INTERGROUP RELATIONS

PSYCHOLOGY 993
Spring, 1997 - University of Kansas

Instructor: Dr. Nyla Branscombe
611 Fraser Hall
Office Hours: Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
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Class Meetings: Wednesday 1:00 p.m.-3:50 p.m. in 122 Fraser Hall

Course Readings:


There is also a set of articles (9 readings) that can be purchased from the main psychology office for xeroxing costs.

Overview:

The purpose of this course is to acquaint you with the various theoretical problems and perspectives that have been developed in order to understand the development and maintenance of conflict between social groups. Initially, we will emphasize those perspectives that have been provided by European social psychologists. In addition, towards the end of the course, we will consider when people come to see themselves and their group as victims of social discrimination and how they attempt to cope with that plight, as well as the various emotions that may be experienced on behalf of one's group.

Requirements:

Each student will be required to prepare a research proposal based on some aspect or topic covered in class. During the last class session (April 30), students will present the background and basic notion that they will be exploring in the proposal so that they can receive feedback on it. In addition, the topic and readings for four weeks during the semester have been left open. This is so that each student (hopefully) can select an issue of interest to them and develop the readings for the class. The instructor will assist you with this process, when it is your turn. You will note that the student-selected topics will be the focus of class discussion during the two weeks preceding and the two weeks following Spring Break.
CLASS SCHEDULE

Date / Topic and Readings

January 15 / Introduction

January 22 / Historical critique
Oakes et al. (1994). Chapters 2, 3, & 5 (pp.12-79; 104-126)

January 29 / Self-categorization theory
Oakes et al. (1994). Chapters 4, 6, & 8 (pp. 80-103; 127-159; 186-213)

February 5 / Stereotypes and social influence
Haslam (1997). In Spears et al. volume. Chapter 6 (pp. 119-143)
Oakes et al. (1997). In Spears et al. volume. Chapter 3 (pp. 51-71)

February 12 / Stereotypes as explanations
Yzerbyt et al. (1997). In Spears et al. volume. Chapter 2 (pp. 20-50).
Worchel et al. (1997). In Spears et al. volume. Chapter 4 (pp. 72-93)

February 19 / Role of group identification
Ellemers et al. (1997). In Spears et al. volume. Chapter 9 (pp. 208-235)

February 26 / Role of self-esteem
Long et al. (1997). In Spears et al. volume. Chapter 13 (pp. 296-317).

March 5 / Intragroup processes

March 12 / Student Selected Topic

March 19 / Student Selected Topic

March 26 / Spring Break - No Class

April 2 / Student Selected Topic

April 9 / Student Selected Topic

April 16 / Group-based emotions


April 23 / Perceiving Discrimination


April 30 / Final Research Presentations

May 8 / Written Research Proposals Due