

# Social Psychology Section 01

## PSYC 154

Spring 2025 In Person 3 Unit(s) 01/23/2025 to 05/12/2025 Modified 01/24/2025

### Contact Information

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Instructor: Dr. Bianca Hinojosa

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#### About me

My name is Dr. Bianca Hinojosa, and I received my PhD in Health Psychology at the University of California Merced. I am the child of Mexican immigrants and was born and raised in Fresno, CA. I have a bachelors degree in cognitive science and a masters degree in experimental psychology. My research focuses on how intergroup processes influence peoples' health and well-being. In particular, I am interested in how healthcare workers' implicit attitudes towards Latinx people influence medical decision making for their Latinx patients.

#### What to call me?

Please refer to me as either Dr. Hinojosa.

#### How to email me:

Email Header: "PSYC 154"

Body of email:

"Hello Dr. Hinojosa,

I hope you are doing well. I have a question about ... Thank you for your time.

Best,

Student name (Student ID)"

Remember when emailing professors the communication is **formal.**

When to email me:

- clarification on an assignment (at least 48 hours before the due date)
- setting up an appointment for office hours
- to inform me of a school sponsored activity that prevents you from attending class or taking an exam
- to inform me of an emergency/medical/family situation that will prevent you from taking an exam or turning an assignment in on time

**When NOT to email me:**

- to ask about due dates for an assignment (this information is in the class schedule)
- to ask when an exam is scheduled (this information is in the class schedule)
- to tell me you are missing class

## Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM, DMH 319

\*Wednesday 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Or by appointment

## Course Description and Requisites

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Theories, problems and issues in the study of human social behavior.

Prerequisite: PSYC 001.

Letter Graded

## \* Classroom Protocols

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### LATE WORK

I understand that sometimes circumstances such as illnesses, family emergencies can make it difficult or impossible to complete an assignment on time. If you need an extension, please contact me as soon as possible. Late assignments will receive a 10% point reduction for each day they are late, up to 5 days (50% off). After 5 or more days, assignments will not be accepted and the student will receive a 0 for the assignment. I will not provide any feedback on late assignments.

### ONE TIME 24-HOUR EXTENSION

Each student has the option to use a one time 24-hour extension from the due date and time for either Assignment 1, 2a (paper), or 3 no questions asked. You must leave a comment in the assignment submission that you are using your one time 24-hour extension or I may dock you the 10% late penalty. You do not need to email me you are using the extension.

### GRADE REVIEW POLICY

If you believe that you have unfairly missed points on an exam or assignment, you must make an appointment with the professor to go over the exam or assignment within one week of receiving your grade. If you do not make an appointment within one week of receiving your grade, the grade will be considered final.

## AI POLICY

"Use of an AI Generator such as ChatGPT, MidJourney, DALL-E, etc. is explicitly prohibited unless otherwise noted by the instructor. The information derived from these tools is based on previously published materials. Therefore, using these tools without proper citation constitutes plagiarism. Additionally, be aware that the information derived from these tools is often inaccurate or incomplete. It's imperative that all work submitted should be your own. Any assignment that is found to have been plagiarized or to have used unauthorized AI tools may receive a zero and / or be reported for academic misconduct." Tara Perrin, Middle Tennessee State University

## COPYRIGHT STATEMENT

Some of the materials in this course are possibly copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and only for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further. They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act.

# Program Information

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**Program learning outcomes (PLOs)** are skills and knowledge that students will have achieved upon completion of the Psychology BA degree. Each course in our curriculum contributes to one or more of these PLOs. The PLOs for the Psychology BA degree are:

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

# Course Goals

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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.

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

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### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of the Psyc 154 Social Psychology, students will be able to:

- CLO1: Understand the major theoretical approaches findings, and historical trends in Social Psychology
- CLO2: Understand, critically evaluate, and apply the major research methods in Social Psychology
- CLO3: Express and apply social psychological theory effectively in written and oral communication
- CLO4: Gain an awareness of the many social influences, as well as cultural and individual differences, that underlie the complexities of human behavior
- CLO5: Understand the applications of Social Psychology to personal, social, and organizational issues

## Course Materials

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**Price:** Free

**Textbook:** Diener & Diener (Eds). Noba Resources. Text complied under a Creative Commons license by: Bianca Hinojosa on nobaproject.com

**Free online version:** <http://noba.to/vw9zpk3m>

## Course Requirements and Assignments

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### PARTICIPATION

Each class day during lecture you will take a short comprehension check. Each comprehension check will be worth 5 points. 1/2 of the points will be participation for taking the comprehension check and the other 1/2 points will be for correct answers. I will drop the lowest 4 comprehension checks. The comprehension checks will be open-note.

### ONE PAGE BIOGRAPHY (5 Points)

During the first week of class, please submit a one-page biography via Canvas.

The One-Page biography (word or .pdf format) should include:

- A recent clear picture of yourself
- Your Name

- Your Major
- Your Hometown
- One or two interesting fact(s) about you

## **EXAMS (200 Points)**

Exams will typically consist of 10-15 multiple-choice/fill-in-the-blank questions and 3-5 open-ended questions. The exams will cover material from that section of class only; exams are not cumulative. Exam questions will cover any materials discussed in class lectures and anything from the readings. Exams will be in-person using LockDown Browser. Exams will be open note.

If you must miss an exam for emergency reasons or for a university sponsored activity, you must contact the professor in advance and provide appropriate documentation within 48 hours after the exam. It is your responsibility to ensure that we schedule a time for you to take a makeup exam. I reserve the right to create a new exam for anyone who needs a make-up. The make-up exam will be all open-ended questions.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Media Engagement**

Every two weeks students will find a piece of media that relates to a topic/concept from the textbook or lecture covered over those past 2 weeks. Students will respond to the following:

- 1) Give a brief summary of the piece of media
- 2) Discuss how the piece of media relates to concepts from the textbook/class
- 3) Discuss how the piece of media relates to yourself, friend, family member, or broader society
- 4) Based on what you learned from the piece of media, and the textbook/class, develop a research question related to the topic.

The media piece can be from social media, newspaper, magazine, podcast, youtube video etc. The responses can be either a written response, recorded audio response, or a recorded video response.

I will drop the lowest 2 weekly media engagement assignments. Please see the class schedule for dates this assignment is due. Instructions for this assignment will be posted in Canvas.

This assignments meets

- CLO2: Understand, critically evaluate, and apply the major research methods in Social Psychology
- CLO3: Express and apply social psychological theory effectively in written and oral communication
- CLO5: Understand the applications of Social Psychology to personal, social, and organizational issues

### **Assignment 1: Implicit Attitudes (50 points)**

Students will visit <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit> and complete at least two tasks: one from the “social attitudes” page and one from the “health/mental health” page. After completing the tasks, students will write a one-page reflection on each task (2 pages total, double spaced). Instructions for this assignment will be posted on Canvas.

This assignment meets

- CLO3: Express and apply social psychological theory effectively in written and oral communication
- CLO4: Gain an awareness of the many social influences, as well as cultural and individual differences, that underlie the complexities of human behavior

### **Assignment 2: Applying Social Psychology (100 points)**

Assignment 2 will apply social psychology research to real-world behaviors. As part of this assignment, you will write a 3- to 4-page (double spaced) report on one of the books below (part A), and create a presentation of concepts covered in the book (Part B). Part A of the assignment is individual and Part B of the assignment is a group task.

During the first week of classes you will select your group and book. Each group will be 3-4 students. Your group must select the same book. You will each individually write a personal report on the book and as a group you will present to the class.

Instructions for this assignment will be posted in Canvas.

This assignment meets

- CLO1: Understand the major theoretical approaches findings, and historical trends in Social Psychology
- CLO2: Understand, critically evaluate, and apply the major research methods in Social Psychology
- CLO3: Express and apply social psychological theory effectively in written and oral communication
- CLO4: Gain an awareness of the many social influences, as well as cultural and individual differences, that underlie the complexities of human behavior
- CLO5: Understand the applications of Social Psychology to personal, social, and organizational issues

### **Assignment 3: Writing an Op-Ed (100 points)**

"In this assignment, students write a science-based op-ed of 700 - 750 words that brings relevant psychological research to bear on an important social problem. Although op-eds come in many forms, the best papers share several key features: They identify a specific puzzle (e.g., Why do healthcare workers report high levels of weight bias?), examine the problem in light of current scientific thinking (theory) and evidence (e.g., research findings), and communicate some novel insight about the nature of the problem or propose a solution based on available evidence. Students are required to use three or more external sources beyond course readings to support their arguments and are asked to provide detailed instructions for submitting the op-ed to two prospective outlets of the student's choice."(assignment adapted from Adam Pearson)

Instructions for this assignment will be posted in Canvas

This assignment meets

- CLO1: Understand the major theoretical approaches findings, and historical trends in Social Psychology
- CLO4: Gain an awareness of the many social influences, as well as cultural and individual differences, that underlie the complexities of human behavior
- CLO5: Understand the applications of Social Psychology to personal, social, and organizational issues

### Extra Credit (Up to 20 points)

Podcast Bonus Points:

Students can get 20 bonus points by listening to, summarizing, and responding to podcasts about psychology.

To do so, students should download and listen to one or more episodes of the podcast: Hidden Brain (<https://hiddenbrain.org/>). For every episode of Hidden Brain, students should write a response summarizing the podcast, discussing how it relates to concepts from the textbook/class, and discussing what they liked/didn't like about the topic.

Entries should be 250 words, 1" margins size, 12pt times new roman font, and DOUBLE SPACED. Each episode should start on its own new page. The page should contain a heading with the title of the episode.

Each write up of an episode (250 words per episode) will be half a point (up to 10 points). Students should turn your full extra credit submission as a single .doc or .pdf file on Canvas before the final day of class.

Each 1/2 page = 1/2 point (up to 20 points).

## Grading Information

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Your letter grade will be assigned according to the following percentage scale:

A+ = 97.00% or greater

A = 94.00%-96.99%

A- = 90.00%-93.99%

B+ = 87.00%-89.99%

B = 84.00%-86.99%

B- = 80.00%-83.99%

C+ = 77.00%-79.99%

C = 74.00%-76.99%

C- = 70.00%-73.99%

D+ = 67.00-69.99%

D = 64.00%-66.99%

D- = 60.00%-63.99%

F = 59.99% or less

## University Policies

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

## Course Schedule

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	Lectures	Readings	Assignments
Week 1			
1/27	Syllabus, Conocimiento Activity		
1/29	Introduction to Social Psychology	Ch. 1: An Introduction to the Science of Social Psychology	One Page Biography  Decide group and book
Week 2			
2/3	Research Methods	Ch. 2: Research Methods in Social Psychology	
2/5	Research Methods		



2/7			Media Engagement #1
Week 3			
2/10	The Self	Ch. 3: Self and Identity	
2/12	Social Cognition	Ch. 4: Social Cognition and Attitudes	
Week 4			
2/17	<b>Exam 1</b>		
2/19	Online Recorded Lecture: How to Write an Op-Ed	Articles: How to Write an Op-Ed  How to Write and Submit an Opinion Piece	
2/21			Media Engagement #2
Week 5			

2/24	No class	<p>Op-Ed Examples:</p> <p>“Zuckerberg claims social media isn’t harmful to mental health – here’s what the science says” (Prinstein, 2024)</p> <p>“Ethnic Food Can Advance Diversity Education, If Done Right” (Qu, 2012)</p> <p>“Wrong Way to Fight Fat” (Puhl &amp; Brownell, 2006)</p> <p>“Solitary Confinement: Punishment or Cruelty” (NPR)</p> <p>“I’m O.K., You’re Biased” (Gilbert, 2006)</p> <p>“Whose Responsibility Is It Anyway? A New Approach to Fighting Cyberbullying” (Finkelstein, 2014)</p>	<p>Submit Op-Ed Topic on Canvas</p>
2/26	Attitudes		

Week 6			
3/3	Attitudes and Bias		
3/5	Groups	Ch. 5: Groups	Assignment 1: Implicit Attitudes
3/7			Media Engagement #3
Week 7			
3/10	Family & Culture	Ch. 6: The Family Ch. 7: Culture	
3/12	Emotions	Ch. 8: Emotions	
Week 8			
3/17	<b>Exam 2</b>		
3/19	Conformity and Obedience	Ch. 9: Conformity and Obedience	
3/21			Media Engagement #4
Week 9			
3/24	Stereotyping and Prejudice	Ch. 10: Prejudice, Discrimination, and Stereotyping	

3/26	No class - time to work on paper		Assignment 2a Paper
Week 10			
3/31	Spring Recess		
4/2	Spring Recess		
Week 11			
4/7	Aggression and Violence	Ch. 11: Aggression & Violence	
4/9	Op-Ed Peer Review		Print out draft of Op-Ed and bring to class
4/11			Media Engagement #5
Week 12			
4/14	Helping & Prosocial Behavior	Ch. 12: Helping and Prosocial Behavior	
4/16	<b>Exam 3</b>		
Week 13			
4/21	Love, Friendship, and Social Support	Ch. 13: Love, Friendship, and Social Support	

4/23	Attachment Through the Life Course	Ch. 14: Attachment Through the Life Course	
4/25			Media Engagement #6
Week 14			
4/28	Relationships and Well-being	Ch. 15: Relationships and Well-being	
4/30	<b>Exam 4</b>		
Week 15			
5/5	Group Presentations		Assignment 2b
5/7	Group Presentations		Assignment 2b
Week 16			
5/12	Group Presentations		Assignment 2b  Assignment 3: Op-Ed