Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc may be found on my faculty web page:

http://www.sjsu.edu/people/arlene.asuncion

They are also accessible through the Quick Links>Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU for important announcements/information from your instructor.

LECTURE NOTES ARE NOT AVAILABLE ON THE COURSE WEBSITE. It has been a long-standing policy of mine NOT to post my personal lecture notes on-line. Should you miss class for any reason, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to get lecture notes from one of your classmates. Lecture notes will NOT be copied for or emailed to students.
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. Class sessions will include lectures and in-class activities, including small group discussions, short writing assignments, and/or films.

Students will be given an opportunity to examine a wide range of topics within Social Psychology. These broad topic areas include (among others):

-- impression formation  
-- stereotyping and prejudice  
-- Group processes and conformity  
-- the self  
-- Attitudes and persuasion  
-- Attraction, Love, and Aggression

Learning Outcomes

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
Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs): Upon successful completion of the psychology major requirements...

- **PLO1 -- Knowledge Base of Psychology** -- Students will be able to identify, describe, and communicate the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.

- **PLO2 -- 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.

- **PLO3 -- Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology** -- 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.

- **PLO4 -- Application of Psychology** -- Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.

- **PLO5 -- Values in Psychology** -- Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

Required Text

**Textbook**


Classroom Protocol

Out of respect for myself and your fellow classmates, I ask that everybody try to practice the following guidelines to help the class run more smoothly as well as to limit the amount of distractions that occur.

1. Please TURN OFF all cell phones & 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. If you arrive late, please come in as quietly as you can and sit in the back of the room.

3. If you have to leave early, please do so quietly and sit next to the door so you don’t distract other people.

4. Don’t talk when your instructor is speaking or when other students are asking questions.

5. Please be respectful of other people’s experiences and comments even though you might not agree with what they are saying.
USE OF LAPTOPS IN THE CLASSROOM

Laptops are permitted in the classroom for NOTE-TAKING PURPOSES ONLY. If you use a laptop to take notes, please sit at the back or on the sides of the classroom so that your screen will not be a distraction to the rest of the students in the class.

Use of laptops for any other purpose (e.g., non-class related activities like emailing friends, or surfing the web) will not be permitted. Students not abiding by these guidelines will be asked to turn off their laptop and will not be allowed to bring it into the classroom in the future.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic calendar web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Your grade in the class will be based on the following requirements.

1. EXAMS (50 pts each. 3 exams = 150 pts total)

There will be 3 in-class exams and they will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. Exams will be designed to measure your knowledge and understanding of the material discussed in lecture 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 2.

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

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS GIVEN.
2. 4 SHORT PAPERS (Max. length 3 pgs each, 5 pts each, 4 papers = 20 pts total)

Details about these papers are described in a separate handout (PAPER TOPICS). In these papers, you will be asked to apply a social psychological concept to your own life experience. Each paper will be worth 5 points. Due dates for each paper are indicated on the course schedule.

NOTE: DO NOT EMAIL PAPERS TO ME. ONLY HARD COPIES OF PAPERS TURNED IN DURING CLASS TIME WILL BE ACCEPTED.

NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED,

3. IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES (10 pts total).

During the course, you will participate in several in-class activities. 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 require you to bring in a magazine to class and will be worth a total of 5 points.

Other in-class activities might include things like completing a questionnaire, writing a short essay, pop quizzes, watching a video, participating in a short experiment, or any other activity that I feel will enhance your learning about Social Psychology.

Because I want to encourage class attendance and participation, the dates for these in-class activities are not indicated on the course schedule.

NOTE: IF YOU ARE ABSENT ON A DAY WHEN AN IN-CLASS ACTIVITY IS DONE, YOU WILL NOT GET ANY POINTS FOR THAT ACTIVITY. NO OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE GIVEN TO MAKE UP THESE ACTIVITIES.

GRADES: Grading is based on your performance on the 3 exams, on the 4 papers, and from your participation in the in-class activities. Overall, there is a total of 180 points to be earned in this course (150 from exams, 20 from papers, 10 from in-class activities).

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.
**Grading summary:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams (50 pts each)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>(83%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Papers (5 pts each)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>(11%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class activities</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total possible points:</strong></td>
<td><strong>180</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>176-180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>169-175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>162-168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>158-161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>151-157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>144-150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>140-143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>133-139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>126-132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>122-125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>108-114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt; 107</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**University Policies**

**Academic integrity**

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University’s Academic Integrity policy, located at [http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at [http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/).

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) at [http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) to establish a record of their disability.
Psychology 154 -- Social Psychology -- Summer 2012

Course Schedule

Note: The instructor reserves the right to change the dates for exams, activities, and papers. However, students will be informed in class of any changes before they are made.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| T 6/5 | Theories & History
Research Methods
Social Cognition | 1 & 2 | |
| R 6/7 | Schemas
Impression formation
Person Memory | 2 & 3 | |
| T 6/12 | Attributions
The Self | 3 & 4 | PAPER #1 DUE
Inconsistent Impressions |
| R 6/14 | EXAM 1
Stereotyping
Prejudice | CHAPTERS 1-4 | |
| T 6/19 | Attitudes
Attitude Change
Behavior & Attitudes | 7 & 8 | PAPER #2 DUE
Target of prejudice
Bring magazine to class For Thursday |
| R 6/21 | Attitudes & Behavior
Conformity | 8 & 9 | Magazine ad activity
PAPER #3 DUE
Cognitive Dissonance |
| T 6/26 | EXAM 2
Norms & Compliance
Attraction | CHAPTERS 5-9 | |
| R 6/28 | Love
Group Processes | 11 & 12 | PAPER #4 DUE
Unrequited love |
| T 7/3 | Aggression
Helping | 13 & 14 | |
| R 7/5 | EXAM 3 | CHAPTERS 10-14 | |