

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM IN SOCIAL-PERSONALITY PSYCHOLOGY

SOP 6929 • Fall 2025

Fridays: 9:35–12:35 (Periods 3–5)

PSY 129 (Periods 3–4); PSY 108 (Period 5)

Instructor

Name: Gregory D. Webster
 Title: Professor of Psychology
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 Hours: Fridays 8:00–9:35; 12:35–13:00
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Purpose, Description, and Policies

The purpose of this course is to help your professional development as a researcher. One way to do this is by developing your written communication skills. To this end, we'll be readings and discussing two popular press books: one written by a famous experimental social psychologist, and one by a data-centric co-founder of OkCupid. Because writing clearly and efficiently are central aspects of being a successful science researcher and communicator, this course will give you multiple examples of how to hone those skills.

Period 5 will feature a colloquium speaker series. The format of the course during Periods 3–4 will be a seminar that will rely on interactive discussion of the day's reading material. Be prepared to share your thoughts, ideas, reactions, and opinions in class. Two discussion questions (DQs) related to each week's readings will be submitted to Canvas each Friday by 9 a.m.

Grading

Item and Description	No.	Points	Total
Attendance and Participation	13	4	52
Discussion Questions (2 DQs per week)	12	4	48
Total			100

Course Grading Scale

Letter	Percent	Letter	Percent	Letter	Percent
A	≥ 93.33	B-	≥ 80.00	D+	≥ 66.67
A-	≥ 90.00	C+	≥ 76.67	D	≥ 63.33
B+	≥ 86.67	C	≥ 73.33	D-	≥ 60.00
B	≥ 83.33	C-	≥ 70.00	E	< 60.00

Schedule

Date	Speaker or Event	Reading or Activity
Aug. 22	TBD	Syllabus, Introductions, and Expectations
Aug. 29	TBD	<i>How We Know What Isn't So</i> : Chs. 1, 2, & 3
Sept. 5	TBD	<i>How We Know What Isn't So</i> : Chs. 4 & 5
Sept. 12	TBD	<i>How We Know What Isn't So</i> : Chs. 6 & 7
Sept. 19	TBD	<i>How We Know What Isn't So</i> : Chs. 8 & 9
Sept. 26	TBD	<i>How We Know What Isn't So</i> : Chs. 10 & 11
Oct. 3	TBD	<i>Dataclysm</i> : Introduction and Chs. 1 & 2
Oct. 10	TBD	<i>Dataclysm</i> : Chs. 3 & 4
Oct. 17	No Speaker — UF Homecoming	No Class — UF Homecoming
Oct. 24	TBD	<i>Dataclysm</i> : Chs. 5, 6
Oct. 31	TBD	<i>Dataclysm</i> : Chs. 7 & 8
Nov. 7	TBD	<i>Dataclysm</i> : Chs. 9 & 10
Nov. 14	TBD	<i>Dataclysm</i> : Chs. 11 & 12
Nov. 21	TBD	<i>Dataclysm</i> : Chs. 13 & 14 and Coda

Readings

Gilovich, T. (1993). *How we know what isn't so: The fallibility of human reason in everyday life*. New York: The Free Press.

Rudder, C. (2014). *Dataclysm: What our online lives tell us about our offline selves*. New York: Penguin Random House.

Policies

This course complies with all UF academic policies. For information on those policies and for resources for students, please see this link: <https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links>.