

SOCI 3311-001: Social Psychology Syllabus

Instructor Information

- Dr. Danny Malone Jr.
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- Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursday from 12p-2p or by appointment

Course Information

- Course Overview
- Students will use a sociological lens to explore the relationship between society and the individual; the effect of other people on individual behavior. This course explores the intersection of social psychological theory and community-based practice. Beyond studying how people think, feel, and behave in social contexts, students will apply these insights through a 15-hour service-learning placement. We will deconstruct power dynamics, analyze systemic attribution, and move from a "deficit-based" view of communities to an "asset-based" model of engagement. Students will work in tandem with a non-profit organization to service the community that aligns with organization's mission.
- Prerequisite ENGL 1302 or instructor's approval.
- T 9:30am-10:45am in Classroom Hall 110; Thursday-On-Site at Ascension DePaul Services
 - Address: 7607 Somerset Rd, San Antonio, TX 78211
 - 15-minute drive from campus

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

- To introduce students to sociological social psychology (structural social psychology)
- To articulate social psychology theories and concepts that examine attitudes, beliefs and actions of individuals and groups
- To educate students on the impact of community-level factors on individual behavior
- Identify and critique social psychological phenomena in real-world settings.
- Analyze the impact of social identity and power on community interaction.
- Synthesize field observations into a professional Community Asset Map.

Course Requirements

Ethical Pledge

All students must adhere to the Ethical Engagement Pledge, prioritizing client confidentiality (pseudonyms only) and a "learner-first" stance. Failure to respect the community partner's rules or missing scheduled hours without 24-hour notice may result in penalty that include course failure.

Course Readings and Materials

Thomas Heinzen, Wind Goodfriend, and Gary W. Lewandowski. Social Psychology. 3rd Edition.

How to Access Course Materials

- Log into Jagwire: <https://jagwire.tamusa.edu>
- Click on Blackboard Ultra
- Under "My Courses," locate our course and click on it.

Class Participation

Participation is paramount in this service-learning course which means being present at the organization's site throughout the semester is required. This means students should have reliable transportation to the site. Students are also encouraged to contribute to events the organization hosts and/or sponsors. Our class is hybrid, which means we have an in-person session and an online component, so the standard is that students have reliable internet access and their cameras on as this is a class. Our online component will consist of submission of course assignments that are described in the next section.

Chapter Quizzes

In this course, for accountability purposes, there will be weekly reading quizzes for assigned chapters and slides. You have 10 minutes to complete the 10-question quiz. You get only **one** attempt.

Discussion Forums (Theory Logs)

Discussion forums are where your theory log prompts will be that encourage students to apply what they are learning from the textbook to what they are observing at their organization at either the individual, group, or organizational level. Students respond to the original post as well as respond to at least one peer's post. This assignment also serves a serious engagement of reflection of the service-learning experiences. Students should use this space to enhance personal and professional development.

Site Evaluation Form

Students will complete a site evaluation form during their first 5 hours of service at their organization with the goal of assessing what they are observing at their site. This goes from how the organization operates from leadership, team function, and how the organization engages with community using social psychology.

Community Asset Map

The Community Asset Map is the culminating project for this course. It is a collaborative, visual, and analytical document that identifies the "social wealth" of the San Antonio community, moving beyond a deficit-based view (what is missing) to an asset-based view (what is strong). Students will interview staff and community members about the organization and the broader community. The core goal is for students to synthesize their hours of service-learning with the sociological frameworks in our textbook and learn how people engage with the community. Six key components the community asset map entails:

- People
- Institutions
- Local Economy
- Association and Groups
- Physical Spaces
- Stories and Narratives

This project will be a paper that should be a minimum of five pages and can be done in groups. Students will present their final project to the community at the site. Blackboard will have specifics regarding writing format and structure.

Final Reflection

Students are tasked with a few objectives in this assignment:

- Provide a brief overview of your experience at the internship
- Discuss some of your most important experiences and how they have impacted you
- Reflect on the effect that your involvement with the service-learning at your organization, and how this has helped you become not only a better scholar, but an advocate and student
- Provide any insights for future students who may be interested in completing a service-learning course.

- Complete the survey regarding the service-learning course on Qualtrics. This will be used by Dr. Malone and the organization to assess the strengths and opportunities for growth for the course.

Grading Assignments

The grade for this course will be determined according to the following formula:

Assignments/Activities	% of Final Grade
Draft of Community Asset Map	5%
Site Evaluation Form	5%
Final Reflection & Survey	5%
Chapter Quizzes	15%
Discussion Forums	25%
Community Asset Map Final and Presentation	45%

Letter Grades

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Points
A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-70
D	69-60
F	<60

Attendance and Tardiness

Class periods are comprised of both lecture and your time on-site. Thus, your attendance is essential to success in this course. However, unexpected events do arise which may prevent you from attending. For this reason, you will be allowed 3 unexcused absences or what I call "self-care" days. You are still responsible for meeting the service-learning hours to pass the course. All additional unexcused absences will result in a one-letter grade penalty per absence. For your site, please be sure to inform your supervisor if you cannot make it to your shift ahead of time. These are professional interactions, so this is standard practice of common courtesy.

There may be occasions (inclement weather or other unforeseen events) when Dr. Malone cancels class and/or TAMU-SA is closed. In these events, I will communicate at my soonest convenience to students via email directing you to Blackboard Ultra where alternative coursework will be available.

The service-learning course requires students to spend a number of assigned hours in an organization, and these hours will be extended until the last week of class. Some organizations require evening or weekend obligations. Students will be expected to perform all activities requested by the organization. While in this service-learning course, students should be considered as part of the agency's staff. With reference to holidays, the organization's holidays will be observed and not those of TAMU-SA. The organization's policies concerning absenteeism and tardiness will be in effect.

If an absence is anticipated or tardiness occurs for any reason, a call to the organization's supervisor is REQUIRED. If this person cannot be reached, a message should be left explaining the situation. However, it is strongly advised that you talk directly to the supervisor to whom the intern is responsible.

During the service-learning course, students will assume the role of an employee in the selected organization. The first week on the job will be an organization's orientation. Students should attempt to learn as much about the organization as possible. The student should act in a professional manner, including dress and demeanor appropriate to the organization's standards and expectations. Remember, you are a representative of TAMU-SA, so how they see you may reflect how they view the institution.

Late Assignment

All assignments are due by the specified time on Blackboard Ultra. Any assignment turned in after the deadline is considered late and will receive a standard deduction of 10 points. After 1 late day, the assignment will be a "0" unless there is a university excused reason.

Students who do not have a university-excused absence will not be allowed to make up a missed examination. You must have written documentation for the absence and have notified the instructor within 24 hours of the absence to be able to schedule a make-up exam. No exceptions.

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism

Academic dishonesty includes any unapproved activity that compromises the integrity of ANY portion of assignments. This includes, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism (which includes self-plagiarism), or failing to appropriately cite sources. Any form of academic dishonesty is incompatible with Texas A&M-San Antonio's mission and generally understood standards of ethical academic behavior.

AI Policy

Use of Generative AI Permitted Under Some Circumstances or With Explicit Permission

There are situations and contexts within this course where you may ask to use artificial intelligence (AI) tools to help working through your community asset project ONLY. AI is NOT to be used for any other assignments in the course. These requests should be asked via email to Dr. Malone for recordkeeping.

Any output used by AI tools (text, video, audio, images) that is submitted should be clearly indicated and distinguished from the student's original work. In such cases, no more than 25% of the student work should be generated by AI. If any part of this is confusing or uncertain, students should reach out to their instructor for clarification before submitting work for grading. Use of AI-generated content without the instructor's permission and/or proper attribution in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.

Disability Disclosure Statement

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, Disability Support Services is in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210. You can also contact us via phone at (210) 784-1335, visit us <https://www.tamusa.edu/Disability-Support-Services/index.html> or email us at dss@tamusa.edu. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

The purpose of the following statement is to enumerate the essential provisions of students' freedoms and responsibilities to learn at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. All students are required to follow all policies and regulations as set forth by The Texas A&M University System, including the A&M-San Antonio Student Code of Conduct

Students' Rights

- A student shall have the right to participate in a free exchange of ideas, and there shall be no university rule or procedure that in any way abridges

the rights of freedom of speech, expression, petition, and peaceful assembly as set forth in the U.S. Constitution.

- Each student shall have the right to participate in all areas and activities of the university, free from any form of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.
- A student has the right to personal privacy except as otherwise provided by law, and this will be observed by students and University authorities alike.
- Each student subject to disciplinary action arising from violations of university students' rules shall be assured a fundamentally fair process.

Students' Responsibilities

- A student has the responsibility to respect the rights and property of others, including other students, the faculty and staff, and the administration.
- A student has the responsibility to be fully acquainted and compliant with the University Student Rules found in the Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct, on our website, and in the University Catalog.
- A student has the responsibility to recognize that student actions reflect upon the individuals involved and upon the entire University community.
- A student has the responsibility to recognize the University's obligation to provide a safe environment for learning.
- A student has the responsibility to check their university email for any updates or official University notifications.
- We expect that students will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful, and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation, or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance

According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid

terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

Statement of Harassment and Discrimination

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equal opportunity, and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, A&M-San Antonio encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation, and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit. Texas A&M University-San Antonio, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or pregnancy/parenting status. Individuals who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the appropriate offices within their respective units.

Texas A&M University-San Antonio faculty are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and for the university. If you have experienced any form of sex- or gender-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic or dating violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. A&M-San Antonio's Title IX Coordinator can support those impacted by such conduct in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. The university strongly encourages all students to report any such incidents to the Title IX Coordinator. Please be aware that all A&M-San Antonio employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as counselors and trained victim advocates) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the university. This means that if you tell a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment, sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the university's Title IX Coordinator (titleix@tamusa.edu, 210-784-2061, CAB 439K). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting requirement, you can contact the Student Counseling Center at (210) 784-1331 or visit them in Madla 120.

Course Resources

Academic Learning Center:

The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the Tools section of Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202.

The Jaguar Writing Center

The Jaguar Writing Center provides writing support to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges. Writing tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Students can make individual or group appointments with a writing tutor. The Writing Center is in Central Academic Building, Suite 208. The Writing Center can be reached by emailing writingcenter@tamusa.edu or calling 210-784-1222. Students can also make appointments with the Writing Center under the Student Services tab in JagWire.

Counseling/Mental Health Resources

As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment, call 210-784-1331 or visit Madla 120.

All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. For more information on SCC services visit

tamusa.edu/studentcounseling

Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 (after-hours select option '2').

Additionally, the TELUS Student Support App provides a variety of mental health resources to include support for in the moment distress, an anonymous peer-to-peer support network, mental health screenings, podcasts, and articles to improve your mental wellbeing.

Emergency Preparedness

JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit:

<https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>.

More information about Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan can be found here: <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/emergency-management/>.

Download the SafeZone App (<https://safezoneapp.com/>) for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900.

Meeting Basic Needs

Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day or who lacks a safe and stable place to live and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to submit a CARE referral (<https://www.tamusa.edu/university-policies/Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities/file-a-report.html>) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to direct you to available resources.

Military Affairs

Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to visit the Office of Military Affairs for any question involving federal or state VA Education Benefits. Visit the Patriots' Casa building, room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military.va@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

Religious Observances

Texas A&M University-San Antonio recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided with an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or course work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes for regular session classes.

Course Schedule-Schedule is tentatively scheduled with site visits.

Week/Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
Week 1, 8/24	Welcome to SOCI 3311	Ch. 1	Meeting Ascension DePaul Services Team Chapter 1 quiz Due Sunday
Week 2, 8/31	Research Methods	Ch. 2	Theory Log #1 Chapter 2 quiz Due Sunday
Week 3, 9/7	The Social Self/Site Audit	Ch. 3	Site Evaluation Form Chapter 3 quiz Due Sunday
Week 4, 9/14	Social Cognition and Person Perception	Ch. 4-5	Theory Log #2 Chapter 4-5 quiz Due Sunday
Week 5, 9/21	Attitudes and Persuasion	Ch. 6	Chapter 6 quiz Due Sunday
Week 6, 9/28	Social Influence; Conformity, Social Roles and Obedience	Ch. 7	Theory Log #3 Chapter 7 quiz Due Sunday
Week 7, 10/5	Group Processes	Ch. 8	Drafting of Asset Map Chapter 8 quiz Due Sunday
Week 8, 10/12	Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Discrimination	Ch. 9	Theory Log #4 (Mid-Term Reflection) Chapter 9 quiz Due Sunday
Week 9, 10/19	Helping and Prosocial Behavior	Ch. 10	Chapter 10 quiz Due Sunday
Week 10, 10/26	Aggression	Ch. 11	Theory Log #5 Chapter 11 quiz Due Sunday
Week 11, 11/2	Intimate Relationships	Ch. 12	Chapter 12 quiz Due Sunday

Week/Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
Week 12, 11/9	Community Asset Map Check In	N/A	Theory Log #6
Week 13, 11/16	Presentation Prep	N/A	N/A
Week 14, 11/23	Thanksgiving Break	N/A	N/A
Week 15, 11/30	Community Presentation & Course Debrief	N/A	Presentation and Theory Log #7
Week 16, 12/7	Final Reflection	N/A	Final Asset Map, Final Reflection and Survey