

Social Psychology Section 03 PSYC 154

Spring 2023 3 Unit(s) 01/25/2023 to 05/15/2023 Modified 01/28/2023

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>

- [Social Psychology - 14th edition \(Myers & Twenge\)](#)
Picture of cover

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.**

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 assignment – Assessment of CLOs 2, 4, and 5

The "Discussion" assignment 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. **The Discussion assignment will be worth 25 points.**

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, May 17th 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
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 \(http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf\)](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 [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.

Course Schedule

PSYC 154 (sect.3): Social Psychology, Spring 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	1/26	Introduction of course and instructor Skim all of Chapter 1	
2	1/31	Research methods	
2	2/2	Research methods	
3	2/7	Finish research methods and begin "The Self in a Social World." ASSIGNMENT DUE: Chapter 2: "The Self in a Social World" Connect assignment. Begin chapter 3 Connect assignment ("Social Beliefs and Judgments")	Assignment due before midnight

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
3	2/9	<p>Discuss chapter 2 Connect assignment and continue, "The Self in a Social World."</p> <p>"The Self in a Social World"</p>	
4	2/14	<p style="text-align: center;">NO CLASS MEETING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Independent Workday</p> <p>Work on Social Problem assignment with group members</p> <p>Work on chapter 3: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment.</p>	
4	2/16	<p style="text-align: center;">NO CLASS MEETING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Independent Workday</p> <p>Work on Social Problem assignment with group members</p> <p>Work on chapter 3: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment.</p>	
5	2/21	<p>"The Self in a Social World"</p> <p>"Social Problem" assignment groups will meet.</p> <p>Work on Social Problem assignment with group members</p> <p>Work on chapter 3: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment.</p>	

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
5	2/23	<p>"The Self in a Social World"</p> <p>"Social Problem" assignment groups will meet.</p> <p>Complete Social Problem assignment with group members</p> <p>Continue working on chapter 3: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment.</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT DUE (before midnight): Social Problem assignment</p>	
6	2/28	<p>Review Day</p> <p>Continue working on chapter 3: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment</p>	
6	3/2	<p style="text-align: center;">EXAM #1</p> <p>Work on chapter 3: "Social Beliefs and Judgments" Connect assignment.</p>	
7	3/7	<p style="text-align: center;">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
7	3/9	<p>Discuss chapter three Connect assignment and continue "Social Beliefs and Judgments" lecture.</p> <p>Work on chapter 4: "Behavior and Attitudes"</p>	

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
8	3/14	<p>"Social Beliefs and Judgments"</p> <p>Continue working on chapter 4: "Behavior and Attitudes."</p>	
8	3/16	<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.
9	3/21	<p>Discuss chapter four Connect assignment and continue, "Behavior and Attitudes" lecture.</p> <p>Work on chapter 9 "Prejudice" Connect assignment.</p>	
9	3/23	<p>Introduce social media analysis presentation and individual assignment, and begin "Prejudice" lecture.</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT DUE (Friday, March 24th 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	3/28	SPRING RECESS	
10	3/30	SPRING RECESS	

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
11	4/4	<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>	Assignment due before midnight.
11	4/6	<p style="text-align: center;">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>	
12	4/11	<p>"Prejudice"</p> <p>Work on chapter 6 "Conformity and Obedience"</p>	
12	4/13	<p>"Conformity and Obedience"</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT DUE: Chapter 6 "Conformity and Obedience" Connect assignment.</p> <p>Introduce chapter 10 Connect assignment ("Aggression")</p> <p>Introduce "Discussion assignment"</p>	Assignment due before midnight

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
13	4/18	Social media presentation day	
13	4/20	Social media presentation day	
14	4/25	Social media presentation day ASSIGNMENT DUE: Group assignment (Social Media Analysis assignment)	
14	4/27	Review Day	
15	5/2	EXAM #2	
15	5/4	"Conformity and Obedience" ASSIGNMENT DUE: Introduce chapter 10 Connect assignment ("Aggression") Introduce "Discussion Assignment"	Discussion assignment due before midnight
16	5/9	"Aggression" ASSIGNMENT DUE: chapter 10 Connect assignment.	Assignment due before midnight.

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
16	5/11	<p style="text-align: center;">LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION</p> <p>“Helping.”</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT DUE: Chapter 12 “Helping” Connect assignment.</p>	<p>Discuss final exam.</p> <p>Assignment due before midnight.</p>
Final Exam	5/17	<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, May 17th 12:15-2:30 PM</p>	<p>Worth 50 points (cumulative exam)</p>