Discussion Questions for Second Midterm Exam
Interpersonal Relations

A few of the following 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.

1. What does the term correspondence of outcomes refer to? What is the situation called when there is low correspondence? Why is that situation a useful opportunity to learn about the relationship (your answer should include transformation of motivation)? What two kinds of things can we learn from such a situation? Provide your own example of when a couple would have low correspondence of outcomes; include in your example what specific behavior an individual could engage in for your example and what type of inference their partner could make based on their behavior.

2. Fully define and discuss everything you know about 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.

3. Summarize Rusbult's Investment Model. Your answer should include a full description, including definitions, of (1) the antecedents (causes) of commitment, and how they are related to commitment; (2) the three part definition of commitment; and (3) names and descriptions of two commitment preserving processes (of the three that we covered in class). Provide your own separate example for each of the two commitment preserving processes you described.


5. Describe the Finkel et al. "yoga” study. Name the independent and dependent variables (refer to them as such explicitly) and describe the method (i.e., what procedure the participants were involved in). What were the results (how did the IV affect the DV?) and what theoretical conclusion did the experimenters suggest?