CODE AND NAME OF COURSE: PSYC 3013 CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

DATE AND TIME: DURATION: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES: This paper has two pages, two sections and nine questions. Answer ALL questions in Section A and One question in Section B.

SECTION A
SHORT ANSWER: ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION
The section is worth 35 marks.

1. What is non-verbal communication? Identify and explain two ways people show their emotional states through non-verbal communication. Give an example of how a person's behaviour can reveal their underlying emotional state. (8 marks)

2. Define the optimistic bias. Explain how this bias can produce the barrier of over confidence and the planning fallacy and why we always fall prey to this kind of optimism. (6 marks)

3. Social perception is the process through which we try to understand other people. Using examples, explain the actor-observer effect and the self serving bias. Using issues discussed in class, how can these two biases result in errors of perception? (6 marks)

4. Describe re-categorisation and explain how it can be used to reduce prejudice between individuals? (6 marks)

5. Define the correspondence bias (fundamental attribution error). Identify and explain three ways this error can be used to explain some individual's views of the Alexandra's School Industrial Relations Issue (9 marks)

SECTION B
ANSWER ONLY ONE (1) OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. Each question is worth 25 marks

Question 6
(a) How can the realistic conflict theory be used to explain prejudice and discrimination? (5 marks)

(b) Using your knowledge of theory and research as presented in the article by Montecith and Winters discuss the impact of Xenophobia on Caribbean people's attitude towards each other. (8 marks)
c) Discuss the similarities between the problems in relation to prejudice and discrimination in Arab countries and those of the Caribbean islands in relation to the Arab Spring articles.  
(12 marks)

Question 7  
(a) What is social identity?  
(3 marks)

(b) Discuss two issues in relation to Caribbean social identity addressed by Carpenter and Devonish in the article on Race, Language and Self-Concept in Caribbean Childhoods.  
(12 marks)

(c) How does your understanding of these two issues discussed above (b) help you to define ‘self’ within a Caribbean context?  
(10 marks)

Question 8  
(a) What is Pro-social behaviour?  
(3 marks)

(b) Using situational and emotional influences on helping behaviour, discuss why people would help in an emergency  
(10 marks)

(c) Using the two explanations in (b) above analyze the factors that influence helping the behavior of the stakeholders (the captain, the crew, the cruise company, the coast guard, etc.) in the Costa Concordia case.  
(12 marks)

Question 9  
(a) Describe the GAAM model of aggression?  
(5 Marks)

(b) Based on the concepts and theories covered in the topic (aggression) what factors do you think influence the types of violent behavior displayed in Caribbean society as outlined in the Matthies et al. article? On issues of violence in the Caribbean  
(10 marks)

(c) Given your readings on this topic, outline two solutions that can be proposed to reduce violence against women and child abuse in Caribbean society today?  
(10 Marks)

END OF QUESTION PAPER