Discussion Questions for Second Midterm
Social Psychology

Some of these questions will appear on the midterm exam. Most questions can be answered with 120-130 words, or less.
Make sure you answer every part of the questions.

You may work with other students to prepare answers ahead of time (although you each should come up with your own examples if the question calls for examples). Post on the Discussion Board any questions that you have.

1. The Theory of Planned Behavior attempts to explain the relationship between attitudes and behaviors. Describe the main components of this model, and their relationship to each other (you may include a diagram). Describe your own example of the model, filling in each component of the model with your example. In your example, is the behavior likely to happen or not (and why)?

2. Define the self-concept. Fully describe Aron's self-expansion theory. In what ways is the self affected by the experience of falling in love (describe the method and results of the "falling in love" study)?

3. Fully define and discuss comparison level (CL) and comparison level for alternatives (CL-alt). Where do they come from and what do they determine about a relationship? Make up YOUR OWN everyday-life example (something not in notes or book) for each concept.

4. Explain how males and females differ in mate selection from the perspective of evolutionary psychology. That is, what do women look for in a mate, and what is the biological reason? What do men look for, and what is the biological reason? Describe the Clark & Hatfield (1989) "three-questions" study, including method and results. Does the study support evolutionary theory - in what specific ways?

5. We discussed several cognitive factors that affect prejudice and discrimination. Discuss the role of (a) the self-fulfilling prophecy and (b) the illusory correlation. Your answer should include definitions of the terms and implications for discrimination. Provide YOUR OWN detailed example (not from notes or the book) of one of the two concepts.