
Social Psychology Section 80

PSYC 154

Fall 2023 3 Unit(s) 08/21/2023 to 12/06/2023 Modified 07/11/2023

Contact Information

Instructor: Arlene G. Asuncion, Ph.D.

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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 5:00 pm or on weekends.

ZOOM Office Hours: Mon & Wed 1:30 - 2:30 pm and by appointment.

ALL Office hours will be held ONLINE via ZOOM. Please email me in ADVANCE to schedule a meeting & I will send you the Zoom link to join.

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 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)

Course Description and Requisites

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

Prerequisite: PSYC 001.

Letter Graded

* Classroom Protocols

COURSE POLICIES/EXPECTATIONS

1. **"NETTIQUETE"** -- Please use these general guidelines when emailing me and/or when posting on the class discussion boards

When emailing your professor (me)

-- Indicate your class/section in the subject line of your email (e.g., Psyc 154 Sec 80)

-- 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.

-- 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 below)

-- 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. **DISCUSSION BOARD 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 is 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 each other and engage in thoughtful "conversation" as a class.

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.

3. **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 suggested on the course schedule so 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 class.

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, WATCHING THE VIDEO LECTURES, READING THE ASSIGNED TEXTBOOK CHAPTERS, AND COMPLETING ALL ASSIGNMENTS & EXAMS.**

Here are my other 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 below 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 and complete all module exams independently without any outside help of any kind** (e.g., closed book, no notes, no study guides, etc.).

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.

4. 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 **WEDNESDAY, 12/6**. I will **NOT ACCEPT** any late/missing assignments or offer any extra credit opportunities after this date.

5. 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 her/her approval.

You **MAY NOT PUBLICLY SHARE OR UPLOAD** any instructor-generated material for this course.

That means you **MAY NOT POST ANY VIDEO LECTURES, STUDY GUIDES, ASSIGNMENTS, etc.** on **DISCORD** or any other site without my permission.

The video lectures I provide for this course are intended for students enrolled in this specific course section **ONLY** and are for your personal/private study purposes only.

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

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 focus on "normal" everyday interactions and in how the "average" person thinks, feels, and behaves.

This course includes in-person lectures, short in-class writing assignments, course activities, and exams evaluating your knowledge of the lecture and textbook material.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of the Psyc 154 Social Psychology, students will be able to:

- CLO1: Understand the major theoretical approaches findings, and historical trends in Social Psychology
- CLO2: Understand, critically evaluate, and apply the major research methods in Social Psychology
- CLO3: Express and apply social psychological theory effectively in written and oral communication
- CLO4: Gain an awareness of the many social influences, as well as cultural and individual differences, that underlie the complexities of human behavior
- CLO5: Understand the applications of Social Psychology to personal, social, and organizational issues

Course Materials

Psyc 154 80 is a FULLY ONLINE ASYNCHRONOUS class (there will be no designated meeting days/times). The course CANVAS SITE is the MAIN RESOURCE for this course.

Use of this site and the information provided is the primary way we will conduct class and participate in all class 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.

Students will complete **6 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 3A: Attitudes/Attitude change & Attitudes/Behavior (Chapters 7 & 8)

Module 3B: Norms, Conformity, & Compliance (Chapters 9 & 10)

Module 4: 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
- 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.

REQUIRED textbook

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

ISBN: 978-1-84872-894-3

ONLINE RESOURCE FOR textbook

To access practice quizzes and chapter summaries for the textbook, use the following link

[Online resource for Social Psychology textbook \(https://routledgetextbooks.com/textbooks/9781848728943/\)](https://routledgetextbooks.com/textbooks/9781848728943/)

Course Requirements and Assignments

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

1. EXAMS & QUIZZES (200 pts total) Assessment of CLOS 1, 2, 4, & 5.

There will be 3 **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 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 in Module 4.

THE TIME LIMIT FOR EACH EXAM IS 75 MINUTES ONLY. This time limit is equivalent to the time given in an in-person course and is more than sufficient to complete the exam (**if you have studied carefully and are WELL-PREPARED BEFORE you attempt the exam).

In addition, there will be 2 **MODULE QUIZZES** and each will consist of 25 multiple choice questions. These quizzes will assess your knowledge and understanding of the material discussed in Module 3A & Module 3B. Each multiple choice question will be worth 1 point, with each quiz worth a total of 25 points.

THE TIME LIMIT FOR EACH QUIZ IS 45 MINUTES ONLY. Again, this time limit is equivalent to the time given in an in-person course and is more than sufficient to complete the quiz (**if you have studied carefully and are WELL-PREPARED BEFORE you attempt the quiz).

*** All module exams and quizzes will be available on our Canvas page on the designated day/time indicated on the course schedule.

*****IMPORTANT: STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE ALL EXAMS & QUIZZES WITH NO OUTSIDE HELP (e.g., no notes, no textbook, no study guides, the help of another person, etc).**

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

NOTE: There will be **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS/QUIZZES GIVEN** (see make-up policy for details/exceptions)

AGAIN, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to know when all exams are scheduled. **Forgetting or not knowing when an exam/quiz should be completed is NOT A VALID REASON for missing an exam/quiz or granting a make-up/extension.**

2. 4 SHORT ESSAYS (Maximum length 2 full pages; 10 pts each. 4 essays = 40 pts total). Assessment of CLO3

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 make-up policy for details/exceptions). Again, forgetting to submit your essay or not realizing there was a paper due is **NOT A VALID REASON** for granting a make-up/extension.

3. CLASS PARTICIPATION/DISCUSSION BOARD POSTS (25 points total)

a. Class activities (10 points 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.

NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED (see make-up policy for details/exceptions)

b. Discussion board posts (15 points 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.

✓ Grading Information

GRADING INFORMATION

Final course grades are based on your performance on the 4 exams, 4 essays, and your participation in the class activities and in-class 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).

Grading summary:	Points (% of final grade)
3 Exams (50 points each)	150 pts (57% for all exams, each exam worth approx. 19%)
2 Quizzes (25 points each)	50 pts (19% for all quizzes, each exam worth approx. 9%)
4 Short Essays (10 points each)	40 pts (15%)
Class participation (25 points total)	
3 class activities	10 pts (4%)
5 discussion board posts	15 pts (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.

.5 and above will be rounded "up" (i.e., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%)

.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>	<i>260 to 265</i>	<i>98 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>246 to 259</i>	<i>93 to 97%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>239 to 245</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>233 to 238</i>	<i>88 to 89 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>220 to 232</i>	<i>83 to 87%</i>

<i>B minus</i>	<i>212 to 219</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>207 to 211</i>	<i>78 to 79%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>193 to 206</i>	<i>73 to 77%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>186 to 192</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>180 to 185</i>	<i>68 to 69%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>167 to 179</i>	<i>63 to 67%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>159 to 166</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>
<i>F</i>	<i>158 & below</i>	<i>59% & below</i>

***** 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.

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 Social Psychology Fall 2023

Tentative Course Schedule

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to change the dates for exams, activities, and essays. 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" 8/21 – 8/28	Video – Welcome & Introduction to class (M 8/21) Chapter 1	Module 0 Discussion board posts – due FRIDAY 8/25 Syllabus "quiz" activity – due MONDAY 8/28
MODULE 1 8/21 – 9/18	Video Lecture: Theories/History of Social Psychology (F 8/25) Chapter 1	
	Video Lecture: Research Methods – parts 1 & 2 (T 8/29) Chapter 2	
	Video Lecture: Social cognition (F 9/1) Chapter 3	Research Methods Activity – due FRIDAY 9/1
	Video Lecture: Schemas (T 9/5) Chapter 3	
	Video Lecture: Impression formation (F 9/8) Chapter 3	Module 1 discussion board posts – due FRIDAY 9/8
	Video Lecture: Person memory (T 9/12) Chapter 3	
	Video Lecture: Attributions (F 9/15) Chapter 3	Essay #1 – due FRIDAY 9/15
M 9/18	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 9/19 – 10/16	Video Lecture: The Self – part 1 (F 9/22) Chapter 4	
	Video Lecture: The Self – part 2 (T 9/26) Chapter 4	
	Video Lecture: Stereotyping 1 – part 1 (F 9/29) Chapter 5	Module 2 discussion board posts – due FRIDAY 9/29
	Video Lecture: Stereotyping 1 – part 2 (T 10/3) Chapter 5	
	Video Lecture: Stereotyping 2 – part 1 (F 10/6) Chapter 5	
	Video Lecture: Stereotyping 2 – part 2 (T 10/10) Chapter 5	
	Video Lecture: Prejudice (F 10/13) Chapter 6	Essay #2 – due FRIDAY 10/13
M 10/16	EXAM 2 MODULE 2 Chapters 4, 5, & 6	Exam available between 9 am – 11:59 pm
MODULE 3A 10/17 – 11/6	Video Lecture: Attitudes – part 1 (T 10/17) Chapter 7	
	Video Lecture: Attitudes – part 2 (F 10/20) Chapter 7	

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: Attitude change – parts 1 & 2 (T 10/24)	Magazine Ads <i>EXTRA CREDIT</i> activity – due WEDNESDAY 10/25
	Video Lecture: Behavior-Attitudes (F 10/27) Chapter 8	Essay #3 – due FRIDAY, 11/3
	Video Lecture: Attitudes-Behavior (T 10/31)	
M 11/6	QUIZ 1 MODULE 3A Chapters 7 & 8	Quiz available between 9 am – 11:59 pm
MODULE 3B 11/7 - 11/20	Video Lecture: Norms & Conformity – part 1 (T 11/7) Chapter 9	
	Video Lecture: Norms & Conformity – part 2 (F 11/10) Chapter 9	Module 3 discussion board posts – due FRIDAY, 11/10
	Video Lecture: Norms & Behavior (T 11/14) Chapter 10	Compliance techniques <i>EXTRA CREDIT</i> activity – due FRIDAY, 11/17
M 11/20	QUIZ 2 MODULE 3B Chapters 9 & 10	Quiz available between 9 am – 11:59 pm
MODULE 4 11/21 – 12/6	Video Lecture: Group processes – parts 1 & 2 (T 11/21) Chapter 11	
	Video Lecture: Attraction (T 11/28) Chapter 12	Essay #4 – due WEDNESDAY, 11/29

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: Love -- parts 1 & 2 (F 12/1) Chapter 12	Module 4 discussion board posts – due FRIDAY 12/1
	Video Lecture: Aggression -- parts 1 & 2 (T 12/5) Chapter 13 (pp. 482 - 496)	
	Video Lecture: Prosocial Behavior (W 12/6) Chapter 14	End of semester discussion board posts – due WEDNESDAY, 12/6
THURSDAY, 12/14	EXAM 4 (FINAL) MODULE 4 Chapters 11, 12, 13 (pp.482-496), & 14	Final exam available between 9 am – 11:59 pm