

San José State University
Department of Psychology
PSYC 195, Honors Seminar, Section 1, SPRING 2023
(CLASS ID: 24140)

Instructor(s):	Dr. Mark Van Selst
Office Location:	DMH 314 (realistically, we will connect via zoom for the first few weeks)
Telephone:	408 924 5674
Email:	Mark.VanSelst@SJSU.edu
Office Hours:	Mon and Wed 8:30-9:00 (30 minutes before class)
Class Days/Time:	Mon and Wed 9-10:15 (Jan 25 – May 15, 2023)
Classroom:	DMH 359
Prerequisites:	18+ units of PSYC/STAT, PSYC 100W , PSYC 118 or PSYC 120 , overall PSYC/STAT GPA of 3.5, Senior Standing

Course Description

“*Intensive examination of background and current status of student-selected problems.*” – as actually taught the first third will be on intelligence testing, the middle third on student-selected methods topics, the last third to perform a meta-analysis of an individually-approved psychology-related topic.

Course Format

This is a SYNCHRONOUS IN PERSON Course. Due to academic travel, some days will be via ZOOM (very few).

You will need access to CANVAS, to ZOOM, the SJSU library (online portal) and a strong enough bandwidth to effectively interact with your fellow students and instructor on those (few) remote days. A desktop, tablet, or laptop is very highly recommended – ideally in an environment for the duration of the class period that is free of distractions.

CANVAS and e-mail communications and content

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on CANVAS ([Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>). I use email and CANVAS communications frequently throughout the course, it is your responsibility to check these sources (including setting relevant filters to ensure emails do not get lost).

Applying for HONORS in PSYCHOLOGY (formal request for departmental honors)

Most individuals taking this course should complete and submit the request (normally via Dr. Van Selst) for departmental honors (if you believe you may qualify for honors when you graduate). The requirements and forms to be filled in as part of your application can be found at:

- <https://www.sjsu.edu/psych/undergraduates/honors-psychology.php>

Course Goals

This capstone course for the PSYCHOLOGY major (BA/BS) touches on each of the five program outcomes, which can be found at: <https://www.sjsu.edu/psych/plo/index.html>

GOAL 1: Knowledge Base

GOAL 2: Research Methods

GOAL 3: Critical Thinking

GOAL 4: Applications of Psychology

GOAL 5: Values in Psychology

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

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

CLO1: describe the history of intelligence testing from several different theoretical perspectives (content from Gould, Sternberg, etc)

CLO2: describe the history and current status of their student-selected topic (meta-analysis)

CLO3: effectively explain research methodologies that they were not previously fluent in (meta-analysis, methods portion of the course)

CLO4: compare and contrast different perspectives on intelligence

CLO5: explain how previous work on intelligence relates to social justice, immigration, eugenics, and biases in educational assessment/attainment (Gould, methods).

Required Texts/Readings (these are easily found on ebay, etc. – order ASAP)

Textbook

1. Intelligence: A brief History (2004). Cianciolo, A.T., & Sternberg, R.J. Blackwell (ISBN 1-4051-0824-X)
2. Mismeasure of Man (1996). Gould, S.J.. Norton (ISBN 0-393-31425-1)
3. Meta-Analysis: quantitative methods for research synthesis. Wolf, F.M. (1985). Sage Publications Inc.: Newbury Park, California. (ISBN 0-8039-2756-8)

Other Readings

1. Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition (2020). APA: Washington, DC. (ISBN 978-1-4338-3217-8).
2. other sage “mini-books” (see www.sagepub.com) as appropriate for your research or presentation topic(s)
3. links to a variety of TED talks and other resources will be provided throughout the course

Library Liaison for PSYCHOLOGY

- Bailey, Christa; Email: Christa.Bailey@SJSU.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

The complete descriptions of the assignments are available on CANVAS. The dues dates are also listed on CANVAS and at the end of this syllabus. If there is a conflict the CANVAS dates will take precedence.

“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.”

Final Examination or Evaluation

Your culminating project for the course is the submission of the written form of your statistical summary (meta-analysis) project. In the past we have also used that date/time scheduled for the course to accommodate individuals with “late” presentations (penalty applies) so it is important that you be available for the date and time as listed on the syllabus for this ‘final’ (as well as for normal class interactions).

“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

The points available to be awarded in this class sum to 100. The score out of 100 is your final percentage in the course. There are no “bonus” or “extra” points available except as indicated. Late assignments will be penalized a minimum .5 points or 10% of the possible points (whichever is greater). A D- in this (and most other) courses is a passing grade vis-à-vis requirements for graduation with a major in psychology.

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Minimum Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	95%
<i>A</i>	92.5%
<i>A minus</i>	90%
<i>B plus</i>	87.5%
<i>B</i>	82.5%
<i>B minus</i>	80%
<i>C plus</i>	77.5%
<i>C</i>	72.5%
<i>C minus</i>	70%
<i>D plus</i>	67.5%
<i>D</i>	62.5%
<i>D minus</i>	60%

Grading will be based on written assignments and evaluation of presentations. There will only be minimal formal in-class testing. The assignments will ensure that everyone keeps up with the reading, and should help you to assess whether you have mastered the basic concepts under study. The course material builds naturally upon itself so the course ends up being somewhat cumulative.

Due dates will not be rescheduled except in the case of a documented medical or family emergency or by the instructor (with sufficient advance warning). Papers and assignments are generally due at the beginning (within five minutes of the registrar's scheduled start time) of the relevant class meeting (see CANVAS). It is in your best interests to do all of the assignments and to complete them in a timely fashion.

Although this is an honors course, some individuals produce work that indicates a deficit in written communication. Specific assistance with improving writing (or other mentoring/tutoring advice/assistance) can and should be sought from SJSU’s Peer Connections center (SSC room 600) (<http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu/>). I am generally available to meet with you in order to elaborate on the requirements of the assignments or to answer specific questions that you have. You have the option of rewriting any assignment that you did not achieve at least 75% on (one resubmit per assignment). Any redone assignments will never receive more than 75% of the possible grades. If I find your work to be of unsuitable quality I may return it for you to “re-do” and will not record a grade until it has been resubmitted. Any resubmission should occur within a week so as to allow the course to progress and your efforts to remain on the current topic coverage.

Access to a computer word processor is required for the assignments. The default mechanism will be via canvas uploads. It is assumed that you have sufficient skill and familiarity with your word processor to allow revisions to be made to assignments. For assignments that require you to find published journal articles, you may be

required to include a printout/scan or photocopy of the first page of the article (not just the abstract). If you are unfamiliar with the use of the PsycInfo database, make an appointment with me as soon as possible. Newspaper and magazine articles nor “information sites” (Wikipedia, etc) from the web are not journal articles. It is your responsibility to have easy access to a back-up copy of work in progress (keep multiple back-ups of any computer media)

The class presentations and your preparation for these seminar discussion opportunities form the majority of the basis for your grade. You will adopt effective presentation strategies: 1) do not just read your slides, 2) use both visual and verbal presentation media, 3) use CANVAS discussions to share outlines or other important documents/materials as appropriate, 4) practice, 5) be clear, 6) be knowledgeable, 7) work to increase the knowledge base of your classmates.

Classroom Protocol

I am human, you are human – the goal is to treat each other as adults and to act in ways that contribute to effective learning for the entire class (i.e., be free of unnecessary distraction, keep interactions respectful, remain focused on the content)

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.

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This schedule is subject to change with fair notice (email and/or CANVAS).

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	points
1	Wed Jan 25	Orientation, overview of the course	
2	Mon Jan 30	Intelligence (MVS)	
2	Wed Feb 1	ZOOM meeting (shortened class, conflict with intersegmental meeting of academic senates) <i>Mismeasure of Man</i> (p1-50), <i>Intelligence</i> (p1-10).	3
3	Mon Feb 6	Compare and Contrast: Three “metaphors of intelligence”	3
3	Wed Feb 8	Summarize and Critique any one intelligence theorists view (excluding the one you are presenting on) PRESENTATION: METAPHOR or -ISM	3 3
4	Mon Feb 13	What should physical ‘type’ tell us? What is the genetic contribution to intelligence? What does a heritability index score represent?	3
4	Wed Feb 15	Compare a theorist’s approach vs. Spearman’s approach. **QUIZ 1** PRESENTATION: HISTORIC THEORIST	3 2 3
4	Mon Feb 20	Identify and assess the major claims against Gould’s argument	3
4	Wed Feb 22	Reification of intelligence: Gould argues reification of the non-observable construct of intelligence is inappropriate. Reification can be useful in Science. Is it appropriate here?	3
5	Mon Feb 27	Modern (post 2015) intelligence journal article (from PsycInfo)	3
5	Wed Mar 1	Describe the current status of research on “Learning Styles”	3
6	Mon Mar 6	PRESENTATION: GOULD CHAPTER (end by now)	3
6	Wed Mar 8	Write an overview of your own personal conception of intelligence and why you’ve adopted that view (had it changed?)	3
7	Mon Mar 13	** QUIZ 2 ** List each of 5 general principles of Ethical Conduct (APA): which of the five is of the greatest concern for intelligence? Defend your choice.	2 3

7	Wed Mar 15	NO CLASS (conflict with Academic Senate CSU)	3
8	Mon Mar 20	Recent (post 2015) article or issue regarding ethics in psychological research within the domain of technology, medical information, or educationally protected information.	2

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines	points
8	Wed Mar 22	PRESENTATION : METHODS OF INTEREST	3
9	Mon Mar 27	SPRING BREAK	
9	Wed Mar 29	SPRING BREAK	
10	Mon Apr 3	PRESENTATION : FACULTY SUMMARY	3
10	Wed Apr 5	PROJECT 1: INTIAL SCOPE	2(1+1)
11	Mon Apr 10	The classic "OBEDIENCE" study (Milgram) has been replicated a number of times in both research and non-research settings. What are the ethical issues in modern replications?	3
11	Wed Apr 12	** QUIZ 4 **	2
12	Mon Apr 17	Evaluate any SJSU Faculty article (psychology-related content)	3
12	Wed Apr 19	PROJECT 2: SCOPE	2(1+1)
13	Mon Apr 24	Evaluate any VAN SELST article	3
13	Wed Apr 26	PROJECT 3: HISTORIC RESEARCH TOPIC SUMMARY	3
14	Mon May 1	PROJECT 4: NEWER RESEARCH TOPIC SUMMARY	3
14	Wed May 3	PRESENTATION : PROJECT BACKGROUND	3
15	Mon May 8		
15	Mon May 10	PROJECT 5: TABLE REVIEW (early)	2
16	Mon May 15	** QUIZ 5 ** PRESENTATION : STATISTICAL SUMMARY PROJECT	2 6
Final Exam	Tues May 23	7:15 AM !!!!!!! (to 9:30AM) ← EARLY !!! https://www.sjsu.edu/classes/final-exam-schedule/spring-2023.php PROJECT 6: FULL APA WRITE-UP	8