Instructor: Dr. Zhansheng Chen
Office: The Jockey Club Tower 665
Office Hour: Tuesday 4-5pm
Email: chenz@hku.hk

Tutor: Mr. Lance Wai Lap Wong
Office: The Jockey Club Tower 617
Office Hour: Friday 330pm – 430pm
Email: lancewlw@hku.hk

Lectures: Thursday 10:30-12:20pm; CPD 2.45
Tutorial Sessions: 1) Wed 230pm – 320pm
2) Wed 430pm – 520pm

Course Objectives
This course will examine a number of major research topics in social psychology. Students are expected to gain substantial knowledge of the field, including major concepts, theories, empirical findings, and controversies. Students will also have the opportunity to communicate critically and creatively about these theories and findings.

Learning Outcomes
1. More knowledgeable about current research in social psychology;
2. More critical and sensible in interpreting and communicating research reports;
3. Better at developing research questions and testable hypotheses;
4. Better at coming up research plans to address research questions;
5. Able to write coherent research proposals.

Course Requirements
Discussion questions: Participation is essential for this class. Students will be randomly assigned into five discussion groups (A, B, C, D, and E) at the beginning of the semester. You should read all the main readings, and be particularly familiar with one of them. Each group should make sure that they have at least two experts on every single article. You should come up with ONE discussion question based on the readings and submit your question to Lance via Moodle by 5pm on Tuesday each week. The purpose of this assignment is to prepare students for the group discussions during the lecture.

Class participation:
During each lecture, two presentation readings will be presented by students. In addition, students will be engaged in two stages of discussions. Towards the end of each lecture, one group will be selected to share their thoughts with the rest of the class. Further, by 5pm on Wednesday of the following week, this chosen group need
to submit their comments/thoughts (single-spaced, no more than 2 pages), which will be distributed to the whole class.

Research proposal: Students are expected to come up with a testable hypothesis addressing issues related to the topics covered in the class. Students are required to submit a 2 page, single-spaced proposal outline by 5pm, Oct 25. It should state clearly the research question, hypothesis, and research method. Before turning in the final proposal, each student will have a chance to present his/her proposal to the class.

The final research proposal should be submitted by 5pm, Dec 6. This proposal should be double-spaced and stapled. It should not exceed 12 pages, excluding title page, abstract, and references. Please use the style described in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th edition).

Grading System
Weekly questions 10%
Class participation 30%
  - Reading presentation 5%
  - Discussions 10%
  - Group presentation 5%
  - Reaction comments/thoughts 10%
Research proposal 40%
  - Outline 5%
  - Proposal presentation 10%
  - Final paper 25%
Tutorial sessions 18%
Departmental research seminar 2%

Important notes
Late assignments will be penalized by 30% of maximum point for each day of delay (including Saturday and Sunday).

Plagiarism: A hardcopy and a softcopy are required for all written assignments. The softcopy will be checked for plagiarism against a database of articles, books, webpages, and essays submitted by students at HKU and other universities. No credit will be given for an assignment that contains plagiarized materials. Further penalties will also be applied. These penalties include a zero mark for participation in course tutorials and a zero mark for the course. Plagiarism will also be reported to the Department/Faculty Office/University Disciplinary Committee for consideration of possible disciplinary action.

Academic honesty: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any student who engages in any form of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on exams, plagiarism, self-plagiarism, interfering with grading, falsification and fabrication of data in any
academic exercise, etc.) will receive a grade of F on the component(s) of assessment concerned or in this course and will be reported to the Department/Faculty Office/University Disciplinary Committee for further disciplinary action. There will be no exceptions. If you are not sure what constitutes the academic offense of plagiarism, checkout the webpage at http://www.hku.hk/plagiarism. Department of Psychology has formulated departmental policies/guidelines on student misconduct. Visit the website at https://www.psychology.hku.hk/?page_id=1814 for more information.
### Tentative Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 6</td>
<td>Organizational meeting</td>
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<td>Sept 13</td>
<td>We or I? The social self</td>
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<td>Sept 20</td>
<td>Need to belong</td>
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<td>Sept 27</td>
<td>Morality</td>
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<td>Oct 4</td>
<td>Objectification</td>
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<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>Aggression</td>
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<td>Oct 18</td>
<td>Reading/Field Trip Week</td>
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<td>Oct 25</td>
<td>Ego-depletion and will power</td>
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<td>Nov 1</td>
<td>Replication crisis and open science practices</td>
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<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>Replication crisis and open science practices (continued)</td>
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<td>Presentation</td>
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<td>Nov 15</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
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<td>Nov 22</td>
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<td>Nov 29</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
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<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Proposal due</td>
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