to self-concept
3. Describing the role of emotions on an individual's thoughts, feelings and behaviors
4. Examining the role of situational factors on individuals' perceptions, cognitive processes and behaviors
5. Identifying and describing reasons for prosocial behaviors and aggressive behaviors
6. Analyzing cultural influences on cognition and behavior

Competency 4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of group dynamics and the influence of an individual by:

1. Describing theories involving reasons why individuals join groups
2. Identifying factors involved in conformity
3. Examining the influence of the group on an individual's cognition and behavior
4. Examining the influence of culture on group dynamics
5. Analyzing the influence of a group on an individual's participation and performance

Competency 5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the role of social psychology and social problems by:

1. Analyzing the role of social influence on attitudes
2. Analyzing factors involved in the development of prejudice and discrimination
3. Analyzing factors involved in attraction
4. Describing risk factors associated with violence and aggression

General Education Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information