



# Course program and reading list

Semester 1 Year 2023

**School:** Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy M.A

Political Psychology

**Lecturer:**

Prof. Gilad Hirschberger [ghirschberger@runi.ac.il](mailto:ghirschberger@runi.ac.il)

**Teaching Assistant:**

Dr. Uri Lifshin [lifshin.uri@post.runi.ac.il](mailto:lifshin.uri@post.runi.ac.il)

---

<b>Course No.:</b>	<b>Course Type :</b>	<b>Weekly Hours :</b>	<b>Credit:</b>
24073	Lecture	2	2

<b>Course Requirements :</b>	<b>Group Code :</b>	<b>Language:</b>
Final Exam	232407302	English



## Course Description

This class will provide a broad overview of the field of psychology in general and of political psychology in particular, and will place emphasis on psychology as a scientific discipline. Over the year we will learn about the different subfields of psychology and about the current questions and debates that are concerning political psychologists today.

We will also discuss the different ways to apply political psychological knowledge outside of the lab.



## Course Goals

The goal of this course is to provide an understanding of basic psychological processes

as well as insight on how psychological factors impact political motivations, cognitions, and actions.

---

## Grading

The grade in this course will be based on a final examination at the end of the semester. Exams comprise 25 multiple-choice questions (3 points each), and 5 open-ended short questions (5 points each). Exams will be based on materials from the lectures and from the assigned readings.

---

## Reading List

### **Tentative Schedule**

(subject to change during the semester)

Number	Topic
1	<b>Introduction to psychology and to political psychology</b>  Eidelson, R. J., & Eidelson, J. I. (2003). Dangerous ideas: Five beliefs that propel groups toward conflict. <i>American Psychologist</i> , 58, 182-192.  Bar-Tal, D., Trew, K., Hameiri, B., Stevenson, C., & Nahhas, E. (2021). Ethos of conflict as the prism to evaluate the Northern Irish and the Israeli-Palestinian conflicts by the involved societies: A comparative analysis. <i>Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology</i> .
2	<b>Research methods in social sciences</b>  Trochim, W.M.K. (2005). <i>Research methods</i> . Ch 1 (pp. 2-23)
3	<b>Evolution and intergroup conflict</b>  McCullough, M., Kurzban, R., & Tabac, B. A. (2010). Evolved mechanisms for revenge and forgiveness. In P. R. Shaver & M. Mikulincer (Eds.), <i>Human aggression and violence: Causes, manifestations, and consequences</i> . Washington, DC: APA Press.  Ein-Dor, T., & Hirschberger, G. (2013). Sore Losers On Perceptions of Defeat and Displaced Retaliation. <i>Social Psychological and Personality Science</i> , 4(3), 355-361.  <a href="#">Van Vugt, M., De Cremer, D., &amp; Janssen, D. (2007). Gender differences in</a>

	<p>cooperation and competition: The male-warrior hypothesis. <i>Psychological Science</i>, 18, 19-23.</p>
4	<p><b>Personality &amp; Politics</b></p> <p>Bakker, B. N., Lelkes, Y., &amp; Malka, A. (2021). Reconsidering the Link Between Self-Reported Personality Traits and Political Preferences. <i>American Political Science Review</i>, 1-17.</p> <p>Cohrs, C. J., Kielmann, S., Maes, J., Moschner, B. (2005). Effects of right-wing authoritarianism and threat from terrorism on restriction of civil liberties. <i>Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy</i>, 5.</p>
5	<p><b>The Political Self</b></p> <p>Hornsey, M. J., Finlayson, M., Chatwood, G., &amp; Begeny, C. T. (2020). Donald Trump and vaccination: The effect of political identity, conspiracist ideation and presidential tweets on vaccine hesitancy. <i>Journal of Experimental Social Psychology</i>, 88, 103947.</p> <p>Unzueta, M. M. &amp; Lowery, B. S. (2008). Defining racism safely: The role of self-image maintenance on White Americans' conceptions of racism. <i>Journal of Experimental Social Psychology</i>, 44, 1491-1497.</p> <p>Castano, E., &amp; Giner-Sirolla, R. (2006). Not quite human: Infra-humanization in response to collective responsibility for intergroup killing. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, 90, 804-818</p>
6	<p><b>Cognition and conflict</b></p> <p>Nyhan, B., &amp; Zeitzoff, T. (2018). Conspiracy and misperception belief in the Middle East and North Africa. <i>The Journal of Politics</i>, 80(4), 1400-1404.</p> <p>Chapter 4: Paul Van Riper's big victory - creating structure for spontaneity, pp. 99-146. Gladwell, Malcolm. 2005. <i>Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking</i>. New York: Little Brown.</p> <p>Hassin, R. R., Ferguson, M. J., Shidlovsky, D., &amp; Gross, T. (2007). Subliminal exposure to national flags affects political thought and behavior. <i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Science</i>, 104, 19757-19761.</p>
7	<p><b>Social identity and intergroup relations</b></p> <p>Chapter 6: Seven seconds in the Bronx - the delicate art of mind reading, pp. 189-244. Gladwell, Malcolm. 2005. <i>Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking</i>. New York: Little Brown.</p>

	Mason, L., & Wronski, J. (2018). One tribe to bind them all: How our social group attachments strengthen partisanship. <i>Political Psychology, 39</i> , 257-277.
8	<p><b>Social representations of history</b></p> <p>Liu, J. H., &amp; Hilton, D. (2005). How the past weighs on the present: Social representations of history and their role in identity politics. <i>British Journal of Social Psychology, 44</i>, 537 - 556.</p> <p>Hirschberger, G., Imhoff, R., Kahn, D. T., &amp; Hanke, K. (in press). Attributions for historical trauma predict contemporary social and political attitudes. <i>Group Processes &amp; Intergroup Relations</i>.</p>
9	<p><b>Past Victimization</b></p> <p>Hirschberger, G. (2018). Collective trauma and the social construction of meaning. <i>Frontiers in Psychology, 9</i>, 1441.</p> <p>Wohl, M. J. A., &amp; Branscombe, N. R. (2008). Remembering historical victimization: Collective guilt for current ingroup transgressions. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 94</i>, 988-1006.</p>
10	<p><b>Existential aspects of intergroup conflict</b></p> <p>Hirschberger, G., Pyszczynski, T., Ein-Dor, T., Shani-Sherman, T., Kadah, E., Kesebir, P., &amp; Park, Y. C. (2016). Fear of death fuels the desire for justice and encourages political violence. <i>Peace &amp; Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology, 22</i>, 67-74.</p> <p>Hirschberger, G., Ein-Dor, T., Leidner, B., &amp; Saguy, T. (2016). How is existential threat related to intergroup conflict? Introducing the multidimensional existential threat (MET) model. <i>Frontiers in Psychology, 7</i>, 1877.</p> <p>.</p>
11	<p><b>Aggression and pro-social behavior</b></p> <p>Gneezy, A., &amp; Fessler, D. M. (2012). Conflict, sticks and carrots: war increases prosocial punishments and rewards. <i>Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences, 279</i>(1727), 219-223.</p> <p>De Dreu, C. K., Greer, L. L., Handgraaf, M. J., Shalvi, S., Van Kleef, G. A., Baas, M., ... &amp; Feith, S. W. (2010). The neuropeptide oxytocin regulates parochial altruism in intergroup conflict among humans. <i>Science, 328</i>(5984), 1408-1411.</p>

12	<p><b>Emotions in intergroup conflict</b></p> <p>Lerner, J. S., Gonzales, R. M., Small, D. A., &amp; Fischhoff, B. (2003). Effects of fear and anger on perceived risks of terrorism: A national field experiment. <i>Psychological Science</i>, 14, 144-150.</p> <p>Unkelbach, C., Forgas, J. P., &amp; Denson, T. F. (2008). The turban effect: The influence of Muslim headgear and induced affect on aggressive responses in the shooter bias paradigm. <i>Journal of Experimental Social Psychology</i>, 44, 1409-1413.</p> <p>Bar-Tal, D., &amp; Hameiri, B. (2020). Interventions to change well-anchored attitudes in the context of intergroup conflict. <i>Social and Personality Psychology Compass</i>, 14(7), e12534.</p>
13	<p><b>Morality &amp; Conflict</b></p> <p>Kaiser, C. R., Vick, S. B., &amp; Major, B. (2004). A prospective investigation of the relationship between just-world beliefs and the desire for revenge after September 11, 2001. <i>Psychological Science</i>, 15, 503-507.</p> <p>McAllister, A. L., Bandura, A., Owen, S. V. (2006). Mechanisms of moral disengagement in support of military force: The impact of Sept. 11. <i>Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology</i>, 25, 141-165.</p> <p>Graham, J., Nosek, B. A., &amp; Haidt, J. (2012). The moral stereotypes of liberals and conservatives: Exaggeration of differences across the political spectrum. <i>PloS one</i>, 7(12), e50092.</p>