

Cyberpsychology: STS359452

Online Canvas

Professor Laura Pople

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Course Description

Foundations of Cyberpsychology is an introduction to the study of the bi-directional effects of the internet, cyberspace, and other media on the psychology of individuals and groups. In this course, we will frame our discussions about cyberpsychology upon a foundation of the basic tenets of psychology. This will give you the context to explore the similarities and differences between the cyberworld and the real world. You will analyze and understand actual online social dynamics, interactions, information processing and the implications to human behavior of an environment in which human's engagement continues to morph in response to technological advances and in turn, those technological advances are informed by the impact humans have with the technology they engage with.

Course Delivery: ONLINE

We will use Canvas as a base for this course. Specifically, each week you will be responsible for completing a module which will include any of the following: readings, videos, written assignments, quizzes and other activities.

During the second week of class you will be assigned to a work group that you will participate in at times during the semester. When indicated, your group will work asynchronously on projects, using online tools that allow for shared workspaces and communication. For these sessions, each group member will submit the product of your group's work efforts. Sometimes, you will be expected to work together as a group using zoom and record your work product that you deliver within zoom.

You will also be encouraged to engage with your group mates, and class members through discussion posts each week. Your group will be expected to submit work product after each session that will be graded. As a consequence, your grade for the class is heavily influenced by the activities you work on with your group and your classmates.

Expectations for Technology Use

In this class, you are expected to collaborate on group assignments as part of the learning experience. This group work will involve researching topics, creating materials, and building presentations. You will get experience using the following tools:

- Zoom (zoom.com)
- Canva (canva.com)
- Powerpoint
- Lumen5 (lumen5.com)

You are also expected to use online collaboration tools like google suite.

You may not use generative AI tools to create written submissions for any homework assignments or in quizzes or exams.

Course Learning Objectives

Once you have completed this course, you can expect to be able to:

- Recognize the relevance of cyberpsychology in your life
- Compare and contrast the psychological underpinnings of the real world and the cyberworld
- Demonstrate the applied nature of cyberpsychology
- Critically evaluate statements made about cyber events
- Explain how scientific research addresses questions about behavior in the real world and the cyberworld
- Apply the scientific method to observations about phenomena in the cyberworld
- Effectively use the tools of cyberland
- Enhance your collaboration skills

Course Technology

- This course requires students to have access to a Windows 10 PC or Mac computer (desktop or laptop) with Wi-Fi connectivity.
- We will use Canvas as a base for this course. Specifically, each week you will be responsible for completing a module which will include any of the following: readings, videos, written assignments, quizzes and other activities.

Required Course Materials

The following materials are required for this course.

- All material and assignments included in the weekly postings on Canvas for each module

Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: Cyberpsychology's Roots

Week 3: The Research Behind Cyberpsychology

Week 4: Contemporary Psychology

Week 5: Information Processing, Attention, and Higher Order Cognitive Processes

Week 6: Social Cognition: Self, Identity, Impression Management, and Emotions

Week 7: Attitudes and Social Influence

Week 8: Our Developing Selves

Week 9: Midterms

Week 10: Prosocial Relationships, Online Relationships, and Online Groups

Week 11: Dating and Sexual Behavior

Week 12: Cheers to Your Health

Week 13: How and Where Words Can Take Us

Week 14: Esports and Online Gaming

Week 15: The Darker Side of the Cyberworld

Final Projects

Grading Rubrics

Written Assignment Grading Criteria	% of points	Example for	Example for
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	for each assignment item	20-point assignment	50-point assignment
<i>Assignment met and facts or concepts covered</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The/each question was fully answered. The student addressed key points for the assignment correctly. The assignments' instructions were followed. 	40%	8 pts possible	20 pts possible
<i>Logic, organization, depth of response, and references</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student communicated his/her response in a thoughtful and thorough manner. Information was presented logically. The response was supported by appropriate references (as needed). 	30%	6 pts possible	12 pts possible
<i>Writing, grammar, and formatting</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student used clear, concise, and error-free writing. Student adhered to rules of grammar usage, spelling, and punctuation. Student used correct APA formatting of citations. 	30%	6 pts possible	12 pts possible
<i>Timeliness</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignments turned in late but within a week of the due date are penalized 10%. Assignments turned in more than a week after the due date but within four weeks of the due date are penalized 20%. Assignments turned in more than a month after they are due but no later than the last class period are penalized 50% 			

Course Grading Criteria

- A: 91-100
- B+: 87-89
- B: 80-86
- C+: 77-79
- C: 70-76
- D: 60-69
- F: 0-59

POLICIES

University Policy on Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating (which includes plagiarism) is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at:

<http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>. (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.)

Please note that it is the instructor's professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing

or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu.