Instructor: Mitra Rokni
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Email: mitra.rokni@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: By Appointment
Class Days/Time: MW 10:30-2:15
Classroom: BBC122
Prerequisites: SOCI 1 or equivalent
GE/SJSU Studies Category: D3

Faculty Web Page
Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page accessible through the Quick Links>Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page. http://www.sjsu.edu/people/mitra.rokni/

Course Description

Examination of global social issues, evaluation of the impact of change on world communities and analysis of the response of specific groups to emerging problems and opportunities.

Course Goals, Student Learning Objectives, and Outcomes
This course qualifies as an Area D3 (Social Sciences – Social Issues) course, satisfying a General Education requirement. It is designed to enable you to achieve the following GE and specific learning outcomes:

- To identify and analyze the social dimension of society as a context for human life, the processes of social change and social continuity, the role of human agency in those social processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation.

  SPECIFIC OUTCOMES: To examine the global society, global changes, and human agency by analyzing how institutional forces create social inequalities and how justice movements seek social emancipation.
- To evaluate theories and explanations of globalization, global inequalities, and Third World development.

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ASSIST YOU TO MEET THESE OUTCOMES: lectures, readings, active discussion, video documentaries, class exercises (such as group discussions on documentaries), and article review assignments.

- To place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts, and to 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.

SPECIFIC OUTCOMES: - To analyze various global issues through sociological concepts of power, social inequalities and social justice and how social identities and affiliations foster beneficial changes historically, spatially, culturally, economically, and politically.

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ASSIST YOU TO MEET THESE OUTCOMES: lectures, readings, active discussion, in-class exams, video documentaries, and class exercises (such as group discussions on global political issues and individual paper assignments).

- To evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues, and to apply multidisciplinary material to a topic relevant to policy and social action at the local, national, and/or international levels.

SPECIFIC OUTCOMES: - To evaluate a variety of media reports and social science materials to formulate just and fair responses to global issues.

- To reflect critically on the relationship between the global rich and the global poor.

- To enhance lifelong thinking, speaking, writing, and collaborative work skills in order to do community projects and social research, work in the public and social service sectors, and participate in struggle for meaningful change in our personal lives and social surroundings.

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ASSIST YOU TO MEET THESE OUTCOMES: lectures, readings, active discussion, in-class exams, video documentaries, class exercises (such as group discussion on the role of media in a democracy), and paper assignment on various media sources (such as newspapers and/or magazines, Internet, and Radio).

The course incorporates the following content and activities appropriate to sociology to meet the competency goals and student learning objectives:

- Issues of diversity
- Writing assignments consisting of a minimum of 1,500 words in a language and style appropriate to sociology
- Active learning through class participation and discussions
- Assignments and class activities involving critical thinking skills, information competency, critical writing and reading skills, and effective group interactions.
Required Texts/Readings
Check my Webpage for Full Syllabus & Additional Links & Online Resources for our class: http://www.sjsu.edu/people/mitra.rokni/

Classroom Protocol
We are all travelers on this learning journey called life. Classroom is our shared educational space for learning, understanding, discussing, and responding to one another as both students and teachers. To disregard the importance of an active engagement in this learning process could create an atmosphere of apathy that is disrespectful to the very spirit of education. It is crucial for students to take responsibility for their role in enhancing and creating the opportunities for a critical and civil dialogue on the most pressing issues of our time. Arriving on time, staying the whole period of a class time, and turning off cell phones, laptops, and other electronic devices, are part of the civility needed for a productive and engaged classroom. A smart sense of humor and/or intelligent critical debate is always welcome. But it is important to remember, at all times, that you are here to develop your critical mind, practical skills, study, learn, and participate in building a better world. It is critical to develop a sense of social responsibility towards others, and an individual responsibility for self-development.

NOTE: No recording devices are allowed in this class under ANY circumstances. Arrangements will be made by the DRC students and the educator, to have access to the class notes and lectures.

Assignments and Grading Policy
Midterm & Final Exams (each 25% of the final grade) Two Take-home Exams (2-3 essay questions) to reflect assigned readings, lectures, documentaries, and additional information provided.
Research Paper (20%) The 6-7 pages paper, on a topic related to our course content, should demonstrate research skills, an understanding of the subject matter under study, critical thinking, analysis, as well as the implications of new knowledge. You must follow a recognized format for citations and references. The paper must be based on at least 2 scholarly books (you may use additional peer-reviewed articles and/or Internet websites).

Check the following link for distinguishing scholarly from non-scholarly sources: http://www.library.cornell.edu/olinuris/ref/research/skill20.html

Research Paper Topic (5%)
1. Select a topic (narrow it to something manageable for our time frame)
2. Pose your research question(s)
3. Explain the importance of your research
4. Working thesis
5. List 2 scholarly books (tentative) relevant to your research topic and question(s)
Check the following website for how to write a research paper including all the above three requirements. http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
Response (25%) Random group discussions and/or written responses on assigned readings and/or documentaries (minimum two pages, double spaced typed, for each assignment).

Late assignments will lose 5 points for each week day.
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 arise. 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.

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/related/late_drops/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 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.”
  o It is suggested that the greensheet 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.
  o 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.”

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 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.

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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf.

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 is 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. 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 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.
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<th>Date</th>
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| M Jun 6 | **The Tragedy of Development:** Goethe’s Faust  
Berman/Class Notes  
Experience of Modernity/Modernization Berman/Class Notes |
| W Jun 8 | Perspectives on Globalization (Sceptics/Globalists/Transformationalists)  
David Held (Online Resources)  
The Global Economy: Capitalism and the Economic Bases of Globalization  
Neo-liberalism Chomsky/Varoufakis/Introduction Class Notes |
| M Jun 13 | **PAPERS’ Topic DUE/See Instructions in Syllabus P. 3**  
Global Inequality/Nothing for Other People/Whose Security? Chomsky (Chs. 12-13)  
Laboratories of the Future/GLOBAL PLAN & Legacy Corporations Varoufakis (Chs. 1-3)  
Corporations Documentary |
| W Jun 15 | The Global Minotaur/The Beast/Crash  
Politics, State & Globalization/Invisible Hand of Power Varoufakis (Chs. 4-6)  
Chomsky (Ch. 4-6, 8, 18, 21) |
| M Jun 20 | **Midterm Take-home Exams Due**  
War and Globalization/Terrorism Chomsky (Chs. 2-3, 17)  
Middle East & History of Violence Chomsky (Chs. 9-11, 16) |
| W Jun 22 | The Power of Religion in the Public Sphere (Judith Butler, Jurgen Habermas, Charles Taylor, & Cornel West) Online Resources  
Responsibility of Intellectuals & Citizen Activism Chomsky (Chs. 1, 23) |
| M Jun 27 | Minotaur’s Global Legacy  
Doomsday Clock Varoufakis (Chs. 7-8)  
The Globalization of Culture: Homogeneous or Hybrid Chomsky (Chs. 7, 15, 22)  
Culture and Resistance/No Logo/Naomi Klein Class Notes  
Documentary |
| W Jun 29 | Cosmopolitan Social Democracy David Held (Online Resources)  
Global Justice Movement Class Notes  
World Social Forum Documentary  
A Future without the Minotaur Varoufakis (Chs. 9 & PS) |
| M Jul 4 | **NO CLASS** |
| W Jul 6 | Environment & Climate Change Online Resources /Documentary  
**Final Exam Take-home & RESEARCH PAPERS DUE** |