



COURSE UNIT INFORMATION SHEET (SYLLABUS)

2021/2022

Name

Social Psychology of Group and Intergroup Processes

Teaching staff

Rui Costa Lopes (Professor in charge)

Mariana Miranda

Filipa Madeira

ECTS

6

Functioning

4 hours per week (theoretical-practical)

Learning goals

The theme "groups and intergroup relations" focuses on the psycho-sociological processes (cognitive, motivational and normative) underlying the way individuals create groups, think and feel in groups and relate to other groups in areas such as social judgement, decision-making and behavior.

These groups involve the classical social groups (derived from social class, gender, skin color, profession, nationality, etc.) and also the groups on which everyday life is based (social groups, ideological groups, religion, etc.) and long-term groups and contextual groups of short duration.

Our daily life and the processes that sustain it are largely determined by these group belongings (at school, at work, at leisure). A full understanding of phenomena such as personal development, self-esteem, self, social conflicts, cooperation and social solidarity implies the study of intergroup relations. The approach to these issues will be based on theories and empirical studies, as well as exercises to be performed in practical classes.



Considering the aspects mentioned above, the objective of this course is to provide students with the development of the skills necessary to identify and describe:

- The psychological and psycho-sociological mechanisms present in the formation of social groups and in the relationships they maintain with other groups and with members of other groups;
- The psychological consequences of the feeling/sense of belonging to the groups;
- The social consequences of belonging to groups.

Skills to be developed

Learn to identify the different perspectives of analysis of group and intergroup processes. Analyze and interpret the main psychological and social problems present in the Group and intergroup relations. Be able to propose solutions to the Group and intergroup tensions.

Prerequisites (precedences) *

None

Contents

Detailed Program

Introduction

- 1 - Brief history of the study of groups and intergroup relations
- 2 - Cognitive mechanisms in the formation of social groups and between groups
 - a. Categorization
 - b. Stereotypes
- 3 - Motivational mechanisms in group processes and consequences of the sense of belonging to a group;
 - c. Social Identity Theory and the Rejection-Identification Model;
 - d. Self-Categorization Theory and the Ingroup Projection Model
 - e. Theories on Dehumanization
 - f. Models of Prejudice Reduction
- 4 - Normative and ideological mechanisms and social consequences of belonging to groups;
 - g. Ideologies about intergroup relations in multicultural contexts



- h. Belief in a Just World and intergroup relations
- i. Ideologies on the legitimation of inequalities:
 - Social Dominance Orientation
 - System Justification Theory
 - Meritocratic Ideology

Bibliography

Dovidio, J. F., Newheiser, A.-K., & Leyens, J. P. (2012). Intergroup relations: A history. In A. W. Kruglanski & W. Stroebe (Eds.), *Handbook of the history of social psychology* (pp. 407-430). Psychology

Press. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203808498.ch19>

Monteiro, M. B. (2013). Relações intergrupais. In J. Vala & M.B. Monteiro (Eds.). *Psicologia Social* (9ª ed.) (pp. 493-568). Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian.

Tajfel, H., Billig, M. G., Bundy, R. P., & Flament, C. (1971). Social categorization and intergroup behaviour. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 1(2), 149-178. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.2420010202>

Costa-Lopes, R., Dovidio, J.F. Pereira, C. & Jost, J. T (2013). Social psychological perspectives on the legitimation of social inequality. *European Journal of Social Psychology*. 43-4, 229-237. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.1966>

Vala, J., Waldzus, S., Calheiros, M. M. (Eds.). (2016). *The Social Developmental Construction of Violence and Intergroup Conflict*. Springer International Publishing [Springer Nature]. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-42727-0>

Teaching methods

1. Theoretical classes: 2 hours a week, discussion of concepts and theories
2. Practical classes: 2 hours a week, discussion of articles and exercises

Evaluation Regimes (General and/or Alternative)

1. General Regime: Group assignment + Written exam / Frequency
2. Alternative Regime: Written exam / Frequency

Only special students can incur in the Alternative Regime.

Both regimes are compatible with a declaration of Emergency or any form of lockdown, being the only



change the fact that the Written exam / Frequency are conducted remotely.

Evaluation Elements

For those who take the course in the General Regime Evaluation, you will have to carry out a group assignment (30%) and the written exam (worth 70% and is performed at the time of frequencies/exam). For those who choose not to make the course in a General Regime Evaluation, the written exam will be worth 100%.

The approval requires a minimum 9.5 grade in each one of the elements of evaluation.

Rules for grade improvement

Only the written exam grade can be improved.

Rules for students having previously failed the course unit *

Common rules of the Faculty.

Requirements on attendance and punctuality

60% of classes.

Rules for special students

Special students are allowed to incur in the alternative regime for evaluation

Language of instruction

Portuguese

Disciplinary violations and penalties

According to the Evaluation of Learning Regulation of the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Lisbon, the following behaviors are considered as disciplinary offenses subject to disciplinary action:

a) To use or attempt to use materials, information, notes, study resources or other objects and equipment not authorized in academic exercises;



- b) To help or try to help a colleague in committing a disciplinary offense;
- c) To submit the same written work for evaluation in different course units without permission from the instructors, even if with minor changes;
- d) To present someone else's work as one's own;
- e) To forge, or change without permission from the author, any information or citation in an academic work;
- f) To interfere, change or attempt to change grades;
- g) To try to prevent or interfere with the proper functioning of classes, research or other academic activities;
- h) To make false accusations regarding instructors, governance bodies, other students or non-teaching staff of the FPUL;
- i) To falsify signatures in attendance sheets, documents relating to evaluation elements or in any official document relating to an academic process or status.

Disciplinary offenses committed in any assessment element can lead to its annulment, and must be reported to the Pedagogical Council or, considering their gravity and repetition, may lead to other penalties, to be determined by the Rector of the University of Lisbon.

* If applicable