San José State University  
Department of Sociology  
and Interdisciplinary Social Science  
Quantitative Research Methods  
SOCI 104 Section 1 Summer 2017

Instructor: Carlos Garcia  
Office Location: DMH 216  
Telephone: (408) 924-5804  
Email: carlos.e.garcia@sjsu.edu  
Office Hours: By Appointment  
Class Days/Time: TTh 9:00-1:10 PM  
Classroom: DMH 226A

Faculty Web Page
This syllabus is available at: http://www.sjsu.edu/people/carlos.e.garcia/

Course Description
Quantitative research methods including survey research design, hypothesis formulation, questionnaire and interview design, scaling, sampling and data preparation and SPSS analysis. Completion of a class research project plus individual research reports. Prerequisites: SOCI 101, SOCI 15 or SOCI 102, upper division standing.
Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

1. **CLO1** – Students will develop basic proficiency using SPSS. This includes learning to perform basic analysis and variable manipulation. Proficiency will be assessed through course assignments and the final research report.

2. **CLO2** – Students will learn the language used in research methods during class lectures and assigned readings. Proficiency will be assessed in exams.

3. **CLO 3** – Students will develop proficiency in the process of conceptualization and operationalization that involves the conversion of abstract concepts into measurable forms. Students will develop this skill through course lecture and small group work. Proficiency will be assessed in exams.

4. **CLO4** – Students will develop proficiency in the creation of indexes. Students will learn this skill in lecture and develop it with small group work and homework. Proficiency will be assessed in exams, the research report, and the homework.

5. **CLO5** – Students will develop proficiency in the creation of survey questions and the design of questionnaires. Material will be introduced in lecture and practiced in small group work. Assessment of this CLO will occur during exams.

6. **CLO6** – Students will develop basic proficiency in performing basic data analysis and presentation of data. Material will be introduced in class lecture and reinforced in small group work and homework. Proficiency will be assessed in homework, exams, and the research report.

Required Materials


2. The most recent version of SPSS available for purchase* ($15) from the University Help Desk on the first floor of Clark Hall.

3. A calculator for the final exam.

4. You will also be required to join the group Quantitative Research Methods Group Summer 2017. I will send an invitation to the email address you have on record here at SJSU around June 8th. This will be easiest if you have a Google+ account or an SJSU email.
Course Requirements

*SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.*

Assignments and Grading Policy

Points will be earned according to the following point distribution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPSS Exercises</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Report</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Possible Points</strong></td>
<td><strong>295</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+ 98% of the points or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A  97.9-92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-  91.9-90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+ 88-89.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B  87.9-82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-  81.9-80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+ 78-79.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C  77.9-72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-  71.9-70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+ 68%-69.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D  67.9-62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-  61.9-60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F Less than 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Classroom Protocol

1. You are expected to behave in a courteous manner to other students and the instructor at all times.
2. You are expected to be on time for class and stay for the full class period.
3. Please be sure that all cell phones are turned off during class. Ringing cell phones and cell phone use in class are grounds for being asked to leave the classroom.
4. I strongly discourage you from bringing laptop computers to class. In my experience they are more of a distraction than an advantage. However, if you choose to bring one in it is not acceptable to use your computer to check your email, work on other class assignments, etc. Engaging in these types of activity is strictly forbidden in this class. Students caught doing this will be asked to leave the classroom.
5. Please note the dates of the exams for this class. I expect each student to take his/her exams at the time and date scheduled.
6. I will hold and store all exams.
7. Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. I do not expect to have a problem with cheating, however, should anyone be caught cheating on an exam or an assignment, I will pursue the appropriate disciplinary actions.

8. All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Items submitted after the start of class are considered late.
9. All assignments should be submitted in class. Any assignment that is late will be penalized at 5 points per weekday until it is worth zero points. Assignments must not be turned into the main office!
10. Any assignment submitted must include a cover page with a signed honor statement. The honor statement indicates to me that you have completed your work without assistance from anyone and that the assignment was specifically completed for this class. Failure to include this may result in your assignment not being graded.
11. I do not accept assignments via e-mail or fax or handwritten assignments.
12. I reserve the right to amend the syllabus as necessary. Any such changes will be announced to the class.
13. A note on emails and grades: I will not discuss grades in anyway using email. This includes giving out grades or discussions on point totals or final grades. If you would like to talk about your grades please make an appointment to meet with me.
14. Incompletes will only be given in exceptional cases.
15. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact me so that special accommodations can be made.
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.

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/

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.”
- “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](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/.

**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](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](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.

**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](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.
**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 Writing Center (Optional)**

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.
Honor Statement

Any assignment submitted must include a cover page with a signed honor statement. The honor statement indicates to me that you have completed your work without assistance from anyone and that the assignment was specifically completed for this class. Failure to include this will result in your assignment not being graded. Following is an example of the honor statement that should accompany each of your assignments.

The work that I am submitting was completed by me without the aid of anyone else using only sources that I specifically cite in my bibliography. This assignment was prepared specifically for the Summer 2016 session of Soc 104.

Your signature here

Course Assignments

SPSS Exercises

One of the main goals of this course is to give students basic competence using the Statistical Packet for the Social Sciences (SPSS). As such students will be required to complete several assignments throughout the semester using this program. Each assignment is worth 10 points for a total of 70 points when all assignments are completed. Keep in mind that while the assignments are not worth very many points individually they are still very important because future assignments (and ultimately the SPSS Research Report) depend on successfully completing even the smallest assignment. You are very strongly encouraged to keep an archive of these assignments so that you can reference them in the future.

Research Report

Students will be assigned to complete a research report that combines class lecture skills with SPSS skills. The goal of the assignment is to test your ability to use SPSS. This assignment is worth 75 points.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading/Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| June 6 | Course Introduction  
Lecture 1 Introduction to Sociology  
How to Write SPSS Reports  
SPSS EX1 Directions Discussed | Chapter 1  
Chapter 2 |
| June 8 | Lecture 2 Human Inquiry and Science  
Lecture 3 Paradigms, Theory, and Research  
SPSS EX2 Directions Discussed  
SPSS EX 3 Directions Discussed | Chapter 4  
Chapter 5  
SPSS EX1 Due  
SPSS EX2 Due |
| June 13| Lecture 4 Causation  
Lecture 5 Research Design  
SPSS EX 4 Directions Discussed  
SPSS EX 5 Directions Discussed | Chapter 6  
SPSS EX3 Due  
SPSS EX4 Due |
| June 15| Lecture 6 Conceptualization, Operationalization, and Measurement  
Lecture 7 Indexes, Scales, and Typologies  
SPSS EX 6 Directions Discussed | Chapter 7  
Chapter 8  
SPSS EX5 Due  
SPSS EX6 Due |
| June 20| EXAM 1 Covers Lectures 1 – 6  
Research Report Directions Discussed | Chapter 9  
Chapter 14  
SPSS EX5 Due  
SPSS EX6 Due |
| June 22| Lecture 8 Survey Research  
Lecture 9 Quantitative Analysis  
SPSS EX7 Directions Discussed | Chapter 10  
SPSS EX9 Due |
| June 27| Lecture 10 Sampling  
Lecture 11 Ethics and Politics of Social Research | Chapter 7  
Chapter 3  
SPSS 7 Due |
| June 29| Catch Up Day | |
| July 4 | No Class | |
| July 7 | EXAM 2 Covers Lecture 7-11 | Research Report Due |