**Course Title:** **Social Psychology in Context**

**Programme in which it is offered: M.Sc.  in Applied Psychology**

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| **Course Category: Core                 Schedule of Offering: Semester 1**  **Course Credit Structure : 4                                           Course Code : PSY6112**  **Total Number of Hours: 60                                           Contact hours per week: 4**  **Lecture: 3                              Tutorial: 1                        Practical: 0**  **Last Revision Year: 2022** |

**Course Introduction**

This course titled, ‘Social Psychology in Context’ is an essential and core aspect of the post-graduate Programme, providing an in-depth overview of social psychological perspectives, concepts, and principles of social psychology of practice in both clinical/health settings as well as organizational behaviour, which are necessarily enacted in social contexts. Social psychological perspectives, assumptions about social realities, social research methods and social psychological principles inform the gaze of the applied psychologist –whichever the specialization maybe. The course provides an understanding of key aspects of social cognition, social influence and group processes and their application of social psychological principles in health/clinical and in organisational contexts.

**Course Objectives**

To make the students:

* To understand the lens of social psychological perspectives in examining human experiences and behaviour within a socio-historical context.
* To learn the principles, concepts and theories of social psychology as applied in context.
* To apply social psychological principles, concepts, and theories in addressing and
* problems within the clinical, health and organisational contexts.

**Course Outcomes**

On completion of this course, students would be able to:

* Learns the theoretical and research approaches to understand the social psychological concepts in varied situations
* Understanding and application of social psychology in comprehending human cognitions, its impact in social context and in developing pro social behaviour methods
* Applying social psychology concepts in exploring why, what, and how the social issues can be addressed effectively in terms of aggression, violence, crime, injustice, etc
* Learning the role of social psychology and interlinked areas such as organizations, mental health, relationships, etc.

**PO-CO Mapping**

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| CO/PO Mapping | PO1 | PO2 | PO3 | PO4 | PO5 | PO6 | PO7 | PO8 | PO9 |
| CO1 | ✔ |  | ✔ |  |  |  | ✔ |  |  |
| CO2 |  | ✔ |  | ✔ |  | ✔ |  | ✔ |  |
| CO3 |  | ✔ |  | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  | ✔ |
| CO4 | ✔ |  |  | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  |  | ✔ |

**Prerequisites and other constraints**

Admission to the MSc Programme in psychology stream

**Teaching Pedagogy**

The pedagogy includes interactive lectures. The interactive learning component will consist of lecture sessions, classroom exercises, and discussions. The independent learning component, on the other hand, shall include such exercises as independent reading and doing individual assignments. Finally, the cooperative learning component involves doing assignments in groups.

It is envisaged that students will be guided to read, think, solve problems, and actively participate in the learning process. This shall be attained through a mix of teaching methods, such as, lectures, projects, assignments, case studies, individual and group presentations, discussion, and fieldwork.

**Modules**

**Module1: Introduction: Social Psychology in Context (8 hrs)**

* Nature and scope of social psychology; brief history of social psychology; first world and third world social psychologies.
* Social Psychological perspectives: symbolic interactionism; social constructionism; social representation theory; cultural and cross-cultural psychology perspectives; traditional theoretical perspectives (field theory, cognitive dissonance, socio-biology, psychodynamic approaches)
* Social Psychological Research: Experimental, Field based, Correlational, Qualitative methods. Debates and contentious issues in social psychological research
* Clinical and health contexts as sites of social psychology practice.
* Organisational behaviour as an application of social psychological principles and theories.

**Module2: Self and the Society: Self, Social Cognition, and Influence; Pro and Anti-social behaviour (15 hrs)**

* Social Self, salience to social categories in the Indian context, self and other.
* Social Cognition: Schema, scripts, Informational framing, and memory anchors, Stereotyping and self-fulfilling prophecy
* Attitude and its change within cultural context; Stereotypes and discrimination, esp. in reference to mental illness, disability, age and poverty in health and organization contexts; Stigma and self-stigma
* Pro-social behaviour, Empathy, Altruism, Bystander Effect
* Aggression and Violence; causes triggers and implications; Addressing aggression in health/clinical and organizational contexts.

**Module3: Teams, Group Processes, and Intergroup relations (10 hrs)**

* Group dynamics, group communication, Working in Teams, and organizations; leadership
* Theories of intergroup relations (minimal group experiment and social identity theory, relative deprivation theory, realistic conflict theory, equity theory),
* Conflicts, Negotiations and Conflict Resolution
* Social power; theories of social power, resistance, and reactance to power; power in reference to health and organisational contexts

**Module 4: Applying Social Psychology: Principles and Applications in Crime, Criminality and the Justice System (15 hrs)**

* What is applied social psychology? Principles, methods, roles and applications
* Psychology and the Law
* The Crime and the Criminal: The Sociology of Crime; The origins of Criminal behaviour
* The Response of the Criminal Justice System
* The Police Investigation
* The Courtroom
* The Prison Setting

**Module 5: Applied Social Psychology:  Applications in Media, Organisations, Mental Health and Relationships (12 hrs)**

* Levels of analysis and application: Exploring voice of end-users/stakeholders in social psychological perspectives; Intervention and impact at individual, interpersonal, small group/team, large group/community, and macro-social and cultural levels.
* Communication and Media the role of Social Psychology
* Applying Social Psychology in Organisations
* Applying Social Psychology in Mental Health
* Applying Social Psychology in Relationships

**References:**

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* Gilbert, Daniel T; Fiske, Susan T; Gardner, Lindzey (1998) *Handbook of Social Psychology (4th Edition). Volume 1.* NY. USA. McGraw Hill.
* Lyons, A. C., & Chamberlain, K. (2006). *Health Psychology: A Critical Introduction*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
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* Schneider, FW; Gruman, JA; Coutts, LM (2012). *Applied Social Psychology: understanding and addressing social and Practical problems*. Sage Southeast Asia. New Delhi. Sage
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* Gilbert, Daniel T; Fiske, Susan T; Gardner, Lindzey (1998) *Handbook of Social Psychology (4th Edition). Volume 1.* NY. USA. McGraw Hill.
* Giles, David (2003) *Media Psychology* New Jersey, USA. Lawrence Erlbaum
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* McGarty, C., & Haslam, S. A. (Eds.) (1997). *The message of social psychology*. Oxford, UK: Blackwell.
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* Shaw, M. E., & Costanzo, P. R. (1970). *Theories of social psychology.* USA: McGraw-Hill.
* Strickland, L. H., Aboud, F. E., & Gergen, K. J. (1976). *Social psychology in transition.* New York: Plenum.
* Tajfel, H. (1981). *Human groups and social categories.* London: Cambridge University Press.
* Taylor. M., & Moghaddam, F.M. (1987). *Theories of intergroup relations.* NY: Praeger.

**Evaluation Pattern**

The course follows a continuous evaluation system with 50% weightage on internal components and 50 % on the end term examination. The internal component consists of a series of assignments which will be spread throughout the course.

**Evaluation Matrix**

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| Term Paper/Practicums | 10% |
| Individual assignments | 10% |
| Group assignments | 10% |
| Mid-term Examination | 20% |
| End Term Exam | 50% |
| Total | 100% |

The assignments involved in the CIA will be subject to plagiarism checks. A submission with unexplained similarities exceeding 20% for MSc courses will be reverted for resubmission. The final submission is subject to score penalization as defined by the course instructor at the start of the course, with a clear communication of the same to all the registered candidates.