
Social Psychology Section 02

PSYC 154

Fall 2023 3 Unit(s) 08/21/2023 to 12/06/2023 Modified 08/15/2023

Contact Information

Instructor: Jason X. Ventura

Office Location: Dudley Moorhead Hall 352

Telephone: (408) 924-5625

Email: jason.ventura@sjsu.edu

- Canvas Learning Management system
- Available by Zoom appointments
- **NOTE:** When contacting me by email, please put "PSYC 154; sect. 2" in the subject line. Replies within 48 hours (except Sundays).
- If I do not reply within the specified 48 hours, kindly, resend email.

Student Drop-In Hours:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:00 - 1:00 PM
- Students DO NOT need to schedule an appointment during these days and time; just show up.
- I will take students on a "first come; first serve" basis. Outside of scheduled office hours will require an appointment.

Class Days/Time: Mondays and Wednesdays / 1:30 – 2:45 PM

Classroom: Clark Building 117

Course Description and Requisites

Theories, problems and issues in the study of human social behavior.

Prerequisite: PSYC 001.

Letter Graded

* Classroom Protocols

Please practice the following guidelines to help the class run more smoothly as well as to limit the number of distractions that occur.

1. Please TURN OFF all cell phones and 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. LAPTOPS ARE FOR NOTETAKING PURPOSES ONLY!
 - Please remove all head/earphones during class.
 - During class time, do not listen to music, browse the web, check your "snaps," Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, the latest TikTok challenge...etc.

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. Remember...they are not YOU!
 - > I hope these class discussions can be a safe place where all students feel comfortable to share their own thoughts, experiences, and beliefs without being judged by others.
 - > As educated adults, we should be able to engage in thoughtful debate and discussion with one another without any fear of personal attacks/judgments from others.

Program Information

Program learning outcomes (PLOs) are skills and knowledge that students will have achieved upon completion of the Psychology BA degree. Each course in our curriculum contributes to one or more of these PLOs. The PLOs for the Psychology BA degree are:

1. **Knowledge Base of Psychology.** Students will be able to demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.
2. **Research Methods in Psychology.** Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations.
3. **Critical Thinking Skills.** Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.
4. **Applications of Psychology.** Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.
Values in Psychology. Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

Course Goals

Students will come to this class expecting to find a broad range of topics regarding the fascinating world of social psychology. What makes this class all the more interesting is when students are informed on daily news and events that occur each day. It is encouraged for students to read daily news reports from their preferred news source.

If students do not have a specified daily news source the instructor recommends BBC (global), The New York Times (national), and San Jose Mercury News (local). Keeping on top of daily events will enhance students' learning by applying social psychological theories based on real world events. This translates into a better understanding of knowledge presented in class.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. To provide a basic understanding of how social psychologists think about and study human behavior;
2. To provide the tools to understand and critically examine psychological research;
3. To provide an introduction to a general survey of many of the theories and principles that underlie social psychology;
4. To encourage reflection about the application of social psychological research and how it might be used to solve real-world problems and even help understand situations we encounter in everyday life.
5. Express and apply social psychological theory effectively in written and oral communication

Course Materials

Textbook

Myers, D. G. & Twenge, J.M. (2022). *Social psychology (14th edition)*. McGraw Hill: New York, NY

ISBN10: 1260888509 | ISBN13: 9781260888508

McGraw Hill tech support: 1(800) 331-5094

[Link to McGraw Hill Student Support \(https://www.mheducation.com/highered/support/student/connect.html\)](https://www.mheducation.com/highered/support/student/connect.html)

To enhance your learning experience and provide affordable access to the right course material, this course is part of an inclusive access model called First Day™. You can easily access the required materials for this course at a discounted price, and benefit from single sign-on access with no codes required in Canvas.

San Jose State University will bill you at the discounted price as a course charge for this course.

It is NOT recommended that you Opt-Out, as these materials are required to complete the course. You can choose to Opt-Out on the first day of class, but you will be responsible for purchasing your course materials at the full retail price and access to your materials may be suspended.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

- Regular access to a computer (with Internet connection), and possession of a word processor program (MS Word, Pages, or GoogleDocs).

Library Liaison

The SJSU library has a librarian who specializes in psychology (and other social sciences), and this librarian can serve as a very valuable resource for helping you to develop research ideas and locating appropriate research materials. The library also has an abundance of resources for doing psychology research:

Psychology Librarian:

Christa Bailey

christa.bailey@sjsu.edu

408-808-2422

<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/psychology>

Course Requirements and Assignments

“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 course will be based on the following:

Examinations (50 pts each. 3 exams = 150 pts total) Assessment of CLOs 1, 2, 4, and 5

There will be three in-class exams and they will consist of 30 multiple choice questions and 2 short answer questions. **Students must be in class to receive credit for exams.** Exams will be designed to measure your knowledge and understanding of the material discussed in lecture. Each multiple-choice question will be worth 1 point and the essay questions will be worth 10 points each. Each exam will be worth a total of 50 points. **The final exam will be cumulative.**

You will need a SCANTRON 882E, a #2 pencil, and a good eraser for each exam. No bluebook necessary.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR EXAM DAYS:

- **LECTURE NOTES AND POWERPOINT SLIDES ARE NOT POSTED ON-LINE.** If you miss lecture for any reason, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to get the lecture notes from one of your classmates. I will not email or copy any lectures for students. Exams will be based on lecture material; study guides will be provided.
- **Examinations:** On exam days, just like every class session, students are expected to be in their seat by the time class begins. **Students who are more than ten minutes late to exams will automatically receive a ten-point deduction.** Reason being: This creates an unfair advantage; students arriving late have more time to prepare than the rest of the class.
- No extensions or make-up exams will be given except in cases of reasonable and documented academic reasons, emergencies, serious illness, or similar seriously disruptive events. If such a circumstance should arise, **please contact instructor twelve hours before the scheduled exam.**
- If students contact instructor within the 12-hour window, a ten-point deduction will be implemented on the make-up exam. **Students will have five days to make up exams.**
- **Students that do not contact the instructor before the exam will not receive credit.**

ASSIGNMENTS

GROUP ASSIGNMENT: Social Problem assignment - Assessment of CLOs 1, 2, and 4

Students will work with groupmates on a social problem. The purpose of this assignment is to research social problems and use trusted news sources, social psychological theories, and research, to analyze and provide solutions. **The Social Problem assignment is worth 50 points.**

GROUP ASSIGNMENT - Social Media Analysis Assignment: Group presentation and assignment - Assessment of CLOs 1, 2, 4, and 5

GROUP PRESENTATION: In this presentation, students address how social media both perpetuates prejudice and can be used to combat prejudice. The goal of the activity is for students to consider whether social media has increased, decreased, or has no overall effect on stereotypic beliefs and prejudicial attitudes. Students will be assigned into groups (by the instructor) based on choice of social media site. There will be a Q & A session for group members after their presentation. Presentation dates will be randomly selected. **The social media analysis presentation is worth 30 points.**

GROUP ASSIGNMENT: As a group, students will present findings to the class. This assignment is designed to provide social psychological support to students' analysis in their presentation. Requirements for this assignment will be posted on Canvas at a later date. **The social media analysis assignment is worth 25 points.**

Discussion assignments – Assessment of CLOs 2, 4, and 5

The "Discussion" assignments will be used to apply social psychological theories and lecture material within a real-world setting. The discussion topic will reflect current events and/or social psychological discussion. Discussions will also be used as an opportunity to earn participation points. **Discussion assignments will be worth 25 points; discussions for participation points will be worth five points each.**

CONNECT Homework Assignments Assessment of CLOs 1, 2, 3 and 5

Students must complete 7 total homework assignments over the course of the semester. Assignments will be assigned for each chapter we begin, and CONNECT assignments will be due before midnight on the scheduled due date (see course schedule OR instructor will make an announcement in class). There are no "re-dos" if you miss the deadline. Once the assignment's deadline is passed you may not complete the homework assignment. **CONNECT assignments are 25 points each (10 points for SmartBook assignments; 15 points for homework assignments; total of 175 points).**

Class participation (15 pts total) Assessment of CLO 4 and 5

Because this is in part an experiential class, attendance and participation are crucial. You cannot participate if you do not come to class. Many classroom activities and discussions will supplement the reading and students are responsible for all material, assignments, and explanations given in class, even if they were absent. The instructor will announce other opportunities for participation points during the semester.

EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE AVAILABLE

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignments that do not meet the minimum page count will result in zero points.

The above policy is implemented due to high volume of grading. Before I read a single word on assignments, I check the page count. If your assignment does not meet the minimum page requirement, I will not read it, and move on to the next student. TITLE AND REFERENCE PAGE ARE NOT PART OF THE PAGE COUNT.

How is "on time" defined in this course? Assignment due dates and times are specified on course schedule. Students will receive a "LATE" notice if their assignment is turned in past the specified time. The instructor will implement a ten-minute grace period.

If the criteria listed above are not met your assignment is considered late (see policy for late assignments).

**All writing assignments must be written in APA style. Instructor will dock points to papers that are not written in this style.

**High percentages on Turn-It-In will have an effect on student's grade. Paraphrase rather than quote.

I WILL ACCEPT LATE ASSIGNMENTS! However, late assignments will result in half points, and if it does not meet requirements, you will lose more points. Students will have one week to turn in late assignments. Late assignments will not receive any comments or feedback. This policy does not apply to Connect assignments.

If your assignment is not submitted after a week from the due date, it will result in zero points. It is in your best interest to turn assignments in on time.

Communication is key! I understand "things happen," and if an incident should arise, please send an email 12 hours before the due date and time. I will take your e-mail into consideration when evaluating assignments.

Final Examination or Evaluation

Wednesday, December 13th 12:15 - 2:30 PM. The final exam will be cumulative and worth 50 points.

"Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment."

✓ Grading Information

Your final course grade will be based on the following assignments & grading scale:

Exams (50 pts each) 150 total points	(32%)
Social Problem assignment 50 points	(11%)
Social Media Analysis presentation 30 points	(6%)
Social Media Analysis group assign. 25 points	(5%)
Discussion assignment 25 points	(16%)
Participation 15 points	(3%)
CONNECT assignments (25 points each) 175 total points	(37%)

Total possible points: 470

Grading Scale:

A plus more than 460	A 459 to 435	A minus 434 to 421
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B plus 420 to 412	B 411 to 388	B minus 387 to 374
C plus 373 to 365	C 364 to 341	C minus 340 to 327
D plus 326 to 318	D 317 to 294	D minus 293 to 280
F less than 279		

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9 \(PDF\)](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), 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 the [Syllabus Information](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Course Schedule

PSYC 154 (sect.2): Social Psychology, Fall 2023, TENTATIVE Course Schedule

***The instructor reserves the right to change the date for exams, activities, and papers. Students will be informed IN CLASS of any changes before they are made.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
1	8/21	Introduction of course and instructor, read all of Chapter 1	
1	8/23	What is social psychology?	
2	8/28	Research methods	
2	8/30	Research methods	
3	9/4	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY: LABOR DAY	

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
3	9/6	<p data-bbox="380 247 626 268">"The Self in a Social World"</p> <p data-bbox="380 352 989 409">ASSIGNMENT DUE: Chapter 2: "The Self in a Social World" Connect assignment</p> <p data-bbox="380 493 894 550">Begin chapter 3 Connect assignment ("Social Beliefs and Judgments")</p>	<p data-bbox="1005 247 1117 331">Assignment due before midnight</p>
4	9/11	<p data-bbox="380 659 989 709">Discuss chapter 2 Connect assignment and continue, "The Self in a Social World"</p> <p data-bbox="380 793 922 850">Work on chapter 3: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment</p>	
4	9/13	<p data-bbox="380 961 626 982">"The Self in a Social World"</p> <p data-bbox="380 1066 951 1123">Continue working on chapter 3: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment</p>	
5	9/18	<p data-bbox="380 1234 483 1255">Review Day</p> <p data-bbox="380 1339 951 1396">Continue working on chapter 3: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment</p>	
5	9/20	<p data-bbox="380 1507 464 1528">EXAM #1</p> <p data-bbox="380 1612 922 1669">Work on chapter 3: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment</p>	

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
6	9/25	<p>State of the class</p> <p>Start "Social Beliefs and Judgments" lecture</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT DUE: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment</p> <p>Begin chapter 4 Connect assignment ("Behavior and Attitudes")</p>	Assignment due before midnight
6	9/27	<p>Discuss chapter three Connect assignment and continue "Social Beliefs and Judgments" lecture</p> <p>Work on chapter 4: "Behavior and Attitudes"</p>	
7	10/2	<p>"Social Beliefs and Judgments"</p> <p>Continue working on chapter 4: "Behavior and Attitudes"</p>	
7	10/4	<p>"Behavior and Attitudes"</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT DUE: Chapter 4: "Behavior and Attitudes" Connect assignment</p> <p>Begin chapter 9 Connect assignment ("Prejudice")</p>	Assignment due before midnight.
8	10/9	CLASS CANCELLED-MENTAL HEALTH DAY	
8	10/11	TBD	

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
9	10/16	<p>Discuss chapter four Connect assignment and continue, "Behavior and Attitudes" lecture</p> <p>Work on chapter 9 "Prejudice" Connect assignment</p>	
9	10/18	<p>Introduce social media analysis presentation and individual assignment, and begin "Prejudice" lecture</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT DUE (Friday, October 20th before midnight): Submit selection for the social media analysis assignment (details will be provided in class).</p> <p>Continue working on Chapter 9 Connect assignment</p>	
10	10/23	<p>"Prejudice"</p> <p>Social media analysis groups will be introduced, and meet, during the last part of class</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT DUE: Chapter 9 Connect assignment</p> <p>Introduce chapter 6 Connect assignment ("Conformity and Obedience").</p>	<p>Assignment due before midnight.</p>
10	10/25	<p>State of the class</p> <p>Discuss chapter nine Connect assignment and continue "Prejudice" lecture</p> <p>Social media groups will meet</p> <p>Work on chapter 6 Connect assignment ("Conformity and Obedience").</p>	

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
11	10/30	"Prejudice" Work on chapter 6 "Conformity and Obedience"	
11	11/1	"Prejudice" Work on chapter 6 "Conformity and Obedience"	
12	11/6	Social media presentation day	
12	11/8	Social media presentation day	
13	11/13	Social media presentation day ASSIGNMENT DUE: Individual assignments and slide presentations (Social Media Analysis assignment)	
13	11/15	Review Day	
14	11/20	EXAM #2	
14	11/22	NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY: Thanksgiving Holiday	

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
15	11/27	<p data-bbox="381 247 638 275">"Conformity and Obedience"</p> <p data-bbox="381 352 911 411">ASSIGNMENT DUE: Chapter 6 "Conformity and Obedience" Connect assignment</p> <p data-bbox="381 489 899 516">Introduce chapter 10 Connect assignment ("Aggression")</p> <p data-bbox="381 594 699 621">Introduce "Discussion" assignment</p>	<p data-bbox="1003 247 1117 331">Assignment due before midnight</p>
15	11/29	<p data-bbox="381 730 971 789">Discuss chapter 6 Connect assignment and continue "Conformity and Obedience" lecture</p> <p data-bbox="381 867 886 894">Work on chapter 10 Connect assignment ("Aggression")</p> <p data-bbox="381 926 500 953">"Aggression"</p> <p data-bbox="381 1031 615 1058">Introduce "Discussion #3"</p>	<p data-bbox="1003 730 1133 814">Discussion #2 due before midnight</p>
16	12/4	<p data-bbox="381 1213 500 1241">"Aggression"</p> <p data-bbox="381 1318 850 1346">ASSIGNMENT DUE: chapter 10 Connect assignment</p>	<p data-bbox="1003 1213 1117 1297">Assignment due before midnight.</p>
16	12/6	<p data-bbox="381 1451 643 1478">LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION</p> <p data-bbox="381 1507 467 1535">"Helping"</p> <p data-bbox="381 1612 943 1640">ASSIGNMENT DUE: Chapter 12 "Helping" Connect assignment</p>	<p data-bbox="1003 1451 1122 1507">Discuss final exam.</p> <p data-bbox="1003 1585 1117 1669">Assignment due before midnight.</p> <p data-bbox="1003 1753 1117 1871">Discussion assignment due before midnight</p>

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
Final Exam		Wednesday, December 13th 12:15-2:30 PM	Worth 50 points (cumulative exam)