

San José State University
College of Social Sciences/Psychology Department
PSYC 154, Social Psychology, Sec. 01, Spring 2023

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Arlene G. Asuncion, Ph.D.
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- When contacting me by email, please write “**Psyc 154-01**” in the subject line.
- I check email regularly during the work day, but please allow at least 1-2 business days for a response. Also, I do not regularly check email after 5:00 pm or on weekends.

Office Hours: **TR 8:00 – 9:00 AM and by appointment.**

Please email me in ADVANCE to schedule a meeting & inform me whether you prefer to meet in-person or via ZOOM.

If my regular office hours conflict with your schedule, please email me to set up an appointment at a day/time that is mutually convenient. **NOTE: Appointments outside of my regular office hours will be via ZOOM.**

Students are encouraged to contact me to discuss any concerns you may have regarding our class as soon as possible and/or BEFORE an assignment or exam date.

Class Days/Time: **TR 9:00 – 10:15 am**
Classroom: Dudley Moorhead Hall (DMH) 234
Prerequisites: Introductory (General) Psychology (Psyc 1 or equivalent)

Embedded tutor: Samantha Fair
Email: samantha.fair@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: TBD
For appointment: Schedule on Spartan Connect via one.SJSU
Platform: Zoom or GoBoard (link sent after scheduling through Spartan Connect)

Course Description

This course is designed to give you a broad overview of classic and contemporary theory and research in Social Psychology. **Social Psychologists are primarily interested in how our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are influenced by our social environment and by the people with whom we interact.**

In this course, we will be especially interested in “normal” everyday interactions and in how the “average” person thinks, feels, and behaves. This course will include in-person lectures, short writing assignments, course activities, discussion board posts, and exams evaluating your knowledge of the lecture and textbook material. The only prerequisite for this course is Psychology 1 (General or Introductory Psychology) or its equivalent.

Course Format

FULLY IN-PERSON Class (all class lectures & exams will be on campus in DMH 234). A course CANVAS SITE will be used as an online resource supplement for this course.

The course Canvas site and the information provided on it is **NOT** a substitute for attending class. However, some course assignments will be conducted via Canvas. Students will need a computer/laptop, iPad or tablet, or other device that will allow access to CANVAS and word processing software to use for completing course assignments. The course Canvas site will be updated regularly throughout the semester.

Students will complete **5 Course Modules** that will cover the following topics & accompanying textbook chapters:

Module 0:	“Getting started” – Introduction to Psyc 154
Module 1:	Theories/History, Research Methods, Social Cognition, & Person Perception (Chapters 1, 2, & 3)
Module 2:	The Self, Stereotyping, Prejudice, & Social Identity (Chapters 4, 5, & 6)
Module 3:	Attitudes/Attitude change, Attitudes/Behavior, Norms, Conformity, & Compliance (Chapters 7, 8, 9 & 10)
Module 4: (final)	Group Processes, Attraction/Love, Aggression, & Prosocial Behavior [Chapters 11, 12, 13 (pp. 482-496 only), & 14]

This course Canvas site will contain the following course material:

- Syllabus and tentative course schedule
- Course announcements
- Class activities/assignments
- Exam study guides/review sheets

Due dates for discussion posts, essays, assignments, and activities are posted on our Canvas course page and are on the class syllabus schedule.

For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources page](#).

***** It has been a long-standing policy of mine NOT TO POST LECTURE NOTES/SLIDES on Canvas or to email my lecture notes to students. Therefore, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to get the lecture notes from one of your classmates if you miss class for any reason.**

COURSE POLICIES/EXPECTATIONS

1. **“Netiquette”** -- Please use these general guidelines when emailing me and/or when posting on the class discussion boards
 - a. When emailing your professor (me)
 - Indicate your class/section in the subject line of your email (e.g., Psyc 154 Sec 01)
 - Please address me by my formal title, (e.g., Professor or Dr. Asuncion). Remember when you send emails to your instructors, it is a “formal” mode of communication. So it is good practice to write your emails as you would if you were sending any type of professional/formal email.
 - Allow **AT LEAST 24 -48 hours for a reply** from me. If you email me on a Friday, the earliest you can expect me to respond is on the following Monday. I stop checking school emails at 5:00 pm. So emails sent to me after 5:00 pm won't be read until the following morning at the earliest.
 - **DO EMAIL ME IN ADVANCE TO**
 - set up an individual Zoom appointment to talk with me during my regular office hours or outside of my regular office hours if your schedule conflicts with them
 - inform me of any emergency/medical/family situation that may affect your ability to complete a course activity/assignment/quiz **BEFORE** the due date.
 - *** NOTE: I will **REQUIRE** documentation of such situations to consider the possibility of an extension/make-up (see Make-up policy)
 - **DO NOT EMAIL ME TO**
 - ask when due dates are for activities/assignments/quizzes. Those are all listed on your course schedule and can be easily found there.
2. General Discussion boards posts -- There will be a separate Discussion board to post general questions about the course policies, assignments, activities, etc. Please post your general questions about the class on this discussion board and **DO NOT EMAIL ME DIRECTLY** about these.

I have found that several students usually have the same questions about activities, papers, or assignments and it is more efficient to answer these types of questions through the CANVAS discussion board so that all students can read my answers/responses.

Here are my expectations for students' responsibilities:

- a. **Students are responsible for knowing all due dates for assignments, activities, and quizzes.**

Make a list of ALL due dates that you are responsible for meeting and make sure your schedule allows you to meet these class deadlines

- b. **Students are responsible for contacting me BEFORE any course assignment or activity is due (or no later than 3 days after), to inform me of any issues/conflict that may arise.**

If you have a conflict with a scheduled course requirement, then **notify me IN ADVANCE** of the scheduled date so that we can discuss this ahead of time (also, be ready to provide documentation). If something urgent has occurred (i.e., an emergency), then contact me as soon as possible and arrange to provide documentation.

For example, if your work supervisor has needed to make a last minute change to your work schedule and it now conflicts with a course requirement deadline, then **it is your responsibility to notify me promptly** and to provide me with a letter from your supervisor on company letterhead explaining this emergency.

Please see the Make-Up Policy (p. 9) for more details you want to be aware of.

- c. **Students are expected to CHECK OUR CANVAS PAGE REGULARLY** to participate in class activities, complete assignments, and keep updated regarding course announcements.

I **STRONGLY** encourage you to check our Canvas page **DAILY** so you will be aware of important course announcements, reminders, and due dates.

- d. **Students are expected to turn in their own individual work**

I **EXPECT** all students to maintain academic integrity in all coursework and when completing exams. All exams are to be completed with no notes, no study guides, no textbook, or any outside help of any kind. All essays and other course assignments must be your own independent work.

- e. **Students are expected to attend class regularly**

Because this course is a fully in-person class, regular attendance is expected. Although students' attendance cannot be used in assigning final course grades, regular participation in in-class activities, lectures, and class discussions is expected and **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED**.

If you have any questions/issues regarding any of these policies, please email me directly to discuss them.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs): Upon successful completion of the Social Psychology course, students will be able to:

- *CLO 1: Understand the major theoretical approaches, findings, and historical trends in Social Psychology*
- *CLO 2: Understand, critically evaluate, and apply the major research methods in Social Psychology*
- *CLO 3: Express and apply social psychological theory effectively in written and oral communication*
- *CLO 4: Gain an awareness of the many social influences, as well as cultural and individual differences, that underlie the complexities of human behavior*
- *CLO 5: Understand the applications of Social Psychology to personal, social, and organizational issues*

REQUIRED Text

Textbook

Smith & Mackie. Social Psychology (4th edition). Psychology Press.

ISBN: 978-1-84872-894-3

On-line Resources for Text

To access practice quizzes & chapter summaries for the text, use the following link:

<http://www.routledgetextbooks.com/textbooks/9781848728943/>

Course Requirements and Assignments

University Policy S16-9, Course Syllabi requires the following language to be included in the syllabus:

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

YOUR GRADE IN THE CLASS WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

1. **4 EXAMS** (50 pts each. 4 exams = 200 pts total). Assessment of CLOs 1,2,4, & 5

There will be **4 IN-CLASS EXAMS** and each will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. Exams will be designed to measure your knowledge and understanding of the material discussed in the class lectures as well as your textbook. Each multiple choice question will be worth 1 point. So each exam will be worth a total of 50 points. The final exam will **NOT BE CUMULATIVE** and will be based only on the material covered after Exam 3.

*****You will need a SCANTRON 882E, a #2 pencil, & a good eraser for each exam.**

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS GIVEN. (see p. 9 Make-up policy) ***

2. **4 SHORT ESSAYS** (Maximum length 2 full pages, 10 pts each, 4 essays = 40 pts). Assessment of CLO 3.

Essay topics and other details about these papers are described on our course CANVAS page. In these essays, you will be asked to apply a social psychological concept to your own life experience. Each essay will be worth 10 points.

In general, essays less than 2 pages with little or no application of relevant class material WILL NOT earn the maximum 10 points (see grading rubric on Canvas for details). Due dates for each paper are indicated on the course schedule on CANVAS.

NOTE: ALL ESSAYS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED ON-LINE THROUGH OUR CANVAS PAGE NO LATER THAN THE DUE DATE/TIME indicated on the course schedule.

NO LATE ESSAYS WILL BE ACCEPTED. (see p. 9 Make-up Policy) Again, forgetting to submit your paper or not realizing there was a paper due is **NOT A VALID REASON** for asking for an extension.

3 **CLASS PARTICIPATION** (25 pts total)

a. **Class activities** (10 pts total). Assessment of CLOs 2,3, 4 & 5

During the course, you will participate in several class activities. Class activities include the Module 0 discussion posts (2 pts), syllabus quiz (3 pts), and research methods worksheet (5 pts max).

Due dates for these class activities are indicated on the course schedule on our CANVAS page. The class activities are worth a total of 10 points.

*****NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED (see p. 9 Make-up Policy & note above)**

b. **In-class reflections/short writing assignments** (15 pts total) Assessment of CLOs 2, 3, 4, & 5

You will also participate in this course by completing several in-class reflection and short writing assignments. You will be asked to respond to writing “prompts” during the class meeting time throughout the semester.

There will be a total of 5 in-class reflections required for the class, worth a total of 15 points. To encourage regular class participation/attendance, the dates for these in-class reflections are NOT listed on the course schedule and will take place randomly throughout the semester.

Because these are **IN-CLASS writing assignments, students MUST BE PRESENT to participate. No make-ups of these reflections will be granted (unless students provide a documentation of an illness or other serious reason for their absence).**

FINAL EXAMINATION

The date for your final examination is listed on the course schedule. The final for this course is **NOT CUMULATIVE** and will only cover material after Exam 3.

The format for the final exam will follow the same format as previous exams (50 multiple choice questions). It will be worth 50 points total.

The date and time of the final exam is determined by SJSU’s Final Exam schedule for Spring 2023. Per university policy, the final exam must be scheduled on the date indicated by SJSU.

***** IMPORTANT:**

Take special note of the Final Exam date and time. Final exams are scheduled by the University so as to minimize conflicts based on class schedules.

Because Final Exams are scheduled for some time after the last day of instruction, it is important that you keep to that scheduled date and time so that you can complete the course and your grade can be submitted to the University by the University's Grading Deadline.

GRADING INFORMATION

Final course grades are based on your performance on the 4 exams, 4 essays, and your participation in the class activities & in-class writing/reflection assignments. Overall, there is a total of 265 points to be earned in this course PLUS any extra credit points you receive (maximum 10 extra credit points).

Failure to submit a course requirement will result in a score of 0 points for that missing requirement.

It is a STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to request a make-up for missed class requirements (see p. 9 Make-up policy) and any missed requirement must be completed *before* the last day of instruction (Thursday, 5/11 by 11:59 pm).

Grading summary:	Points (% of final course grade)
4 Exams (50 points each)	200 (75% for all 4 exams, each exam ~ 20%)
4 Essays (5 points each)	40 (15%)
Class participation (25 points total):	
3 Class activities	10 (4%)
5 In-class reflections/short writings	15 (6%)

Total points	265 (100%)

Final grades will be based on the **PERCENTAGE** of total points you earn. The following grading scale will be used to compute your final course grade. I will also use conventional rules to “round” your course percentage. So .5 and above will be rounded “up” (i.e., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%), and .4 and below will be rounded “down” (i.e., 89.4% will be rounded down to 89%).

GRADING SCALE

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	260 to 265	98 to 100%
<i>A</i>	246 to 259	93 to 97%
<i>A minus</i>	239 to 245	90 to 92%
<i>B plus</i>	233 to 238	88 to 89 %
<i>B</i>	220 to 232	83 to 87%
<i>B minus</i>	212 to 219	80 to 82%
<i>C plus</i>	207 to 211	78 to 79%
<i>C</i>	193 to 206	73 to 77%
<i>C minus</i>	186 to 192	70 to 72%
<i>D plus</i>	180 to 185	68 to 69%
<i>D</i>	167 to 179	63 to 67%
<i>D minus</i>	159 to 166	60 to 62%
<i>F</i>	158 & below	59% & below

*** **EXTRA CREDIT (10 pts possible)** -- Extra credit opportunities will be offered at the discretion of the instructor. Any opportunities for extra credit will be announced on CANVAS. One of these activities is a Magazine Ads analysis in which you will be asked to analyze magazine ads for the presence of heuristic cues used by advertisers to capture our attention. This magazine ad activity will be worth a total of 5 extra credit points.

You may also earn extra credit points by completing the Compliance techniques activity in which you will discuss 2 compliance techniques. This activity is worth another 5 extra credit points.

MAKE-UP POLICY

A make-up or extension on a course requirement will be considered *ONLY under serious and documented* circumstances.

Where such circumstances exist, ***IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT ME BY EMAIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND NO LATER THAN 3 DAYS AFTER the date of the missed class requirement.***

BE READY TO PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION.

Appropriate documentation (e.g., a doctor's note or a note from your work supervisor stating that you were called in to work at the last minute) is **REQUIRED for make-up to receive full credit.**

If you are not able to provide documentation, and you have serious and extenuating circumstances that prevented you from fulfilling a course requirement as scheduled, then please email me to discuss with me.

NOTE: Without proper documentation, **points will be deducted** for any make-up work submitted.

*** Again, it is important you inform me **BEFORE** any assignment/exam is due. I am more likely to be able to help with any issues if I know about them **SOONER** rather than after a due date.

*** The **LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION** for this course is **THURSDAY, 5/11**. I will **NOT ACCEPT** any late/missing assignments or offer any **EXTRA** credit opportunities **AFTER THIS DATE.**

Classroom Protocol

I expect everyone to be respectful of me and your fellow classmates. So please practice the following guidelines to help the class run more smoothly as well as to limit the amount of distractions that occur.

- 1. Please TURN OFF all cell phones & DO NOT TEXT during class time. If you receive an important call/text during class, please step outside of the classroom should you need to respond.*
- 2. Please REMOVE all earphones and do not listen to music or look at your instagram, facebook, twitter, snapchat, etc during class time.*
- 3. If you arrive late, please come in as quietly as you can and sit in the back of the room.*
- 4. If you have to leave early, please do so quietly and sit next to the door so you don't distract other people.*
- 5. Don't talk when your instructor is speaking or when other students are asking questions.*
- 6. Please be respectful of other people's experiences and comments even though you might not agree with what they are saying.*

Public Sharing of Instructor Material:

In accordance with University Policy S12-7, course material developed by the instructor are the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not put publicly share or upload any instructor-generated material for this course such as study guides or assignments without instructor consent.

USE OF LAPTOPS IN THE CLASSROOM

Laptops are permitted in the classroom for NOTE-TAKING PURPOSES ONLY. If you use a laptop to take notes, please sit at the back or on the sides of the classroom so that your screen will not be a distraction to the rest of the students in the class.

Use of laptops for any other purpose (e.g., non-class related activities like emailing friends, or surfing the web) will not be permitted. Students not abiding by these guidelines will be asked to turn off their laptop and will not be allowed to bring it into the classroom in the future.

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Psychology 154 -- Social Psychology – SPRING 2023

Tentative Course Schedule

Note: The instructor reserves the right to change the dates for exams, activities, and papers. However, students will be informed on CANVAS of any changes before they are made. **All assignments/activities due by 11:59 pm (unless noted otherwise)**

Course Schedule

MODULE/DATES	Lecture topic & Chapter reading	Assignments & DUE dates *** Unless stated otherwise, all assignments are to be submitted on CANVAS by 11:59 PM on due date
MODULE 0 “Getting started” R 1/26	Welcome & Introduction to class Chapter 1	Module 0 Discussion board posts – due THURSDAY 1/31 Syllabus “quiz” activity – due THURSDAY 1/31
MODULE 1 T 1/31	Lecture: Theories/History of Social Psychology Chapter 1	
R 2/2	Lecture: Research Methods Chapter 2	
T 2/7	Lecture: Social Cognition Chapter 3	
R 2/9	Lecture: Schemas Chapter 3	Research Methods Activity – due THURSDAY 2/9
T 2/14	Lecture: Impression formation Chapter 3	
R 2/16	Lecture: Person memory Chapter 3	Essay #1 – due THURSDAY 2/16
T 2/21	Lecture: Attributions Chapter 3	
R 2/23	EXAM 1 MODULE 1 Chapters 1, 2, & 3	IN-CLASS – BRING SCANTRON 882E & #2 PENCIL
MODULE 2 T 2/28	Lecture: The Self – part 1 Chapter 4	
R 3/2	Lecture: The Self – part 2 Chapter 4	
T 3/7	Lecture: Stereotyping 1 – part 1 Chapter 5	
R 3/9	Lecture: Stereotyping 1 – Part 2 Chapter 5	

MODULE/DATES	Lecture topic & Chapter reading	Assignments & DUE dates *** Unless stated otherwise, all assignments are to be submitted on CANVAS by 11:59 PM on due date
MODULE 2 T 3/14	Lecture: Stereotyping 2 – part 1 Chapter 5	Essay #2 – due TUESDAY 3/14
R 3/16	Lecture: Stereotyping 2 – part 2 Chapter 5	
T 3/21	Lecture: Prejudice Chapter 6	
R 3/23	EXAM 2 MODULE 2 Chapters 4, 5, & 6	IN-CLASS – BRING SCANTRON 882E & #2 PENCIL
3/27 – 3/31	SPRING BREAK	
MODULE 3 T 4/4	Lecture: Attitudes Chapter 7	
R 4/6	Lecture: Attitude change Chapter 7	
T 4/11	Lecture : Attitude change & Behavior-Attitudes Chapter 8	
R 4/13	Lecture: Attitudes-Behavior Chapter 8	Magazine Ads <i>EXTRA CREDIT</i> activity – due THURSDAY 4/13
T 4/18	Lecture: Norms & Conformity – part 1 Chapter 9	Essay #3 – due TUESDAY, 4/18
R 4/20	Lecture: Norms & Conformity – part 2 Chapter 9	
T 4/25	Lecture: Norms & Behavior Chapter 10	Compliance techniques <i>EXTRA CREDIT</i> activity – due TUESDAY, 4/25
R 4/27	EXAM 3 MODULE 3 Chapters 7, 8, 9, & 10	IN-CLASS – BRING SCANTRON 882E & #2 PENCIL
MODULE 4 T 5/2	Lecture: Group processes Chapter 11	
R 5/4	Lecture: Attraction/Love Chapter 12	
T 5/9	Lecture: Love/Aggression Chapter 13 (pp. 482-496)	Essay #4 – due TUESDAY, 5/9

MODULE/DATES	Lecture topic & Chapter reading	Assignments & DUE dates *** Unless stated otherwise, all assignments are to be submitted on CANVAS by 11:59 PM on due date
R 5/11	Lecture : Aggression/Prosocial Behavior Chapter 13 (pp. 482-496) & Chapter 14	
WEDNESDAY, 5/17	EXAM 4 (FINAL) MODULE 4 Chapters 11, 12, 13 (pp.482-496), & 14	IN-CLASS – 8:15 – 9:30 am BRING SCANTRON 882E & #2 PENCIL