

## Social Psychology (H002115)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 4.0**

**Study time 120 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026**

A (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

lecture

seminar

practical

**Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026**

Van Hiel, Alain

PP07

lecturer-in-charge

Roets, Arne

PP07

co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026**

[Bachelor of Science in Psychology\(main subject Clinical Psychology\)](#)

**crdts**

4

**offering**

A

[Bachelor of Science in Psychology\(main subject Education\)](#)

4

A

[Bachelor of Science in Psychology\(main subject Personnel Management and Industrial Psychology\)](#)

4

A

[Bachelor of Science in Psychology\(main subject Theoretical and Experimental Psychology\)](#)

4

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences](#)

4

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy](#)

4

A

[Bachelor of Science in Psychology \(Joint Section\)](#)

4

A

**Teaching languages**

Dutch

**Keywords**

self-concept, self-esteem, person perception, non verbal communication, attribution, cognitive dissonance, conformity, obedience,, attraction, interpersonal relationship, helping behaviour, altruism, aggression, law psychology, political psychology

**Position of the course**

This course is part of Bloc 2: Models in Psychology. Bloc 2 focusses on understanding, explaining and predicting human behavior. It is an introductory course within the field of social psychology.

**Contents**

This course covers following topics:

- defining social psychology, a brief history of social psychology and an overview of future developments;
- introduction to various forms of empirical research on social cognition, social interaction and social influence. Discussion of the role of ethics and values in social psychological research;
- theories and research about the self-concept, self-esteem and self-presentation;
- introductory overview of person perception, nonverbal communication, attribution theory and

- integration of information;
- discussion of various forms of bias such as cognitive heuristics and confirmation bias;
- review of theories on social influence: conformity, compliance and blind obedience.
- interpersonal relationships, importance of interpersonal relationships, attraction, close relationships;
- helping others, motivations, situations and dispositions;
- theory and empirical studies of aggression; impact of violent media
- introduction to social psychological applications in law
- introduction to social psychological applications in politics

### Initial competences

### Final competences

- 1 To be able to relate and situate social psychological concepts, and to be able to demonstrate their implications
- 2 To know the recent developments in the domain of social psychology.
- 3 To gain insight into the interaction between social psychology and societal debate
- 4 To know the possibilities of applying social psychology to law.
- 5 To gain insight in social psychological research.
- 6 To know how a social psychological experiment is conducted.

### Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

### Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

### Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture, Practical

### Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures

Digital seminars including 1. Obedience and Milgram, 2. Aggression, & 3. Profiling.

Practicum: participation in one or two social psychological studies (depending on duration) and discussion. Students have the possibility to make a replacement task.

### Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: social Psychology (3rd edition)

Indicative price: € 60

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Author : Alain Van Hiel & Arne Roets

ISBN : 978-9-40148-572-2

Number of Pages : 736

Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly

### References

- Devine, P. & Plant, A. (Eds.). (2012). *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology* (Vol. 45). Elsevier.
- Hewstone, M., & Stroebe, W. (2011). *European Review of Social Psychology* (Vol 21). Psychology Press.
- Hogg, M. A., & Cooper, J. (Eds.). (2007). *The Sage Handbook of Social Psychology: Concise Student Edition*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Kruglanski, A. W., & Higgins, E. T. (Eds.). (2007). *Social Psychology: Handbook of Basic Principles* (2nd ed.). New York: Guilford Press.
- Social Psychology Network. <http://www.socialpsychology.org/>
- Van Hiel, A., Onraet, E, Bostyn, D H, Stadeus, J., Haesevoets, T., Van Assche, J., & Roets, A. (2020). A meta-analytic integration of research on the relationship between right-wing ideological attitudes and aggressive tendencies. *European Review of Social Psychology*, 31, 183-221.

### Course content-related study coaching

- During the intervals and before or after the lecture
- Interactive support using Ufora (documentation, demonstrations, feedback).

- Office hours: Tassilo Tissot, Monday 10am to 12am.

**Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Participation

**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is not possible

**Extra information on the examination methods**

Periodic evaluation: multiple choice questions assessing knowledge and application of the acquired knowledge in novel situations. Examination of the periodic evaluation during the second examination period is possible.

Permanent evaluation through an exercise that is linked to experiment participation. It is possible to make a replacement task.

**Calculation of the examination mark**

The permanent evaluation accounts for 5% (1/20) and the periodic evaluation accounts for 95% (19/20).

The score on the permanent evaluation is only added if the student passes for the periodic evaluation.

**Facilities for Working Students**

Possibility of feedback by appointment during and after office hours