

## Podcast Project Instructions and Rubrics

### Overview

#### *Important Dates:*

When and Where	Assignment Type	Assignment	% of Grade
Wednesday, May 3, 11:59pm, on Canvas	Building-block	Topic and concept selection	7%
Wednesday, May 24, 11:59pm, on Canvas	Building-block	Draft script	10%
Monday, June 12, 12:30pm, on Canvas	Final product	Final script	10%
Monday, June 12, 12:30pm, via <a href="#">survey</a>	Evaluation	Peer and self evaluation	3%

#### *Purpose:*

One of the objectives of our course is to apply social psychological perspectives. In this project, you will use a social psychological concept to explain a current event or social phenomenon. Your job is to teach us something new about your topic using a social psychological concept. You will complete this assignment in a team of four.

Through this assignment, you will practice the following skills:

- Apply key social psychological approaches
- Describe key social psychological concepts
- Convey research findings in writing

#### *Task:*

The final product for this assignment is a script for a podcast episode of 8-10 minutes, which you will research and write in a team of four. (Because the quarter moves so quickly, I do not ask you to actually record the podcast episode.) In addition to the final script for your podcast, there are two building-block assignments and a peer and self evaluation.

1. Topic and concept selection - due by May 3, 11:59pm

With your team, select one current event, phenomenon, or topic you would like to research. Then select the social psychological concept you will use to explain your topic. Some examples include:

Topic	Social Psychological Concept	
<p>Something from your favorite book, movie, or TV show</p> <p>The Black Lives Matter movement (<a href="#">the issues at the heart of the movement</a>, <a href="#">support for the movement</a>, etc)</p> <p><a href="#">The underrepresentation of women in STEM</a></p> <p><a href="#">The gender wage gap</a></p> <p><a href="#">Mass incarceration of Black Americans</a></p> <p><a href="#">The decline of the class mobility in the US</a></p> <p><a href="#">Men’s shorter life expectancy</a></p> <p><a href="#">The racial or gender pay gap</a></p> <p><a href="#">(Low) rates of interracial marriage</a></p> <p><a href="#">The racial gap in access to technology</a></p> <p><a href="#">Code-switching in college</a></p> <p><a href="#">(Low) voter turnout in the US</a></p> <p><a href="#">Time use among teens</a></p> <p><a href="#">Gender inequality in household work</a></p> <p><a href="#">The decline of Christian identity in the US</a></p> <p><a href="#">Parenting across class</a></p> <p><a href="#">QAnon conspiracy theories</a></p> <p><a href="#">Anti-transgender legislation</a></p> <p><a href="#">Bans against critical race theory</a></p> <p><a href="#">Election denial</a></p> <p><i>Related to</i></p> <p><a href="#">Coronavirus/COVID-19</a></p> <p><a href="#">Mental health and COVID-19</a></p> <p><a href="#">Conspiracy theories about COVID-19</a></p> <p><a href="#">Vaccine hesitancy</a></p> <p><a href="#">Inequality in access to “digital homework”</a></p> <p><a href="#">Inequality in paid sick leave</a></p> <p><a href="#">Inequality in job loss</a></p> <p><a href="#">Partisan reactions to COVID-19</a></p>	<p>Affect control theory</p> <p>Agency vs. constraint</p> <p>Cognitive dissonance</p> <p>Concerted cultivation vs. accomplishment of natural growth</p> <p>Conformity</p> <p>Deindividuation</p> <p>Deviance</p> <p>Differential association theory, differential reinforcement theory</p> <p>Differential vulnerability model</p> <p>Diffusion of responsibility</p> <p>Discrimination (institutional)</p> <p>Dramaturgical model (self-presentation, impression management, etc)</p> <p>Emotion management (feeling rules, emotional labor, etc)</p> <p>Frame alignment</p> <p>Free rider problem</p> <p>Fundamental attribution error</p> <p>Halo effect</p> <p>Homophily</p> <p>Identity theory (salience, commitment, verification, threat)</p> <p>Identity control theory</p> <p>Implicit associations</p> <p>Interpretive approach to socialization (Corsaro)</p> <p>Intersectionality</p> <p>Labeling theory (of deviance, mental illness)</p> <p>Looking-glass self</p> <p>Mass hysteria</p> <p>Matching hypothesis</p> <p>Mead’s Theory of the Self</p> <p>Medicalization</p> <p>Microaggressions</p>	<p>Moral alchemy</p> <p>Network-episode model</p> <p>Phases of personal relationships (initiation, negotiation, maintenance, dissolution)</p> <p>Power and status theory of emotions (Kemper)</p> <p>Prejudice</p> <p>Pygmalion effect</p> <p>Racism (color-blind, institutional, laissez-faire, traditional, symbolic)</p> <p>Resource mobilization</p> <p>Ritual interaction (Collins)</p> <p>Role modeling, role taking</p> <p>Sapir-Whorf hypothesis</p> <p>Scapegoating</p> <p>Second shift</p> <p>Self-concept</p> <p>Sexual double standard</p> <p>Social contagion</p> <p>Social control (formal, informal, internal)</p> <p>Social control theory</p> <p>Social identity theory</p> <p>Social influence</p> <p>Social learning theory</p> <p>Social norms</p> <p>Socialization (primary, secondary)</p> <p>Status characteristics theory</p> <p>Status violation theory</p> <p>Stereotype threat</p> <p>Stigma</p> <p>Strain theory</p> <p>Tokenism</p> <p>Total institution</p> <p>Two-factor theory of emotion</p> <p>White racial frame</p>

These are *just suggestions*. You can pick any current event, phenomenon, or topic and any social psychological concept that we discuss or is in your textbook. To find a topic, I recommend

reading the news or talking to friends/family about what interests or concerns them. The key is to focus on something specific since your podcast must be 8-10 minutes long. To find a social psychological concept, I recommend revisiting your notes, the lecture slides, the key terms listed in the test study guides, or reviewing the “Terms and Concepts for Review” at the end of the textbook chapters. Remember, you will use the social psychological concept to explain the topic, so do some research before picking your concept to make sure it is relevant to your topic. [You can see an example assignment here.](#)

Turn in via Canvas: A Microsoft Word document that includes:

1. The title for your podcast episode;
2. A description of your current event/social phenomenon/topic (1 paragraph);
3. A description of your social psychological concept and how you plan to apply it to your topic (1 paragraph);
4. In-text citations and a reference list of your sources in [APA style](#). You should have *at least one citation in addition to* your textbook (e.g., a news article describing your current event, an article from PEW Research Center showing some data, the book or movie you are describing, etc).

2. Draft script - due by May 24, 11:59pm

With your team, write the script for your podcast. Your script should: (1) clearly describe your current event/phenomenon, (2) clearly define your social psychological concept, (3) apply your social psychological concept to your current event/phenomenon, (4) engage your audience, and (5) cite your sources. Remember, your goal is to teach your audience something new about your topic using a social psychological concept. What can we learn about your topic using social psychology that we didn't know before? Keep in mind that you are creating a podcast, so your script should be written to engage your audience; *tell them a story*. Be creative. See this [how-to guide](#) on writing a scripted podcast.

[You can see an example script here.](#) Note that it is formatted *as a script*, and includes who will say what. Before turning in your script, do a read-through to make sure it is no longer than 10 minutes (8-10 minutes is an acceptable range). This will mean approximately 5-8 pages (double-spaced, not counting the references page). Your script will be graded according to the following rubric:

Criteria	Score
The script clearly describes/defines the topic and social psychological concept. The script appropriately and creatively applies the social psychological concept to the topic to teach the audience something new. The script is well-organized, cites sources, is free of spelling and grammar errors, and is 10 minutes or less in length.	100
The script clearly describes/defines the topic and social psychological concept, and applies the social psychological concept to the topic to teach the audience something new. The script lacks some creativity or contains some spelling and grammar or citation errors or is slightly too short/long.	90
The script describes/defines the topic and social psychological concept, and applies the social psychological concept to the topic to teach the audience something new, but lacks clarity or creativity or contains spelling and grammar errors.	80
The script describes/defines the topic and social psychological concept, and applies the social psychological concept to the topic to teach the audience something new, but demonstrates some misunderstanding of the topic or concept. The script is unclear, contains logical flaws, or contains spelling and grammar errors.	70
The script does not describe/define the topic and/or psychological concept, and/or fails to apply the social psychological concept to the topic. The script demonstrates substantive misunderstandings of the topic or concept or is far too short/long.	60 and below

Turn in via Canvas: A Microsoft Word document *script* that includes:

1. The title for your podcast episode;
2. A description of your current event/social phenomenon/topic;
3. A description/definition of your social psychological concept;
4. A discussion of how your social psychological concept applies to your topic, with a lesson for the audience;
5. In-text citations and a reference list of your sources in [APA style](#). You should have *at least one citation in addition to* your textbook (e.g., a news article describing your current event, an article from PEW Research Center showing some data, the book or movie you are describing, etc). Note: in-text citations/the reference list do not count toward your 8-10 minute length requirement.

3. Final script - due by June 12, 12:30pm

For this assignment, you and your team must review your TA's feedback on your script and incorporate it into your final script. Was anything in your draft script incorrect, unclear, or illogical? Did your draft script contain spelling or grammar or citation errors? Could your script be better organized? Could you make your script more engaging? You will be graded on whether you incorporated your TA's feedback on your draft script.

Turn in via Canvas: A Microsoft Word document *script* that, in addition to all requirements of the draft script, incorporates all of your TA's feedback.

4. Peer and self evaluation - due by June 12, 12:30pm via [this survey](#)

Each member of your group will submit a peer and self evaluation, which will figure into your personal grade for the project. Team members will be evaluated for their preparation, their communication and participation, their teamwork, and whether they helped the group excel. You should complete this once all work for your final script is done.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### ***Content***

Q: Can we use personal anecdotes in our script?

A: Yes! Podcasts often include personal anecdotes. However, you should still provide a general explanation of your topic beyond personal anecdotes. For example, you might provide data on how common a certain experience is. Personal anecdotes should not make up the majority of your script's description of your topic.

Q: How long should our script be?

A: Your draft and final scripts should be between 5-8 pages (double-spaced, not counting the references page). (The example script was for a 5-minute podcast, and your podcast should be between 8-10 minutes.)

### ***Formatting***

Q: How should our written assignments be formatted?

A: Your written assignments should be double-spaced, use 12pt Times New Roman font, and have 1" margins. Make sure to include all group members' names and a title. All assignments should be in paragraph-form (no bullet points!).

Q: Do we need a reference page?

A: Yes. Begin your references list on a new page at the end of your assignment, titled “References.” References should be formatted using APA style and should be listed in alphabetical order.

### ***Grading***

Q: How do we view your feedback on our graded assignments?

Feedback on your assignments can be viewed in Canvas. Click Grades, then find the assignment. If I provided you with an overall comment, you can access it by clicking on the comment icon to the right of the assignment (circled in pink in [this picture](#)). You can see more detailed feedback by clicking on the name of the assignment, then View Feedback (circled in pink in [this picture](#)).

### ***Late Work/Extensions***

Q: My team can't submit an assignment by the deadline. What should we do?

A: If your team requires an extension for any of the assignments, you may request an extension of up to seven days by going to <https://tinyurl.com/carianextension>. After filling out the form, your extension request is automatically granted. I may follow up if I need additional information; otherwise, you will not receive any confirmation.

Q: What if my team fills out an extension request but we don't submit our assignment within seven days?

A: Your team will receive a zero on the assignment.

### ***Teamwork***

Q: A member of our team is not contributing to our project. What should we do?

A: Contact your team member and give them plenty of information about how they can contribute. If they still are not contributing, email Professor Carian. Students who do not contribute to their team's project by the second deadline (the Draft Script assignment) will be dropped from the team, receive a 0 for the Topic and Concept Selection assignment, the Draft Script assignment, and the Teamwork score, and complete the Final Script assignment on their own.

## **Resources for Success**

1. [The UCI Writing Center](#): Book an appointment with a writing specialist or peer tutor to get help on any of the writing assignments
2. [The OWL APA Formatting Guide](#): This guide describes how to do in-text citations and a reference list. Use the navigation panel on the left hand side of the page.
3. [Tips from NPR for college students recording podcasts](#)