“We are always participating in something larger than ourselves, and if we want to understand social life and what happens to people in it, we have to understand what it is that we’re participating in and how we participate in it.” ~ Allan Johnson

Instructor: Dr. Amy Leisenring

Office Location: SH 440 and Online

Email: Via Canvas

Office Hours: Tuesday: 5:00 – 6:00 (Online); Thursday: 10:30 - 11:30 (In Office)

Course Description

Welcome to Introduction to Sociology! Sociology is the study of human social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Sociologists investigate the structure of groups, organizations, and societies, and how people interact within these contexts. This course is designed to introduce students to the basic concepts, theories, and methods of sociology.

Through readings and online activities (discussions, films, and exercises), we will explore the various aspects of human life with which sociologists are concerned. At the end of the course you will have a greater understanding of what it means to “think sociologically” about human behavior and a variety of social issues.

GE Learning Outcomes for CORE GE Area D1

After completion of this course the student should be able to:

• Place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts. [GE]
  --Activities designed to assist you in meeting this objective:
  1. Readings and REVEL activities in Chapters 1, 2, 3, 14, 17, and 22
  2. Online activities

• Identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them. [GE]
  --Activities designed to assist you in meeting this objective:
  1. Readings and REVEL activities in Chapters 3, 4, 10, 11, and 12
  2. Online activities
• Evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues. [GE]
  --Activities designed to assist you in meeting this objective:
  1. Readings and REVEL activities in Chapter 2
  2. Online activities
  3. Paper assignment (Journal article review)

• To recognize the interaction of social institutions, culture, and environment with the behavior of individuals. [GE]
  --Activities designed to assist you in meeting this objective:
  1. Readings and REVEL activities in Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, and 16
  2. Online activities

Course Objectives for Introduction to Sociology:
• Identify, explain, and apply the major theoretical positions in sociology (i.e. Conflict, Functionalist, Symbolic Interactionist, and Feminist).
• Explain and appropriately apply key sociological concepts.
• Describe and explain the basic dimensions of social inequality and social change in contemporary society.
• Use your sociological imagination to analyze your own perspective on the social world and explain how you came to possess this outlook.

Required Materials
The central item that you need to purchase for the course is access to an online learning environment called REVEL by Pearson's Publishing Company. Once you have purchased this, you automatically have access to a digital copy of the course textbook (Sociology: A Down-to-Earth Approach, 12th edition, by James Henslin.) Access to REVEL may be purchased one of two ways:

1. Via the campus bookstore. At the bookstore you may purchase the online access code to REVEL. (ISBN: 9780133965483)

OR

2. Via the REVEL website. You will receive a link to the REVEL website (it will be posted on the Canvas website) and there will be a place where you can purchase the online access code here.

Course Websites
Because this is an online course, you will need regular access to a computer and reliable internet access. This course will utilize two separate web-based learning management systems:
1. **Canvas**  
The course will be delivered via Canvas, the university’s Learning Management System. Here you will find the central course homepage. Because all communication will take place through Canvas, you should plan on checking your account regularly. I encourage you to take advantage of the various notification systems offered through Canvas (apps, texting, email-linking, etc.) so that you can receive all important class communication in a timely manner.

You can log into the site here: Information about how to find your Canvas username, how to log into your account, and how to use Canvas can be found here:  
[http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/) and  

If you encounter problems with Canvas and need help with technical support issues, (i.e. password reset, browser problems, etc.), you will need to contact the Informational Technology (IT) Help Desk. Their phone number is (408) 924-2377 and their email address is: ecampus@sjsu.edu. You may also visit the websites listed above.

2. **Pearson REVEL**  
This is the website that provides a digital version of the textbook and supporting materials (videos, various activities, quizzes, practice exams, etc.). After you purchase and/or register your textbook access code, the website will then direct you to create and your password and login information. More information about this is located here:  

**Information and Recommendations for using REVEL:**

a. **How REVEL Counts Toward Your Overall Course Grade:** Your REVEL assignments and quizzes will be worth 20% of your overall course grade.

b. **Combining REVEL Grades into your Course Grade:** Please note that your REVEL cumulative score will only be added to the rest of your course grades at the end of the term.

c. **The Scheduling of REVEL Assignments:** Please note that although most REVEL assignments have been accounted for in the course schedule, you may be assigned additional REVEL assignments as appropriate.

d. **Module vs. Chapter Quizzes:** There are two types of quizzes in REVEL: Module quizzes (which are shorter quizzes that cover various sections of each chapter) and Chapter quizzes (which are longer quizzes that cover the entire chapter).

e. **REVEL Quiz Performance:** You are allowed multiple attempts on each question. Each guess will reduce your score by 1 point if not correct. In other words, it’s best to have REVEL open in 2 browsers (Chrome to take the quiz, and FireFox to view the eText) so you can have the quiz in one and the eText in the other for quick reference and study between attempts.

f. **REVEL Scores:** Please note that on your Performance Dashboard, the outer view shows your score compared to all possible points, so that view will progressively show your score moving up throughout the semester (your target is to hit 100% by the end of
the semester). Your actual score according to the REVEL course calendar is on the interior view (compared to the class average at that point in the semester).

**REVEL Trouble Shooting:**

a. It is recommended that you use primarily Chrome for accessing REVEL. Other browsers that work well with the REVEL program include FireFox and Safari. We do not recommend Internet Explorer.

b. If you still have a tech support issue, go to the REVEL page at www.pearsonhighered.com/revel under students/support

If you need tech support, we need you to follow these steps in order to resolve your issue within 24 hours:

Submit your Incident to Tech Support (247pearsoned.custhelp.com) and they will follow up with you. Please note that you are using REVEL via Canvas and let tech support know when you file your incident. Please follow these steps:

- Go to the chat button and initiate your help session. Please retain your Incident Number in case you need further follow up.
- If you need further help, you can call into our tech support for further assistance with the same Incident Number: (855) 875-1801
- If you still need further assistance, please send your Incident Number to your local rep who can be found at www.pearsonhighered.com then click on “Find Your Rep”.
- **IMPORTANT**: We need to have an Incident Number in order to help you regardless of the method you choose.

**Class Protocol**

To be successful in this online class, you will need to do the following things:

1. **Learn how to access and use the two online systems utilized in the course (Canvas and REVEL).** Given that this class is web-based, I am assuming that each student enrolled is fairly confident utilizing technology (or at least willing to learn!). You are responsible for becoming familiar with the online systems used in the course and for resolving any computer issues and/or problems that you might have accessing and/or using any of the course materials.

2. **Understand that a web-based course such as this requires a fair amount of self-direction and independence.** You are responsible for accessing and understanding the course materials and completing the assignments. This course is not less work than a traditional course; in fact, due to the limited in-class contact that we will have, success in this course requires perhaps a higher commitment to following through with readings and assignments than does a traditional course.

SOCI 1, Summer 2016
3. **Complete assignments in a thoughtful and timely manner.** The activities and assignments for this course are designed to help you better learn and understand the course material. I encourage you to put the time and energy into your work that is necessary for you to produce something that you can be proud of. Having computer problems is NOT a valid excuse for not completing your work. Thus, make sure that you do not wait until the last minute to access materials, complete online assignments, etc. in case you encounter any technological issues. See below for the course late-work policy.

Almost every week there will be various required and recommended supplemental online activities that you should complete in order to facilitate your understanding of course concepts and material.

4. **Keep in touch with me if you are struggling or having problems.** If you are having ongoing personal or academic problems impacting your success in the class, I request that you let me know as soon as possible. You cannot “disappear” for a long period of time and expect that you will be able to make up everything that you have missed. I do not give incompletes except for in cases of extreme emergencies, and even then a student must have completed at least a majority of the course work.

The best way to reach me is via Canvas, as I check my email account there every weekday. Due to my workload I am unable to respond to every email that students send me. Thus, I do not respond to emails that request information easily found on the syllabus and/or the CANVAS site (such as: When is the exam? What are we doing next class? When are your office hours?) If you have a legitimate question or concern than I will try my best to respond to your email within 24 hours (excluding weekends).

**Missed Exam Policies**

I only allow students to make up exams in cases of extreme emergencies. If you cannot take an exam during the scheduled time, you need to let me know as soon as possible prior to the exam. I reserve the right to request documentation in order to allow you to make up the exam.

**Course Learning Assessments**

_The assignments in this course are designed to enhance analysis and understanding of course material. Your final grade in this class will be based on the following:_

1. **Revel Module and Chapter quizzes**
   Each week when you read new chapters, there are "Module" Quizzes over each section of each the chapter for that week. These are taken via REVEL. There are also “Chapter” quizzes over the entire chapter that should be taken prior to the exam for review purposes.

2. **Online Canvas Discussion**
   All students are required to participate in 5 small group online discussions via Canvas (1 per week). There will be an activity and/or question(s) to respond to. Students need to post at least one original response to the discussion question by Thursday at 11:59 p.m. Each student must then respond to at least one other group member’s response by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. (Late
postings will NOT be given any credit). Each discussion is worth 4 points and each response is worth 3 points, for a total of 7 points.

Responses to other students’ postings can involve agreeing with them, disagreeing with them, questioning them, or engaging with them. All responses must be respectful.

Quantity and quality are both important considerations when it comes to participation. Quantity is discussed above. Quality means adding something of substance to the discussion - your perspectives and ideas, examples from your work or life experience, questions, etc. A message that says simply, I agree, for example, would not constitute participation since it does not add anything of substance to the discussion. You will find it much easier to keep up with an online class and it will be of greater value to you, if you are logging in often.

Your discussion responses must be relevant to the assigned topic, clearly address the issue, and be well-written (i.e., proper grammar and spelling, edited, etc.). Your discussion response postings will be as Excellent (3 points), Good (2 points), or Weak (1 point).

3. Exams
There will be five exams (including the final exam). Each exam will consist of multiple choice, true-false, matching, and short answer questions. All exams will be taken online via Canvas. Information about online test taking will be provided at a later date. You can drop your lowest score for Exam 1-4 (or miss one). Everyone must take the final exam. The final exam will include some cumulative assessment.

4. Paper
There will be one paper in the course that will be approximately 4-6 pages (1500 words). You will receive specific details about this paper at a later date.

The breakdown of your final grade looks like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REVEL Module and Chapter Quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canvas Discussion/Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #3</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final letter grades for the course will be assigned based on the following scale:

- A = 93 – 100%
- B = 83 – 87%
- C = 73 – 77%
- D = 63 – 67%
- A- = 90 – 92%
- B- = 80 – 82%
- C- = 70 – 72%
- D- = 60 – 62%

SOCI 1, Summer 2016
B+ = 88 – 89%    C+ = 78 – 79%    D+ = 68 – 69%    F = 59% or less

**University Policies**

**General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student**

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU’s policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90–5 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

**Course Requirements by Credit Hour**

Success in this course is based on the requirement that students will spend, for each hour of credit, a minimum of 45-hours over the length of the course for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, lab, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

**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/.

**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

SOCI 1, Summer 2016
Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

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 their disability.

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.

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.
COURSE SCHEDULE

Please note that I reserve the right to make changes to the schedule, as needed, with fair notice.

**Week #1: Introduction to Sociology; Culture; Socialization**
1. Read: Welcome in REVEL; Text: CH 1-3
2. 6/8: Short Quiz over Syllabus for Extra Credit
3. 6/9: REVEL Chapter 1-3 Module Quizzes due at 11:59 p.m.
4. 6/10: Exam Review: REVEL Chapter Quizzes 1, 2, 3 due by 11:59 p.m. (TAKE BEFORE EXAM)
5. **Exam #1:** Open from 6/9 at 8:00 a.m. until 6/10 at 11:59 p.m.
6. 6/12: Canvas Online Response to Classmate due at 11:59 p.m.

**Week #2: Research Methods and Ethics; Social Structure and Social Interaction; Bureaucracy and Formal Organizations**
1. Read: Text: CH 4, 5, 7
2. 6/14: REVEL Chapter Module Quizzes 4, 5, 7 due at 11:59 p.m.
3. 6/16: Canvas Online Discussion Response #2 due at 11:50 p.m.
4. 6/17: Exam Review: REVEL Chapter Quizzes 4, 5, 7 due by 6/16 at 11:59 p.m. (TAKE BEFORE EXAM)
5. **Exam #2:** Open from 6/16 at 8:00 a.m. until 6/17 at 11:59 p.m.
6. 6/19: Canvas Online Response to Classmate due at 11:59 p.m.

**Week #3: Deviance and Social Control; The Economy; Social Class**
1. Reading: Text: Chapter 8, 14, 10
2. 6/21: REVEL Chapter 8 Module Quizzes 8, 14, 10 due at 11:59 p.m.
3. 6/23: Canvas Online Discussion Response #3 due at 11:50 p.m.
4. 6/24: Exam Review: REVEL Chapter Quizzes 8, 14, 10 due by 11:59 p.m. (TAKE BEFORE EXAM)
5. **Exam #3:** Open from 6/23 at 8:00 a.m. until 6/24 at 11:59 p.m.
6. 6/26: Canvas Online Response to Classmate due at 11:59 p.m.

**Week #4: Race and Ethnicity; Sex and Gender; Marriage and Family**
1. Reading: Text: Chapter 11, 12, 16
2. 6/28: REVEL Chapter Module Quizzes 11, 12, 16 due at 11:59 pm
3. 6/30: Canvas Online Discussion Response #4 due at 11:50 p.m.
4. 7/1: Exam Review: REVEL Chapter Quizzes 11, 12, 16 due by 11:59 p.m. (TAKE BEFORE EXAM)
5. **Exam #4:** Open from 6/30 at 8:00 a.m. until 7/1 at 11:59 p.m.
6. 7/3: Canvas Online Response to Classmate due at 11:59 p.m.
7. 7/3: PAPER DUE TO Canvas at 11:59 p.m.

**Week #5: Education; Social Change and the Environment**
1. Reading: Text: Chapter 17 and 22
2. 7/5: REVEL Chapter Module Quizzes 17 and 22 due at 11:59 p.m.
3. 7/7: Canvas Online Discussion Response #5 due at 11:50 p.m.
4. 7/8: Exam Review: REVEL Chapter Quizzes 17 and 22 due by 11:59 p.m. (TAKE BEFORE EXAM)
5. **FINAL EXAM:** Open from 7/7 at 8:00 a.m. until 7/8 at 11:59 p.m.