COURSE DETAIL

EVOLUTIONARY SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Country
Netherlands

Host Institution
Maastricht University - Center for European Studies

Program(s)
Psychology and Neuroscience,Psychology and Neuroscience, Maastricht

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Psychology

UCEAP Course Number
117

UCEAP Course Suffix

UCEAP Official Title
EVOLUTIONARY SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

UCEAP Transcript Title
EVOLUTN SOCIAL PSY

UCEAP Quarter Units
6.00

UCEAP Semester Units
4.00

Course Description

This course provides an overview of evolutionary theory and its applications within, predominantly, social psychology. Evolutionary psychologists view most human behaviors as the products of evolved psychological adaptations –or solutions– to recurring problems in the ancestral environment. Evolutionary psychology offers many insightful explanations for social behavior, such as interpersonal attraction, prejudice, and healthy (and unhealthy) behaviors. Moreover, emotions are considered to have evolved in humans because they are functional and ultimately enhance your chances for survival and reproduction – for example, fear makes you avoid certain life-threatening situations, and jealousy makes you protect your relationship. The course covers recent developments within the field of evolutionary social psychology. Students investigate what causes the differences between the two sexes (sexual selection), how (pro-)social behavior can be explained by evolutionary theory, and how we are to some extent still governed by “hard-wired” motives, like a drive for social status and reputation.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
PSY3308

Host Institution Course Title
EVOLUTIONARY SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty
Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Course Last Reviewed

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