Course Description
This course is designed to introduce students to the basic concepts, theories, and methods of sociology. My intention is to give you a broad overview of sociology so that you may then make an informed choice about further study in this discipline. Together we will critically examine the applicability of sociology to everyday life. We will assess the usefulness of a sociological perspective, and the depth of sociological method.

Course Learning Objectives for CORE GE Area D1
After completion of this course the student should be able 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. [GE] Activities designed to Assist you in meeting this objective:
  Lectures, readings, class discussions, and exams.
  Writing assignments & small group discussion
  Class Exercise or Video & class discussion
• Place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts. [GE] Activities designed to Assist you in meeting this objective:
  Lectures, readings, class discussions, and exams.
  Small group discussion.
  Writing assignments are specifically designed to meet this objective
• 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:
  Lectures, readings, class discussions, and exams.
  Writing assignments & small group discussion
  Class Exercise or Video & class discussion
• 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:
  Lectures, readings, class discussions, and exams.
  Small group discussion.
  Writing assignments are specifically designed to meet this objective
• 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:
  Lectures, readings, class discussions, and exams.
  Writing assignments & small group discussion
Course Objectives for Introduction to Sociology

• Identify, explain, and apply three main theoretical positions in Sociology: Conflict, Functionalist, and Symbolic Interactionist.

  Lectures, readings, class discussions, and exams are all designed to address this objective

• Explain and appropriately apply key sociological concepts.

  Lectures, readings, class discussions, and exams are all designed to address this objective

• Describe and explain the basic dimensions of social inequality and social change in contemporary society.

  Lectures, readings, class discussions, and exams are all designed to address this objective

• Use your sociological imagination to analyze your own perspective on the social world and explain how you came to possess this outlook.

  Lectures, readings, class discussions, and exams are all designed to address this objective

  Thoughtful self-reflection, discussion, and analysis of all the ideas we cover throughout the semester will provide you the ongoing practice needed to meet this objective

Faculty Website

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, lecture outlines, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on my faculty web page at http://www.markpasion.com. You are responsible for regularly checking this site to learn of any updates. Your course exams will be taken in class, and your exam & assignment grades will be posted to (markpasion.com). You will have timely access to your grades throughout the semester. Official final grades will be posted by Admissions & Records to your MySJSU account.

Office Hours: My designated office hours are for you to come and talk with me about this course. This is your opportunity to come and talk to me outside of class.

Classroom Guidelines: This is primarily a lecture-based class. Classes consist mainly of lectures and discussions. These may be supplemented by some videos, homework, and small group work. Taking class notes during lecture is encouraged. Lectures are designed to clarify and expand upon the required readings. Student participation is highly encouraged, and all perspectives are welcomed.

Classroom Technology Policy:

• Cell phones should be put away during class hours….they should not be on the desk

• Cell phones can be a distraction to the student and to other classmates

• If a student must text, email, or answer the phone, they should do so outside of the classroom

• Laptops should be for class work only…. Please do not misuse this privilege.

• Students that violate the technology policy may be asked to leave the classroom

Class Attendance & Participation: Attendance to class sessions is an important part of the learning process. Sharing ideas with other class members, class discussions, and instructor lectures are fundamental to classroom education. Participation is an essential feature for learning. Participation may include active listening, note taking, small group discussions, classroom discussion and in-class exercises, homework and writing assignments. Small-group and open class discussion are useful venues to explore a variety of social issues and topics. Attend and participate in these activities. These assignments are designed to encourage regular class attendance, and to give students incentive to stay current with the class readings and their sociology studies. Excessive tardiness to class and/or leaving early before class has ended is rude behavior, to the instructor, and to other members of the class. Participation in class discussion is encouraged, but talking when others are speaking is also disruptive behavior. Please be courteous, rather than engage in the manner described.
**Required Texts/Readings**

Henslin, “Essentials of Sociology - A Down to Earth Approach, 11th Ed.

*Students should use the 11th edition, because that is the edition that exams are derived from. Options include new or used textbooks; loose-leaf editions, renting a textbook, or using an E-book.*

Students interested in an E-book, should purchase directly from the publisher at (www.mypearsonstore.com)

**ISBN 9780133803662 - A La Carte (looseleaf) edition**

**ISBN 9780133777499 - Course Smart Etext**

Textbooks are also offered at our campus bookstore for convenience, but there is no requirement that class textbooks be purchased from the campus bookstore. The textbook is also available from other sources, if you so choose. Be sure to purchase the proper edition of your textbook.

Reading should be done prior to coming to class. (Usually 1 - 2 chapters per week) Students will be better prepared to discuss the material, and better prepared for asking questions about material that needs more explanation. See reading schedule on Class Calendar page. Students are expected to use the proper edition of the assigned textbook. Older editions may not contain all the information that is listed on your exam study guides, and I will not be providing missing information to students that use the wrong textbook.

**Course Requirements and Assignments:**

**In-Class / Take Home Quizzes:** (5 pts. each quiz) (30 points total)

- **Quiz #1 due:** September 14
- **Quiz #2 due:** September 28
- **Quiz #3 due:** October 17

- **Quiz #4 due:** October 31
- **Quiz #5 due:** November 16
- **Quiz #6 due:** December 7

These will be a group quiz or take-home quiz, covering 2-3 chapters. Quizzes are for study purpose as well as for grade assessment. Students will see examples of the types of questions seen on the exams. Discussion will follow the quiz and students can ask questions about the quizzed material. There will be 6 quizzes in total, 10 questions, multiple choice format for each quiz. Late quizzes will have a late penalty of 10% minimum. Once the quiz answers have been revealed, late quizzes will not be allowed.

**Writing Assignment:** (5 pts. each writing) (30 points total)

- **Writing #1 due:** September 7
- **Writing #2 due:** September 26
- **Writing #3 due:** October 10

- **Writing #4 due:** October 19
- **Writing #5 due:** November 14
- **Writing #6 due:** November 28

All students are required to do a writing assignment of 1500 words, as part of the G.E. class requirement. Students will be writing a series of short papers concerning social issues. A writing handout will be available that explains the assignment in full detail. Please see faculty website (www.markpasion.com) for the writing handout. This is a GE requirement, and all students must comply. *Students will answer specific questions as it pertains to the topic. The response must be meaningful.* Grading is based upon the critical analysis of the topic as it relates to the questions answered. Deadline dates, and a more detailed description of the writing assignment is explained in the writing handout. Late papers will have a late penalty of 10% minimum. For some excellent handouts on specific writing issues see: http://www.sjsu.edu/writingresources/handouts/index.htm

**SJ SU 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.

Exams: (100 pts. each exam) (300 points total)

- Midterm Exam #1 – October 30
- Midterm Exam #2 – November 2
- Final Midterm #3 – December 15

There are three (3) major midterm exams given in this class. Each exam is worth 100 points and will consist of 52 questions (50 plus 2 extra credit questions). All exams are multiple choice. The exams are closed-book, and closed notebook. However, students will be allowed to compile notes on 1 sheet of paper, double-sided (8.5 x 11), to be used during the examinations. Cell phones and all electronic devices must be off the student’s desk, along with textbooks and other course material.

Late exams: (10%) late penalty - Students that miss the scheduled exam should be prepared to take a late make-up exam at the following class meeting. The exam will have a late penalty of 10%. If students have extended illness, they should contact me and communicate the problems with returning to class. No late or make-up exams will be offered for Final Midterm #3.

Grading System:

Grade scale: 360 total points (4.0 grade scale)

324-360 pts = A  288-323 pts = B  244-287 pts = C  205-243 pts = D  204 pts or below = Fail

**Minus grades will not be given (i.e., “A-”, “B-”). Also (A+) grades are not typically given. Other plus grades may be considered based upon student performance.**

Graded material: Final class grades in this class are based entirely upon exam & quiz scores, and the writing assignments.

In the college classroom, grading is an institutional requirement. There is no perfect grading system, however, it is a necessity for this college and this classroom. The instructor’s goal in grading is to assess the student’s understanding of core subject matter as measured by a written exam. Grading is objective, based on exam scores and the quality of work produced in any graded class assignments. Grading is not subjective based upon how hard a student tries, or how much time is spent in studying. Unfortunately for some students, the reality is that grades in this class are based upon results and not necessarily a reflection of effort. There is no extra credit available in this class.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Academic Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S12-3.htm has defined expected student workload as follows:

“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.”

University Policies:

“University Policies: Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs maintains university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc.”

You may find all syllabus related University Policies and resources information listed on GUP’s Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug 24</td>
<td>Class orientation – First day of instruction</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Aug 29</td>
<td>Introducing Sociology, Read chap 1</td>
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<td>Aug 31</td>
<td>Sociological Perspective</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sept 5</td>
<td><strong>HOLIDAY – NO CLASS SESSION</strong></td>
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<td>Sept 7</td>
<td>Culture, Read chap 2 (Writing #1 due)</td>
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<td>Sept 12</td>
<td>Culture – Components of culture &amp; importance</td>
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<td>Sept 14</td>
<td>Quiz #1 (chaps 1 &amp; 2) Socialization, Read chap 3</td>
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<td>Sept 19</td>
<td>Socialization process</td>
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<td>Sept 21</td>
<td>Social Interaction &amp; Social structure, Read chap 4</td>
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<td>Sept 26</td>
<td>Social groups, Read chap 5</td>
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<td>Sept 28</td>
<td>Quiz #2 (chaps 3-5), Exam #1 review Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>Oct 3</td>
<td><strong>MIDTERM EXAM #1 (chapters 1-5)</strong></td>
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<td>Late Make-up Midterm Exam #1, Student Review - Exam #1 results</td>
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<td>Oct 10</td>
<td>Deviance &amp; Deviant Behavior, Read chap 6 (Writing #3 due)</td>
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<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>Social Stratification, Read chaps 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<td>Oct 17</td>
<td>Quiz #3 (chaps 6-8), Social Inequality, Read chap 9 (Writing #4 due)</td>
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<td>Oct 19</td>
<td>Racial Inequality, Read chap 9</td>
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<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>Racial / Ethnic Stratification</td>
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<td>Oct 26</td>
<td>Gender Inequality, Read chap 10</td>
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<td>Oct 31</td>
<td>Quiz #4 (chaps 9-10), Exam #2 review Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>Nov 2</td>
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<td>Late Make-up Midterm Exam #2, Student Review - Exam #2 results</td>
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<td>Nov 9</td>
<td>Political &amp; Economic Institutions, Read chap 11</td>
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<td>Nov 14</td>
<td>Family Issues, Read chap 12</td>
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<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>Quiz #5 (chaps 11-12), Family as an Institution (Writing #5 due)</td>
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<td>Nov 21</td>
<td>Educational Institutions, Read chap 13</td>
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<td>Nov 23</td>
<td>Holiday – No class session</td>
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<td>Nov 28</td>
<td>Religion as an Institution, Read chap 13 (Writing #6 due)</td>
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<td>Nov 30</td>
<td>Population &amp; Urbanization, Read chap 14</td>
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<td>Dec 5</td>
<td>Social change, Read chap 15</td>
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<td>Dec 7</td>
<td>Quiz #6 (chaps 13-15), Exam #3 review Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>Dec 12</td>
<td>“Early Option” – Final Midterm #3, Regular class hours</td>
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<td>Dec 15</td>
<td><strong>FINAL MIDTERM #3 (chapters 11-15) Thursday, 8:00 -9:15 AM</strong></td>
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<td><strong>LAST DAY OF CLASS</strong></td>
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