

**San José State University**  
**Psychology Department**  
**Psychology 154, Social Psychology, Section 1, Fall 2022**

**Course and Contact Information**

Instructor(s): Jason X. Ventura  
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Telephone: (408) 924-5625  
Email: [jason.ventura@sjsu.edu](mailto:jason.ventura@sjsu.edu)  
Canvas Learning Management system  
Available by Zoom appointments

**NOTE:** When contacting me by email, please put “**PSYC 154; sect. 1**” in the subject line. Replies within 48 hours (except Sundays). If I do not reply, kindly, resend email.

Office Hours: Students do not need to schedule an appointment for office hours; just show up. I will take students on a “first come; first serve” basis. Outside of scheduled office hours will require an appointment.  
Mondays and Wednesdays 3:00 – 4:00 pm  
**\*\*Available by appointment (in person or Zoom)**

Class Days/Time: Mondays and Wednesdays / 10:30 – 11:45 am  
Classroom: Dudley Moorhead Hall 355  
Prerequisites: PSYC 1

**Course Description**

Theories, problems and issues in the study of human social behavior. 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 the scientific study of how people think about, influence, and relate to one another. How our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are influenced by our social environment and by the people with whom we interact. Class sessions will include lectures, in-class activities, including small group discussions, and video clips.

## Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/firstname.lastname> and/or on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU on Spartan App Portal](#) (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas see [Canvas Student Resources page](#).

## Course Goals

Students will come to this class expecting to find a broad range of topics regarding the fascinating world of social psychology. What makes this class all the more interesting is when students are informed on daily news and events that occur each day. It is encouraged for students to read daily news reports from their preferred news source.

If students do not have a specified daily news source the instructor recommends BBC (global), The New York Times (national), and San Jose Mercury News (local). Keeping on top of daily events will enhance students' learning by applying social psychological theories based on real world events. This translates into a better understanding of knowledge presented in class.

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

1. To provide a basic understanding of how social psychologists think about and study human behavior;
2. To provide the tools to understand and critically examine psychological research;
3. To provide an introduction to a general survey of many of the theories and principles that underlie social psychology;
4. To encourage reflection about the application of social psychological research and how it might be used to solve real-world problems and even help understand situations we encounter in everyday life.
5. Express and apply social psychological theory effectively in written and oral communication

## Program Learning Outcomes

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.

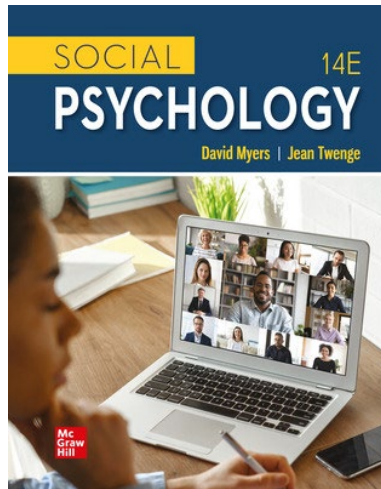
5. Values in Psychology

Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

Myers, D. G. & Twenge, J.M. (2022). *Social Psychology (14<sup>th</sup> edition)*. McGraw Hill: New York, NY  
ISBN10: 1260888509 | ISBN13: 9781260888508



The only required (Smart)book cannot be purchased on Amazon or other sites; it is not a physical book.

**IMPORTANT:** You MUST purchase the e-book with Connect for assignments. (Smart)book cannot be purchased on Amazon or other sites; it is not a physical book. Available at Spartan Bookstore or to McGraw-Hill's Connect site. Follow the link to purchase (provided below) and then set up a login account with your chosen PW and Login.

[Link to McGraw Hill website](#)

**McGraw Hill tech support:** 1(800) 331-5094

### Other technology requirements / equipment / material

- Regular access to a computer (with Internet connection), possession of a word processor program (MS Word, Pages, or Googledocs), and access to a printer.
- Students are required to have an electronic device (laptop, desktop or tablet) with a camera and built-in microphone. **SJSU has a free equipment loan program available for students.** Students are responsible for ensuring that they have access to reliable Wi-Fi during tests. If students are unable to have reliable Wi-Fi,

they must inform the instructor, as soon as possible or at the latest one week before the test date to determine an alternative. See [Learn Anywhere](#) website for current Wi-Fi options on campus.

### **Library Liaison**

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:

Christa Bailey

christa.bailey@sjsu.edu

408-808-2422

<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/psychology>

### **Course Requirements and Assignments**

- [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](#)
- [University's Syllabus Information web page](#)

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Your grade in the course will be based on the following:

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

There will be three **in-class exams** and they will consist of 30 multiple choice questions and 2 short answer questions. **Students must be in class to receive credit for exams.** Exams will be designed to measure your knowledge and understanding of the material discussed in lecture. Each multiple-choice question will be worth 1 point and the essay questions will be worth 10 points each. Each exam will be worth a total of 50 points. **The final exam will be cumulative.**

- Students will need to bring laptops to class to take exams.
- Exams will be taken on the Canvas Learning Management System under the “Quizzes” link.
- A lockdown browser will be enabled during exams.
- SJSU has a free equipment loan program [Link to Equipment Loaning From IT](#)
- If students do not bring laptops on exam day, exams will be taken on a SCANTRON 882E form. A #2 pencil, and eraser, required to complete form.
- No bluebook is necessary.

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR EXAM DAYS:**

**LECTURE NOTES & POWERPOINT SLIDES ARE NOT POSTED ON-LINE.** If you miss lecture for any reason, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to get the lecture notes from one of your classmates. I will not email or copy any lectures for students. Exams will be based on lecture material; study guides will be provided.

Examinations: On exam days, just like every class session, students are expected to be in their seat by the time class begins. **Students who are more than ten minutes late to exams will automatically receive a ten-point deduction.** Reason being: This creates an unfair advantage; students arriving late have more time to prepare than the rest of the class.

No extensions or make-up exams 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 instructor twelve hours before the scheduled exam.**

If students contact instructor within the 12-hour window, a ten-point deduction will be implemented on the make-up exam. **Students will have five days to make up exams.**

### **Social Media Analysis Assignment (group presentation) - Assessment of CLOs 2, 4, and 5**

In this presentation, students address how social media both perpetuates prejudice and can be used to combat prejudice. The goal of the activity is for students to consider whether social media has increased, decreased, or has no overall effect on stereotypic beliefs and prejudicial attitudes. Students will be assigned into groups (by the instructor) based on choice of social media site. There will be a Q & A session for group members after their presentation. Presentation dates will be randomly selected. **The social media analysis presentation is worth 30 points.**

### **CONNECT Homework Assignments Assessment of CLOs 1, 2, 3 and 5**

Students must complete 7 total homework assignments over the course of the semester. None within the first two weeks of the course. Assignments will be assigned for each chapter we begin and CONNECT assignments will be due before midnight on the scheduled due date (see course schedule OR instructor will make an announcement in class). **There are no “re-dos” if you miss the deadline. Once the assignment’s deadline is passed you may not complete the homework assignment.** **CONNECT assignments are 25 points each (10 points for SmartBook assignments; 15 points for homework assignments; total of 175 points).**

### **Class participation (15 pts total) Assessment of CLO 4 and 5**

Because this is in part an experiential class, attendance and participation are crucial. You cannot participate if you do not come to class. Many classroom activities and discussions will supplement the reading and students are responsible for all material, assignments, and explanations given in class, even if they were absent.

**EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE AVAILABLE**

## IMPORTANT NOTES FOR ASSIGNMENTS:

**Assignments that do not meet the minimum page count will result in zero points.**

The above policy is implemented due to high volume of grading. Before I read a single word on assignments, I check the page count. If your assignment does not meet the minimum page requirement, I will not read it, and move on to the next student. TITLE AND REFERENCE PAGE ARE NOT PART OF THE PAGE COUNT.

**How is “on time” defined in this course?** Assignment due dates and times are specified on course schedule. Students will receive a “LATE” notice if their assignment is turned in past the specified time. **The instructor will implement a ten-minute grace period.**

If the criteria listed above are not met your assignment is considered late (see policy for late assignments).

\*\*All writing assignments must be written in APA style. Instructor will dock points to papers that are not written in this style.

\*\*High percentages on Turn-It-In will have an effect on student’s grade. Paraphrase rather than quote.

**I WILL ACCEPT LATE ASSIGNMENTS!** However, late assignments will result in half points, and if it does not meet requirements, you will lose more points. **Students will have one week to turn in late assignments.** Late assignments will not receive any comments or feedback. This policy does not apply to Connect assignments.

If your assignment is not submitted after a week from the due date, it will result in zero points. It is in your best interest to turn assignments in on time.

**Communication is key! I understand “things happen,” and if an incident should arise, please send an email 12 hours before the due date and time. I will take your e-mail into consideration when evaluating assignments.**

### Final Examination or Evaluation

Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:45 AM to 12:00 PM. The final exam will be cumulative and worth 50 points.

“Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.”

### Grading Information

**Your final course grade will be based on the following assignments & grading scale:**

Exams (50 pts each) 150 total points	(38%)
Social Media Analysis presentation 30 points	(8%)
Social Media Analysis individual assign. 25 points	(6%)

Participation 15 points (4%)

CONNECT assignments (25 points each) 175 total points (44%)

Total possible points: 395
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### Grading Scale:

A plus	386+	A	385 to 366	A minus	365 to 354
B plus	353 to 346	B	345 to 326	B minus	325 to 315
C plus	314 to 307	C	306 to 287	C minus	286 to 275
D plus	274 to 267	D	266 to 247	D minus	246 to 236
F less than	235				

### Classroom Protocol

Please practice the following guidelines to help the class run more smoothly as well as to limit the number of distractions that occur.

1. Please TURN OFF all cell phones and 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. LAPTOPS ARE FOR NOTETAKING PURPOSES ONLY!
  - Please REMOVE all head/earphones during class.
  - DURING CLASS TIME, DO NOT LISTEN TO MUSIC, BROWSE THE WEB, CHECK YOUR “SNAPS,” INSTAGRAM, TWITTER, FACEBOOK, THE LATEST TIK TOK CHALLENGE...ETC.
3. If you arrive late, please come in as quietly as you can and sit in the back of the room.
4. If you have to leave early, please do so quietly and sit next to the door so you don’t distract other people.
5. Don’t talk when your instructor is speaking or when other students are asking questions.
6. Please be respectful of other people’s experiences and comments even though you might not agree with what they are saying. Remember...they are not YOU!
  - I hope these class discussions can be a “safe” place where all students feel comfortable to share their own thoughts, experiences, and beliefs without being “judged” by others.
  - As educated adults, we should be able to engage in thoughtful debate and discussion with one another without any fear of personal attacks/judgments from others.

7. Due to San Jose State University's mask mandate, no food will be allowed in our classroom. Drinks are permissible.

## University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](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 [Syllabus Information web page](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

## 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. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](#). Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes; information available with this link: [Late Drop Policy](#).

**Wednesday, August 31st:** Last day to drop courses without an entry on student's permanent record.

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), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “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.”
  - It is suggested that the syllabus include the instructor’s process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether 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.”
  - Students are not allowed to record without instructor permission.
- Students are prohibited from recording class activities (including class lectures, office hours, advising sessions, etc.), distributing class recordings, or posting class recordings. Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, etc.) are copyrighted by the



instructor. This university policy (S12-7) is in place to protect the privacy of students in the course, as well as to maintain academic integrity through reducing the instances of cheating. Students who record, distribute, or post these materials will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office. Unauthorized recording may violate university and state law. It is the responsibility of students that require special accommodations or assistive technology due to a disability to notify the instructor.

### **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](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

**Student misconduct regarding academic dishonesty (a.k.a. “cheating”) will result in failure of the class** (University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf>; Academic Sanction 4.14)

### **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, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

### **Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays**

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

### **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 10<sup>th</sup> 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](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) 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 and Psychological Services**

SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services invites “all students to come into Counseling and Psychological Services, located at the Student Wellness Center, room 300B, for any support needed.” 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](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

## PSYC 154 (sect.1): Social Psychology, Fall 2022, TENTATIVE Course Schedule

**\*\*\*The instructor reserves the right to change the date for exams, activities, and papers. Students will be informed IN CLASS of any changes before they are made.**

### Course Schedule

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
1	8/22	Introduction of course and instructor, read all of Chapter 1	
1	8/24	What is social psychology?	
2	8/29	Research methods	
2	8/31	Research methods	
3	9/5	<b>NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY: LABOR DAY</b>	
3	9/7	<p>“The Self in a Social World”</p> <p><b>ASSIGNMENT DUE:</b> Chapter 2: “The Self in a Social World” Connect assignment</p> <p>Begin chapter 3 Connect assignment (“Social Beliefs and Judgments”)</p>	Assignment due before midnight
4	9/12	<p>Discuss chapter 2 Connect assignment and continue, “The Self in a Social World”</p> <p>Work on chapter 3: “Social Beliefs and Judgments” Connect assignment</p>	
4	9/14	<p>“The Self in a Social World”</p> <p>Continue working on chapter 3: “Social Beliefs and Judgments” Connect assignment</p>	
5	9/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Review Day</b></p> <p>Continue working on chapter 3: “Social Beliefs and Judgments” Connect assignment</p>	
5	9/21	<b>EXAM #1</b>	

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
		Work on chapter 3: “Social Beliefs and Judgments” Connect assignment	
6	9/26	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>State of the class</b></p> <p>Start “Social Beliefs and Judgments” lecture</p> <p><b>ASSIGNMENT DUE:</b> “Social Beliefs and Judgments” Connect assignment</p> <p>Begin chapter 4 Connect assignment (“Behavior and Attitudes”)</p>	Assignment due before midnight
6	9/28	<p>Discuss chapter three Connect assignment and continue “Social Beliefs and Judgments” lecture</p> <p>Work on chapter 4: “Behavior and Attitudes”</p>	
7	10/3	<p>“Social Beliefs and Judgments”</p> <p>Continue working on chapter 4: “Behavior and Attitudes”</p>	
7	10/5	<p>“Behavior and Attitudes”</p> <p><b>ASSIGNMENT DUE:</b> Chapter 4: “Behavior and Attitudes” Connect assignment</p> <p>Begin chapter 9 Connect assignment (“Prejudice”)</p>	Assignment due before midnight.
8	10/10	<p>Discuss chapter four Connect assignment and continue, “Behavior and Attitudes” lecture</p> <p>Work on chapter 9 “Prejudice” Connect assignment</p>	
8	10/12	<p>Introduce social media analysis presentation and individual assignment, and begin “Prejudice” lecture</p> <p><b>ASSIGNMENT DUE (Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> before midnight):</b> Submit selection for the social media analysis assignment (details will be provided in class).</p> <p>Continue working on Chapter 9 Connect assignment</p>	
9	10/17	<p>“Prejudice”</p> <p>Social media analysis groups will be introduced, and meet, during the last part of class</p> <p><b>ASSIGNMENT DUE:</b> Chapter 9 Connect assignment</p>	Assignment due before midnight.

Week	Date	Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, & Deadlines	Class notes
		Introduce chapter 6 Connect assignment (“Conformity and Obedience”).	
9	10/19	<b>State of the class</b>  Discuss chapter nine Connect assignment and continue “Prejudice” lecture  Social media groups will meet  Work on chapter 6 Connect assignment (“Conformity and Obedience”).	
10	10/24	“Conformity and Obedience”  Work on chapter 6 “Conformity and Obedience”	
10	10/26	<b>Social media presentation day</b>	
11	10/31	<b>Social media presentation day</b>	
11	11/2	<b>Social media presentation day</b>  <b>ASSIGNMENT DUE:</b> Individual assignments (Social Media Analysis assignment)	
12	11/7	<b>Review Day</b>	
12	11/9	<b>EXAM #2</b>	
13	11/14	“Conformity and Obedience”  <b>ASSIGNMENT DUE:</b> Chapter 6 “Conformity and Obedience” Connect assignment  Introduce chapter 10 Connect assignment (“Aggression”)	Assignment due before midnight
13	11/16	Discuss chapter 6 Connect assignment and continue “Conformity and Obedience” lecture  Work on chapter 10 Connect assignment (“Aggression”)	
14	11/21	“Aggression”	
14	11/23	<b>NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY: Thanksgiving Holiday</b>	

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Class Meetings, Topics, Readings, Assignments, &amp; Deadlines</b>	<b>Class notes</b>
15	11/28	“Aggression”  <b>ASSIGNMENT DUE:</b> chapter 10 Connect assignment	Assignment due before midnight.
15	11/30	<b>TBD</b>	
16	12/5	<b>LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION</b> “Helping”  <b>ASSIGNMENT DUE:</b> Chapter 12 “Helping” Connect assignment	Discuss final exam.  Assignment due before midnight.
Final Exam		<b>Monday, December 12th 9:45 AM-12:00 PM</b>	Worth 50 points (cumulative exam)