Instructor Information

Instructor    Clifton M. Oyamot
Office Location    DMH 316
Telephone    (408) 924-5650
Email    Mail function through course Canvas site or clifton.oyamot@sjsu.edu
Class Days/Time    Section 10 Seminar, Wednesdays, 12:00 – 1:00
Section 11 Laboratory, Wednesday, 1:00 – 3:45
Office Hours    Mondays 2:30 – 3:30, Tuesdays 11:00 – 12:00 or by appointment
Classroom    Seminar & Laboratory, DMH 339
Prerequisites    PSYC 001, STAT 095, PSYC 100W, plus either: PSYC 139 or PSYC 154
Pre/Co-requisite    PSYC 120 must be taken either before, or concurrently with, this course

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to provide students advanced treatment of research approaches used in social and personality psychology. Students will learn about and evaluate in classic and contemporary methods used in the domain of social and personality psychology. Students’ main activities in this course will be to design, implement, and communicate original research conducted in the area of social and personality psychology. Students will develop research designs appropriate to the hypotheses being tested, with an emphasis on experimental, quasi-experimental, or correlational designs. Data collection, statistical data analysis, and interpretation are an essential aspect of this process. Students will communicate the results of their research using appropriate professional disciplinary standards (i.e., APA style).

Students will be expected to know basic statistical research design concepts encountered in the pre- and co-requisite classes for this course. Resources will be made available for students to review these concepts as needed throughout the course.
Learning Outcomes

This class is designed to address 4 broad Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs). These CLOs are outcomes students will have demonstrated upon successful completion of the course. The specific CLOs for this course contribute to the overall experience, learning opportunities, and Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) students are exposed to when completing the SJSU Psychology Major.

The SJSU Psychology Major is designed to address 5 broad Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs). These PLOs are outcomes students should be able to demonstrate after having successfully completed the Psychology Major.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

This course builds upon the research skills developed in prior psychology research methods classes. Upon successful completion of this course:

CLO1 – Knowledge of Social and Personality Psychology Methods – Students will be able to identify, describe, and communicate major classic and contemporary methods used in the domain of social and personality psychology.

CLO2 – Research Methods in Social Psychology – Students will be able to conduct all phases of a substantial social or personality-related study, including

(a) idea development, synthesis of research literature, and hypothesis generation,

(b) developing a research design that appropriately tests the hypothesis and implementing the design (data collection),

(c) conducting appropriate statistical analyses and correctly interpreting results,

(d) communicating the results in written and verbal modes, using appropriate professional disciplinary standards (i.e., APA style), and

(e) recognizing and communicating the strengths and limitations of one’s study.

CLO3 – Critical Thinking Skills in Social and Personality Psychology – Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to social and personality psychology (e.g., evaluate the validity of research studies, theories, applications research applications)

CLO4 – Values in Social and Personality Psychology Research – Students will be able to identify, evaluate, and discuss ethical issues as they relate to the practice of social and personality psychology research (e.g., informed consent process).
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 and Recommended Texts, Readings

Textbook (required)


Students are expected to be familiar with social psychological and/or personality concepts introduced at the undergraduate level. Students should purchase a reasonably recent (last 3 – 4 years) social psychology undergraduate textbook. For example:


Textbooks (recommended)

Students are expected to be familiar with writing APA style research reports. I highly recommend that students have a reasonably recent (last 3 – 4 years) book about how to write papers in psychology. For example:

Other Readings & Resources

Readings: See course schedule. Additional readings will be assigned as needed throughout the semester and made available through Canvas. Updates will be announced in class and on the Canvas site.

Society for Personality and Social Psychology: http://www.spsp.org/
Social Psychology Network: http://www.socialpsychology.org/

Other equipment/material requirements

Handouts will be made available in a timely manner via Desire2Learn (D2L). It is your responsibility to print out and bring copies of handouts to the appropriate lecture.

Course Canvas site

The course Canvas site is an online resource supplement for this course. Use of this site and the information provided is not a substitute for attending lectures. The site will be updated regularly throughout the semester. This site contains:

- Discussion Board (Course Announcements, student questions)
- Links to webpages that will be of use to you throughout the course
- Handouts and articles
- Lecture slides (generally posted after lecture is presented)
- Assignment submission
- Assignment feedback from instructor
- Grade roster

My intention is that the site will become an additional forum, outside of class, in which we can debate, discuss, and raise questions about the course material. Check this site regularly for course announcements, articles, assignments, and other course materials.

Accessing Course Canvas site

To access the Canvas site go to http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/ and click on “Log in to Canvas”

Username = SJSU 9-digit ID
Password = your current SJSUOne password.

For additional information or help with logging in:

Canvas Student Tutorial: http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/

Note: clearing your browsing history may help if you have trouble logging into the site.
Course Structure

Seminar
Seminar time will be used to cover material needed for successful completion of the course. Activities will include, but are not limited to, lectures of relevant concepts (e.g., basic principles and areas of research in social and personality psychology, classic and contemporary methods used in the discipline, statistical analysis), discussions (e.g., critical evaluation of research), and in-class demonstrations.

Laboratory
Lab time will be used in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to, extended time to complete seminar activities as needed, implementation of projects (i.e., group meetings, data collections), instructor feedback and consultation, and so forth. *Attending all scheduled lab times is essential for successful completion of the course.*

Assignments and Grading Policy

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S12-3](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf).

Mini-Study Project (50 points)
The **Mini-Study Project** is intended to review and extend skills related to research design and analysis (see *Course Learning Outcomes*) and does so in the domain of social and personality psychology theory and research. Students, in small groups, will develop an original study based on an assigned article. They will then proceed to collect and analyze data, interpret the results, and produce a brief APA style research report. Some elements of the project grade will be based on individual work and some on group work (see *Grade Breakdown*). Further instructions regarding this project will be made available during the term.

Major Research Project (100 points)
The **Major Research Project** will deepen conceptual and pragmatic research skills through the completion of an original research study in the domain of social and personality psychology theory and research. In small groups, students will identify a topic of interest, synthesize relevant research in the selected domain, develop a specific hypothesis or set of hypotheses, devise a research design and protocol that appropriately tests the hypothesis, collect data, analyze the data, produce an APA style research report, and present the study.

Some elements of the project grade will be based on individual work and some on group work (see *Grade Breakdown*). Further instructions regarding this project will be made available during the term.

Assignments & Participation (25 points)
Throughout the term you will be given assignments to be completed inside or outside of class. Some of these will be completed individually, and some will be done in groups. These assignments will include (but are not limited to):

**IRB Certification.** Students will complete an online course in IRB concepts and procedures. Proof of prior IRB certification will be accepted.
IRB Proposal/Protocol. Students will complete an IRB proposal to be evaluated by the instructor. This proposal will also serve as a description of the study protocol (methodology). **Note:** due to time constraints, students will not be submitting their proposal for actual IRB approval. Therefore, although student can present their findings in-class, this research cannot be presented in public settings (i.e., research conferences).

Peer Evaluations. Students will be working extensively in small groups. It is expected that each group member will contribute to the projects, and act in a professional manner (take responsibility for tasks, be punctual, collaborative, etc.). At the end of each project, students will provide confidential evaluations of their fellow group members in terms of perceived effort and contributions to the project. These evaluations may be supplemented by the instructor’s observations.

Methods Exploration. Students will complete various activities (readings, discussions, essays, etc.) that familiarize them with classic and contemporary methods in social and personality psychology research.

Late Assignments

Assignments are due in-class on the day indicated on the course schedule. If due dates are changed, the new due date will be announced in lecture and posted on Canvas in a timely fashion. No extensions or make-up assignments 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 me as early as possible and be ready to provide documentation.*

Extra Credit

Extra credit assignments are given at the instructor’s discretion. Should extra credit opportunities be extended, the total amount of extra credit points earned by a student cannot exceed 1 – 2 % of the total number of points available in the course.
Grade Breakdown

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mini-Study Project Total</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Article Evaluation &amp; Ideas (individual)</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini-Study Proposal (group)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini-Study Research Report (individual)</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Presentation (group)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<th>Major Research Project Total</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Research Proposal (group)</td>
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<td>IRB Proposal/Protocol (group)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Report (individual)</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Presentation (group)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<th>Assignments &amp; Participation Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Peer Evaluation: Mini-Research Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer Evaluation: Major Research Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Assignments &amp; Participation</td>
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<th>TOTAL</th>
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Tentative Grade Determination

Final grades in this course will be assigned as indicated below:

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<th>Percent</th>
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<td>100 - 98</td>
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<td>97 – 93</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>72 – 70</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>92 – 90</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>69 – 67</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89 – 87</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>66 – 63</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86 – 83</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>62 – 60</td>
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<tr>
<td>82 – 80</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>59 or less</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>79 - 77</td>
<td>C+</td>
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NOTE that University policy F69-24, “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”
University Policies

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf 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/.

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 your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Integrity 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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of your disability.

In 2013, the Disability Resource Center changed its name to be known as the Accessible Education Center, to incorporate a philosophy of accessible education for students with disabilities. The new name change reflects the broad scope of attention and support to SJSU students with disabilities and the University's continued advocacy and commitment to increasing accessibility and inclusivity on campus.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, 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 year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. 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/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course.

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
If you wish to record lectures for your private, study purposes, please discuss this with the instructor. **Written permission** to record lectures will need to be granted for the whole semester or on a class-by-class basis.

- In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
  - “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”
Classroom Protocol

Contacting Instructor

1. **I will answer emails M - F, 9:00 - 5:00.** If you email me at night or on the weekends, do not expect a response until the next weekday, at the earliest.

2. **Through Canvas mail function.** Best for private questions and comments.

3. **Through Canvas discussion board.** Best for questions about the course that need not remain private. Chances are others have the same questions you have.

4. **Through regular email.** clifton.oyamot@sjsu.edu.

5. **By phone.** Best if you need to contact me quickly and cannot use email at the time.

6. **Consider emails for this course as professional correspondence (see sample correspondence at the end of the syllabus).**
   a. **Subject Line** should include your class and a brief description of the issue (e.g., Subject: Psych 154: absence on 10-10-11).
   b. **Greetings** should be formal and use your instructors title (e.g., Dear Dr. Oyamot or Professor Oyamot)
   c. **Identify yourself** and the course/section you are in.
   d. **Issue or question** should be stated clearly, concisely, respectfully, and with attention paid to grammar, complete sentences, and so forth.
   e. **Expect replies within 1 - 3 days.** Polite follow-ups are encourage if you have not heard from me in a reasonable amount of time.

Example email correspondence

**Subject:** Psyc 154: Assignment due date question

Dear Professor Oyamot (or Dr. Oyamot),

My name is Maggie Jackson and I am in your T/Th 154 class. I am not sure when the Response Journal assignment is due because of conflicting information. The syllabus schedule says Nov. 5, but the assignment sheet itself says Nov 9. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Regards,

Maggie

student id # 123456789
Regular attendance is necessary to do well in the course. Although the course has an online resource, this resource is not a substitute for attending seminar and lab.

Laptops
In-class laptop use should be restricted to course-related activities (e.g., taking notes). Other activities (e.g., web surfing) distract both the instructor and students and will not be tolerated. You will be asked to turn off your laptop if you are engaged in non-class activities. You will be asked to refrain from laptop use for the duration of the course if this behavior continues.

Cellphones and other electronic devices
Please be certain to turn off or put in silent mode all cell phones, pagers, and any other devices that produce distraction prior to entering the classroom.

Late arrivals
If you must arrive late or leave early, please do so quietly and with a minimum of distraction.

Be respectful of others
Respect differing points of view offered by students. Independent discussions should not be happening when someone is addressing the class.

I expect you to come to class prepared
“Prepared” means you have completed the readings and any assignment before class starts, and written down any questions you had from the assignment. You should be as prepared as you expect your professor to be.

Communication
Use email! Use office hours! Talk to me!!

Check the course Canvas site regularly
If I become ill, I will inform you the night before that I will be absent. Please email me before class if you will not be in class. Please set your spam controls to accept my email address.
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:** Bernd Becker  
408.808.2348  
Bernd.Becker@sjsu.edu  
http://libguides.sjsu.edu/psychology

**Student Technology Resources**
Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/ located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.
A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

**SJSU Peer Connections**
Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.

**SJSU Writing Center**
The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to
refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook.

(Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)

**SJSU Counseling Services**
The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS &amp; ASSIGNMENTS DUE</th>
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<td>Course Introduction</td>
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<td>Lab</td>
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<td>Lab</td>
<td>White (1975)**</td>
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<td>Hypothesis Development</td>
<td>Article Evaluation &amp; Ideas</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>09/04</td>
<td>Research Design &amp; Preparation</td>
<td>Mini-Study Research Proposal</td>
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<td>W</td>
<td>09/11</td>
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<td>W</td>
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<td>W</td>
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<td>Major Project Idea Exchange</td>
<td>Article Evaluation &amp; Ideas</td>
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<td>FINAL</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>12/12</td>
<td>Thursday, 12/12/13, 9:45 – 12:00</td>
<td>Research Report: Major Study Group Presentations (If needed)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>