

San José State University
College of Social Sciences/Psychology Department
PSYC 154, Social Psychology, Sec. 80, Spring 2023

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Arlene G. Asuncion, Ph.D.

Office Location: DMH 322

Telephone: (408) 924-5609

Email: arlene.asuncion@sjsu.edu

-- When contacting me by email, please write

“**Psyc 154 -80 online**” 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 4:00 pm or on weekends.

Office Hours: **TR 8:00 – 9:00 AM in DMH 322 OR *please email me in ADVANCE to schedule a ZOOM meeting.***

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: **Fully asynchronous online course.** There is no designated meeting day or time.

Classroom: This course section will be conducted via CANVAS. More details about class structure is provided later in the syllabus as well as on our Canvas course page.

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 on-line course will include video lectures with accompanying PowerPoint slides, 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

Online ASYNCHRONOUS Course – COURSE CANVAS SITE (*For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources page.](#)*)

The course Canvas site is the main resource for this online asynchronous course. Use of this site and the information provided is the primary way we will conduct class and participate in all course activities. 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. This site is organized into course modules (Modules 0-5) and contains the following course material:

- Syllabus and tentative course schedule
- Course announcements
- Discussion boards
- Class activities/assignments
- Video lectures with slides
- Exam study guides/review sheets
- Module exams

Due dates for discussion posts, papers, assignments, activities, and exams are posted on our Canvas course page. All video lectures are pre-recorded and available for you to view by the suggested “view date” or whenever it is most convenient for you. Students will **NOT** be required to attend “live” Zoom lectures for this course.

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, Schemas, Person Perception, & Attributions (Chapters 1, 2, & 3)
Module 2: The Self, Stereotyping, Prejudice, & Social Identity (Chapters 4, 5 & 6)
Module 3: Attitudes, Attitude Change, Behavior/Attitudes, Attitudes/Behavior Norms/Conformity, Norms/Behavior (Chapters 7, 8, 9, & 10)
Module 4: Group Processes, Attraction/Love, Aggression, & Prosocial/Helping Behavior (Chapters 11, 12, 13 pp. 482-496 & 14)

***** 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. All of the Powerpoint slides are included within the video lectures for your use.**

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 80 online)
 - 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 4:00 pm. So emails sent to me after 4:00 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 meet with me
 - 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.
 - b. **Discussion boards posts** -- When posting on the course discussion boards, please be respectful of one another’s opinions/beliefs/observations even when they are different or conflict with your own. It’s expected that we ALL behave with respect and tolerance for each other, despite any differences we have. Please refrain from any personal attacks, insults, etc. I hope the Discussion board posts will be a place where we can all feel comfortable to interact with another and engage in thoughtful “conversation” as a class.

***** IMPORTANT:** 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.

2. **ASYNCHRONOUS COURSE FORMATS AND YOUR STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

As you know, asynchronous courses provide you with a certain amount of flexibility in terms of when you can listen to lectures because you can choose to do so whenever it best fits your own schedule

HOWEVER, as with any course, there are specific dates when you will need to complete certain course requirements. In other words, **you will have deadlines that you will be responsible to meet** even though our class has no in-person class meetings.

I have listed specific days by which you should watch/take notes of the relevant lectures in each module. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND that you try to view the assigned lecture(s) by the dates indicated on the course schedule so that you will not fall behind.

***** Also, even though this course is online (& asynchronous), please DO NOT ASSUME that it is “EASIER” than an in-person course.** The amount of course work in this online class is the same as the amount given in my in-person course. What is different about this class is that it is online (& asynchronous) and students must be more self-disciplined and diligent about meeting all class deadlines and completing all assignments/exams.

Here are my expectations for students' responsibilities:

- a. **Students are responsible for knowing all due dates for assignments, activities, and exams; watching all assigned video lectures; and reading assigned textbook chapters .**

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, activity, or quiz 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. 10) for more details you want to be aware of.**

- c. **Students are expected to CHECK OUR CANVAS PAGE REGULARLY** to view course lectures, 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 and complete all module exams independently without any outside help of any kind** (e.g., closed book, no notes, study guides, etc)

There are no requirements for students to download any software (i.e., Lockdown browser) to monitor whether or not cheating is taking place during your quizzes. As you know, there really is no “fool-proof” way for instructors to prevent students’ cheating, especially in an online setting.

That said, 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.

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

There will be 4 module 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 video 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.

*** All module exams will be available on our CANVAS page on the designated day/time indicated on the course schedule. **The TIME LIMIT for each quiz is 75 MINUTES ONLY.** This time limit is equivalent to the time given in an in-person course and is sufficient time to complete the exam (if you have studied carefully and are well-prepared BEFORE you attempt the exam).

*** Students are expected to take all exams with **NO OUTSIDE HELP** (e.g., no notes, textbook, study guides, the help of another person, etc)

*** I realize there is no fool-proof way to prevent students from cheating on these online quizzes. BUT, I HOPE & EXPECT that you adhere to an honor code and attempt each quiz on your own without any outside help.***

***** NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS GIVEN.** (see p. 10 Make-up policy) ***

Again, it is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to know when all exams are scheduled. Forgetting or not knowing when an exam should be completed is NOT A VALID REASON for missing an exam.

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 essays 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 5 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 essay 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. 10 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/DISCUSSION BOARD POSTS** (25 pts total). Assessment of CLOs 2,3, 4 & 5

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. 10 Make-up Policy & note above)

b **Discussion board posts** (15 pts total) Assessment of CLOs 2, 3, 4, & 5

You will also participate in this course by posting your comments/reflections on our class discussion boards. You will be **required to post your comments/thoughts** on the discussion “prompts” posted on the discussion board. You are **NOT required to reply/respond to your classmates (although you are encouraged to do so)**.

There are a total of 5 discussion board posts required for the class, worth a total of 15 points. Due dates for the discussion board posts are indicated on the course schedule on our CANVAS page.

NO LATE DISCUSSION POSTS WILL BE ALLOWED. Once the discussion board is “locked” on the due date/time, you will **NOT** be able to post any more comments.

***** I STRONGLY encourage you to post your discussion board comments as soon as the discussion board is made available.** Doing so will make it less likely that you will “forget” to post them.

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 & 75 minute time limit). 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

GRADING INFORMATION

Final course grades are based on your performance on the 4 exams, 4 essays, and your participation in the class activities & discussion board posts. 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. 10 Make-up policy) and any missed requirement must be completed *before* the last day of instruction (Monday, 5/15 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 Discussion board posts	15	(6%)
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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

Grade	Points	Percentage
<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 **MONDAY, 5/15**. I will **NOT ACCEPT** any late/missing assignments or offer any **EXTRA** credit opportunities **AFTER THIS DATE.**

Classroom Protocol

Public Sharing of Instructor Material:

In accordance with University Policy S12-7, course material developed by the instructor (including video lecture recordings) 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 lectures, study guides, or test questions without instructor consent.

The video lectures I provide for the course are intended to aid you in your work in our class and are for your *personal/private study purposes only*.

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	Video lectures to watch (suggested dates in parentheses) & Chapter readings	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” 1/25 – 1/27	Video – Welcome & Introduction to class (R 1/26) Chapter 1	Module 0 Discussion board posts – due FRIDAY 1/27 Syllabus “quiz” activity – due MONDAY 1/30
MODULE 1 1/27 – 2/20	Video Lecture: Theories/History of Social Psychology (F 1/27) Chapter 1	
	Video Lecture: Research Methods – part 1 (T 1/31) Chapter 2	
	Video Lecture: Research Methods – part 2 (T 1/31) Chapter 2	
	Video Lecture: Social cognition (F 2/3) Chapter 3	Research Methods Activity – due FRIDAY 2/3
	Video Lecture: Schemas (T 2/7) Chapter 3	
	Video Lecture: Impression formation (F 2/10) Chapter 3	Module 1 discussion board posts – due FRIDAY 2/10
	Video Lecture: Person memory (T 2/14) Chapter 3	
	Video Lecture: Attributions (F 2/17) Chapter 3	Essay #1 – due FRIDAY 2/17
M 2/20	EXAM 1 MODULE 1 Chapters 1, 2, & 3	Exam available between 9 am – 11:59 pm

MODULE/DATES	Video lectures to watch (suggested dates in parentheses) & Chapter readings	Assignments & DUE dates *** Unless stated otherwise, all assignments are to be submitted on CANVAS by 11:59 PM on due date
MODULE 2 2/21 – 3/20	Video Lecture: The Self – part 1 (F 2/24) Chapter 4	
	Video Lecture: The Self – part 2 (T 2/28) Chapter 4	
	Video Lecture: Stereotyping 1 – part 1 (F 3/3) Chapter 5	Module 2 discussion board posts – due FRIDAY 3/3
	Video Lecture: Stereotyping 1 – part 2 (T 3/7) Chapter 5	
	Video Lecture: Stereotyping 2 – part 1 (F 3/10) Chapter 5	Essay #2 – due FRIDAY 3/10
	Video Lecture: Stereotyping 2 – part 2 (T 3/14) Chapter 5	
	Video Lecture: Prejudice (F 3/17) Chapter 6	
M 3/20	EXAM 2 MODULE 2 Chapters 4, 5, & 6	Exam available between 9 am – 11:59 pm
MODULE 3 3/21 – 4/24	Video Lecture: Attitudes – part 1 (T 3/21) Chapter 7	
	Video Lecture: Attitudes – part 2 (F 3/24) Chapter 7	
3/27 – 3/31	SPRING BREAK	
	Video Lecture: Attitude change – parts 1 & 2 (T 4/4)	Magazine Ads EXTRA CREDIT activity – due WEDNESDAY 4/5
	Video Lecture: Behavior- Attitudes (F 4/7) Chapter 8	Essay #3 – due FRIDAY, 4/7
	Video Lecture: Attitudes- Behavior (T 4/11)	

MODULE/DATES	Video lectures to watch (suggested dates in parentheses) & Chapter readings	Assignments & DUE dates *** Unless stated otherwise, all assignments are to be submitted on CANVAS by 11:59 PM on due date
	Video Lecture: Norms & Conformity – part 1 (F 4/14) Chapter 9	Module 3 discussion board posts – due FRIDAY, 4/14
	Video Lecture: Norms & Conformity – part 2 (T 4/18) Chapter 9	
	Video Lecture: Norms & Behavior (F 4/21) Chapter 10	Compliance techniques <i>EXTRA CREDIT</i> activity – due FRIDAY, 4/21
M 4/24	EXAM 3 MODULE 3 Chapters 7, 8, 9, & 10	Exam available between 9 am – 11:59 pm
MODULE 4 4/25 – 5/18	Video Lecture: Group processes – part 1 (T 4/25) Chapter 11	
	Video Lecture: Group processes – part 2 (F 4/28)	
	Video Lecture: Attraction (T 5/2) Chapter 12	Essay #4 – due WEDNESDAY, 5/3
	Video Lecture: Love – part 1 (F 5/5) Chapter 12	Module 4 discussion board posts – due FRIDAY 5/5
	Video Lecture: Love – part 2 (T 5/9)	
	Video Lectures: Aggression – parts 1 & 2 (F 5/12) Chapter 13 (pp. 482-496)	End of semester discussion board posts – due FRIDAY, 5/12
	Video Lecture: Prosocial behavior (M 5/15) Chapter 14	
THURSDAY, 5/18	EXAM 4 (FINAL) MODULE 4 Chapters 11, 12, 13 (pp.482-496), & 14	Final exam available between 9 am – 11:59 pm