

**San José State University**  
**Psychology Department**  
**Psyc 154, Social Psychology, Sec 01, Summer 2020**

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**NOTE: When contacting me by email, please put “PSYC 154 ” in the subject line.**

\*\*\* Please remember that when you send an email to me, it is a “formal” mode of communication to your instructor.

So please address me by my formal title, {e.g., Professor or Dr. Asuncion – not Mrs. Asuncion (that’s my mom’s name) or Hey or What’s up!} and write your email as you would if you were sending any type of professional/formal email.

**Office Hours:** By appointment – please email me to schedule an appointment

**Class Days/Time:** TBA – Online class

**Classroom:** n/a

**Prerequisites:** Introductory Psychology (Psyc 1 or equivalent)

### **COURSE CANVAS SITE**

This course will use Canvas as its primary online resource. Use of this site and the information provided is the main way you will “attend” and participate in this class. The site will be updated regularly throughout our summer term. This site contains all course modules (Modules 1-3) and the following course material:

- Syllabus and tentative course schedule
- Course announcements
- Paper topics
- Video lectures/slides
- Exam study guides/review sheets
- Exams

## Course Policies/Expectations

1. It is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to know all due dates for assignments and exams

**\*\*\* Please DO NOT EMAIL ME to ask when papers are due or what the paper topics are) or when exam dates are (or what the exams cover).**

**I will not reply to emails asking about information that is easily found on the class syllabus and/or schedule**

2. Students are expected to **CHECK OUR CANVAS PAGE REGULARLY** to view course lectures and keep updated regarding course announcements
3. Exams will be given on a specific date and time period (see course schedule) with a designated time limit to take each exam.

**\*\*\* NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE ALLOWED.**

If you have any questions or issues regarding any of these policies, please email me directly to discuss them.

## 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, and quizzes 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.**

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.
- *PLO 4 -- 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

Smith & Mackie. Social Psychology (4th edition). Psychology Press.  
ISBN 978-1-84872-894-3

### On-line Text Resources

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

<http://www.routledge textbooks.com/textbooks/9781848728943>

### Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five (45) 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 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

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."

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

1. **3 EXAMS (50 pts each. 3 exams = 150 pts total). Assessment of CLOs 1,2,4, & 5**

There will be 3 exams consisting 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. Exam 1 will cover material in Chapters 1-4; Exam 2 will cover Chapters 5-9, & Exam 3 will cover Chapters 10-14.

**Exams will be available on our CANVAS page on the designated day/time indicated on the course schedule. TIME LIMIT for each exam is 60 MINUTES ONLY.**

**\*\*\* I expect students to take all exams with NO OUTSIDE HELP (e.g., no notes, textbook, the help of another person, etc).**

However, given the on-line nature of this course, I realize that there is no guarantee that students will not cheat on the exams.

BUT, I HOPE AND EXPECT that you adhere to an honor code and attempt each exam on your own without any outside help. \*\*\*

**\*\*\* THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS GIVEN. Again, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to know when all exams and assignments are due.**

**2. 4 SHORT PAPERS (Max. length 3 pgs each, 5 pts each, 4 papers = 20 pts total). Assessment of CLO 3.**

Details about these papers are described in a separate document (PAPER TOPICS). In these papers, you will be asked to relate and 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: ALL PAPERS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED ON-LINE THROUGH OUR CANVAS PAGE NO LATER THAN THE DUE DATE/TIME indicated on the course schedule.**

**\*\*\* NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED**

**3. PARTICIPATION (10 pts total). Assessment of CLOs 2,3, 4 & 5**

Your participation in this course will be assessed through your participation in our weekly Discussion boards on Canvas.

For each week of the course (5 weeks total), each student will post 2 discussion questions and/or comments relevant to any of the class topics covered in that particular week.

\*\*\* At the end of our 5 week summer session, each student should have posted a total of 10 discussion questions/comments (i.e., 2 comments/questions X 5 weeks = 10 total). \*\*\*

For example, in Week 1 we will learn about what social psychology is, the history of social psychology, and research methods in social psychology. Each student should POST 2 discussion questions/comments or replies to other comments/questions on the board relevant to any of these topics.

This process of posting 2 discussion questions/comments each week will be recorded and you will be given 2 points for your participation (i.e., for a total of 10 points for the 5 week summer term)

**\*\*\* Your 2 discussion questions ARE DUE NO LATER THAN THE END OF THE WEEK AT 3:00 PM (i.e., Week 1 discussion questions should be posted no later than Friday, June 5 at 3:00 pm) \*\*\***

**\*\*\* YOU MAY POST YOUR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS BEFORE THE FRIDAY DUE DATES. BUT NO LATE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED (the discussion board for that week will be "locked" at 3:00 pm)**

### **GRADING POLICY**

Grading is based on your performance on the 3 exams, 4 papers, and your participation in the discussion boards. Overall, there is a total of 180 points to be earned in this course (120 from exams, 20 from papers, 10 from participation in the discussion boards).

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:**

3 Exams (50 pts each)	150 (83%)
4 Papers (5 pts each)	20 (11%)
Discussion board participation (2 questions/comments Per week)	10 (6%)

Total possible points:	180
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#### **Grading Scale:**

A+ 176-180	A 167-175	A- 162-166
B+ 158-161	B 149-157	B- 144-148
C+ 140-143	C 131-139	C- 126-130
D+ 122-125	D 113-121	D- 108-112
F 107 <		

## 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. In the DISCUSSION BOARDS, please be **respectful** of other people's experiences, comments, and questions even though you might not agree with what they are saying.

## University Policies

### 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 calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](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.

- “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”.

### 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 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 in your assignment 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](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 their disability.



**Psychology 154 -- Social Psychology -- Summer 2020**  
**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.**

DATE	TOPIC	CHAPTER	DUE
<b>WEEK 1 – MODULE 1</b> <b>6/1 – 6/5</b>	Theories & History Research Methods Social Cognition	1 & 2	2 Discussion board questions/comments DUE, FRIDAY 6/5 (no later than 3:00 pm)
<b>WEEK 2 – MODULE 1</b> <b>6/8 – 6/12</b>	Schemas Impression formation Person Memory  Attributions The Self	2 & 3  3 & 4	<b>PAPER #1 DUE</b> <b>FRIDAY, 6/12 (no later than 3:00 pm)</b>  <b>Inconsistent Impression</b>  2 Discussion board questions/comments DUE, FRIDAY 6/12 (no later than 3:00 pm)
	<b>EXAM 1 – MODULE 1</b>	<b>CHAPTERS 1-4</b>	<b>EXAM 1</b> <b>FRIDAY, 6/12</b>  <b>Exam 1 available</b> <b>ONLY between 10 am – 8 pm</b> <b>*** 60 minute time limit</b>
<b>WEEK 3 – MODULE 2</b> <b>6/15 – 6/19</b>	Stereotyping Prejudice	5 & 6	
	Attitudes Attitude Change Behavior & Attitudes	7 & 8	<b>PAPER #2 DUE</b> <b>FRIDAY, 6/19</b> <b>(no later than 3:00 pm)</b>  <b>Target of prejudice</b> 2 Discussion board questions/comments DUE, FRIDAY 6/19 (no later than 3:00 pm)

<b>WEEK 4 – MODULE 2</b> 6/22 – 6/26	Attitudes & Behavior Conformity	8 & 9	<b>Magazine ad extra credit activity DUE MONDAY, 6/22 (no later than 3:00 pm)</b>  <b>PAPER #3 DUE WEDNESDAY, 6/23 (no later than 3:00 pm)</b> Cognitive Dissonance
	<b>EXAM 2 – MODULE 2</b>	<b>CHAPTERS 5-9</b>	<b>EXAM 2 WEDNESDAY, 6/24</b>  <b>Exam 2 available ONLY between 10 am – 8 pm</b> <b>*** 60 minute time limit</b>  2 Discussion board questions/comments DUE, FRIDAY 6/26 (no later than 3:00 pm)
<b>WEEK 5 – MODULE 3</b> 6/29 – 7/2	Norms & Compliance Group Processes Attraction Love	10 & 11 11 & 12	<b>PAPER #4 DUE MONDAY, 6/29 (no later than 3:00 pm)</b>  Unrequited love
	Aggression Helping	13 & 14	
Thursday 7/2	<b>EXAM 3 – MODULE 3</b>	<b>CHAPTERS 10-14</b>	<b>EXAM 3 THURSDAY, 7/2</b>  <b>Exam 3 available ONLY between 10 am – 8 pm</b> <b>*** 60 minute time limit</b>  2 Discussion board questions/comments DUE, THURSDAY 7/2 (no later than 3:00 pm)