

**San José State University**  
**Department of Psychology**  
**154 (80) Social Psychology, Section 20508**  
**Spring 2024**

**Instructor:** Naomi Wagner, PhD  
**Office Location:** DMH # 310  
**Telephone:** (408) 924-5646  
**Email:** Please e-mail me ONLY via the Canvas Inbox

**Office Hours upon request on zoom.**

**Class Days/Time:** Mon-Wed Wednesday 12:00 PM-1:15 PM  
**Classroom:** Online via zoom  
Psych 100

**Course Resources all on Canvas**

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**Canvas:**

**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.**

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>

### Course Description

- This course aims at introducing the student to the field of social psychology and to explore the relevance of this field to many life situations (see below). Social psychology's major interest lies in understanding the factors that shape the actions and thoughts of **individual** human beings in **social** settings. Specifically, how people think about, influence, and relate to one another. In their interpretations of events, social psychologists recognize that we **construct our social reality** via cognitive processes, and that personal attitudes and dispositions, as well as situational variables shape our behavior.
- Social psychology has also recently come to recognize the relevance of the biological foundations of our social behavior and has incorporated into its field of inquiry the perspective of **evolutionary psychology**, viewing our social behavior as the result of *evolved psychological mechanisms* that helped us to deal with important life situations relating to survival. In addition, social events are also viewed through the perspective of *social neuroscience*, examining the neurobiology that underlies social behavior, striving to find out how brain, mind and behavior function as one coordinated system.
- **Upon the completion of this course, you should be able to understand *why* social psychologists study certain topics, and *how* research evolves. You will become familiar with classical topics of inquiry, as well as with new ones. You will also become familiar with the possible applications of the knowledge acquired in this course to legal matters- such as the accuracy of eyewitness testimony and issues of jury selection; to medical matters, such as self-confirming diagnoses; to psychotherapy, such as inducing internal change through external behavior, and the impact of social relations on happiness. You may also be able to apply some of this information into your personal life, when we study the dynamics of intimate relationships, and become familiar with factors that were found to predict the longevity of intimate relationships.**

## Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

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

- LO1: To become familiar with historical perspectives and trends in the area of social psychology.**
- LO2: To become familiar with milestones studies that shed light on important aspects of human behavior.**
- LO3: To understand the complexity of factors, both on the individual level, the situational level, and the group/cultural level, that shape human behavior.**
- LO4: To develop critical thinking skills in analyzing results of research.**
- LO5: To apply social psychology principles to a variety of human 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.

The GE Writing Requirement is met through the weekly writing assignments that are posted on the instructor's website.

## GE learning Outcomes

Upon the completion of this course students should be able to demonstrate

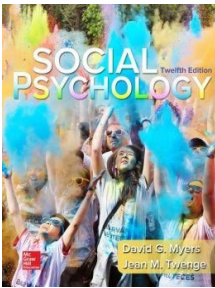
- GELO 1 A broad understanding of issues related to the social sciences
- GELO 2 An ability to communicate ideas effectively both in speaking and in writing
- GELO 3 The capacity for critical and creative thinking.
- GELO 4 The ability to assess information
- GELO 5 The ability for creative and critical thinking

## Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

- **Textbook (required): David G. Myers (2017): Social Psychology (12<sup>th</sup> edition). McGraw-Hill**

- **Study guide recommended. Book: ISBN #: 978-007-786197-**



**Picture of the cover of the textbook**

### **Attendance:**

**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."**

### **Definition of a Credit Hour**

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

As an example, the expectation of work for a 3-credit course is 150minutes of direct faculty instruction and six hours of out-of-class student work each week.

### **Teacher Availability:**

Do not hesitate to e-mail me or to come by with questions. If you have not done so well on any of the tests, please let us talk via the inbox or zoom ASAP, in order to go over test questions that you missed, so we can understand how you interpreted the questions, and devise strategies for doing better on the next test.

### **Dropping and Adding:**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. [Information on add/drops are available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbggen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbggen/narr/soc-fall/rec-298.html). [Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/](http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/). Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.

## Assignments and Grading Policy

### Extra Credit:

**Please note that I do not give extra-credits. Your mastery of the subject matter as measured on the exams is the factor that counts.**

### Assignments:

Weekly homework consists of the assigned reading, and responding to the Chapter Review Questions that are posted on Canvas.

These Chapter Review Questions are designed to enable the student to process the information more efficiently and to retain it better. They cover main concepts and issues related to these concepts.

In addition, we will have class activities aimed at demonstrating various concepts.

### On- Line Quizzes: 10% of your class grade

- Upon the completion of each chapter there will be an online quiz. We will cover 11 chapters and we will have 11 quizzes, one for each chapter. Each quiz has 10 questions, and each question is worth 1 point, so each quiz can give you maximum 10 points.
- You need to take the quiz on –line at the conclusion of each chapter. **However, the due date on each quiz is the last day of the semester- to give you more flexibility in case you had forgotten to take a given quiz. The questions on the quiz will be similar to the questions on the test. The quizzes are NOT timed, however you can take a quiz only once. It is important you read before you respond.**
- The purpose of this assignment is to help you master the information in a timely manner rather than cramming before a midterm.

### Exams: (85% of your grade)

- We will have 3 midterms and a final. Each midterm will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions. Each question is worth 2 points. The questions are factual (specific information), conceptual (assigning a concept to a scenario), and applied (use the information to offer solution to a problem). Each midterm will cover about 3 to 4 chapters. The final will include 50 questions as well and it is NOT cumulative.

### Short Assignment: The social media and I: this assignment gives you 5% of you grade)

- See detailed instructions on Modules. No more than 6-7 pages.
- This assignment is due on Monday, April 15, 2024

Grade Component	Maximum Pts Available	Percentage of Grade
4 midterms including final (50 pts each)	200	85%
Online-Quizzes	100	10%
Media Assignment	100	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>100%</b>

**The grading scale:**

A+ 97-100%	A 93-96%	A- 90-92%
B+ 87- 89%	B 83-86%	B- 80-82%
C+ 77-79%	C 73-76%	C- 70-72%
D+ 67-69%	D 63-66%	D- 60-62%
F= 59% and below		

**Exam Dates:** The exams are taken online. The exam will be open at 8 AM and closes at 11:59PM on the day of the exam. No class on the day of the exam (when we take the exam in person there is no class.) Duration of the exam is 65 minutes.

**Midterm 1: Monday, February 19, 2024**

**Midterm 2: Monday, March 18, 2024**

**Midterm 3: Monday April 22, 2024**

**Final: Friday, May 17, 2024;** The exam will be available from 8 AM to 11:59 PM. Once you have logged in you have to take the exam.

The exams are taken online, close books and close notes and slides.

You will be allowed to reschedule an exam **ONLY** upon the presentation of *documented* medical reason, or if you have a mandatory, documented school activity.

**Important Suggestion:**

If you hold a full-time job, please make every effort to attend class regularly, and to devote at least an hour and a half a day to study. Cramming before the test has not been effective for most students. While studying for an exam, take notes and go over the material that has been discussed in class, note concepts, and examples of these concepts.

### **Academic integrity**

Students should know that the University's [Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial\\_affairs/Academic\\_Integrity\\_Policy\\_S07-2.pdf](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf). Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require 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 website for [Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial\\_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html).

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 F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

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

If you need course adaptations or accommodation 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 9703 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodation must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

### **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

### **Learning Assistance Resource Center :**

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. [The LARC website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/](http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/).

### **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. [The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/).

### **Peer Mentor Center**

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. [Website of Peer Mentor Center is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/).154 (



**PSYC 154 (80) Social Psychology, Spring 2024****Course Schedule**

*Please note: The sequence of the topics will remain, though we may allocate different amount of times to some of the topics*

Table 1 Course Schedule

Week		Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1		<b>Chapter 1: Introduction to Social Psychology</b>  Chapter 1 Cont-d
2		Chapter 1 cont-d <b>Quiz chapter 1 to be completed online</b> <b>Chapter 2: The Self in a Social World</b>
3		<b>Chapter 3: Social Beliefs and Judgments</b> <b>Quiz chapter 2 to be completed online</b> Chapter 3 cont-d
4		<b>Chapter 4: Behavior and Attitudes</b>  <b>Quiz chapter 3 to be completed online</b>
5		Chapter 4 con-d <b>Quiz 4 to be completed online</b> <b>FEB 19: Midterm # 1 chapters 1,2, 3</b> Study guide posted.

Wee k	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
6		<b>Chapter 5: Genes, Culture, and Gender</b>  Quiz <b>chapter 5</b> to be completed online
7		<b>Chapter 6: Conformity and Obedience</b>
8		Chapter 6 (cont-d)  <b>Chapter 7: Persuasion</b>  Quiz <b>Chapter 6</b> to be completed online
9		<b>March 18: Midterm # 2 Chapters 4,5</b>  Chapter 7 (cont-d) Quiz <b>Chapter 7</b> to be completed online
10	April 1- April 5	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>

11		<b>Chapter 8 Groups</b>  Quiz <b>Chapter 8</b> to be completed online
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<b>Week</b>		
12		<b>Chapter 10: Aggression</b>  Quiz <b>Chapter 10</b> to be completed online
13		<b>Chapter 11: Attraction and Intimacy</b>
14		<b>April 22: Exam 3 chapters 6, 7, 8</b>  Quiz <b>chapter 11</b> to be completed online
15		<b>Chapter 12: Helping</b>
16		Chapter 12 (cont-d)  Quiz <b>Chapter 12</b> to be completed online

	<b>FINAL: Friday May 17, 2024</b>	