San José State University  
Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences  
SOCI001-03 (TTH) Introduction to Sociology Spring 2018

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Office Hours: TTH 2:00-2:45pm or by appt.  
Class Days/Time: TTH 3:00pm-4:15pm  
Classroom: DMH 231

Course Description

Have you ever wondered why social inequalities exist? Or, have you wondered why men and women act and think so differently? If you answered yes – or no – to any of those questions, welcome to Sociology! Sociology is the systematic, scientific study of the patterns and processes of social life, touching on all of its major dimensions – political, familial, economic, religious, etc. It is the study of our behavior as social beings, covering everything from the analysis of short contacts between anonymous individuals on the street, to the study of global social processes. Put simply, it is the study of society.

Catalog Description

How does society affect individual behavior and how does individual behavior affect society? Influence of social institutions and arrangements (family, school, workplace, politics, etc.) on roles, groups, values. Basic sociological theories and methods. Careers, specializations. Required for majors, minors. GE Area: D1

GE Learning Outcomes for CORE GE Area D1

Upon successful completion of this course, students will 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, exams
  - Writing assignments and small group discussion
  - Class exercise, videos, and 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, exams
• 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:
  o Lectures, readings, class discussions, exams
  o Writing assignments and small group discussion
  o Class exercise, videos, and 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:
  o Lectures, readings, class discussions, exams
  o Writing assignments and small group discussion
  o Class exercise, videos, and class discussion

• 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:
  o Lectures, readings, class discussions, exams
  o Writing assignments and small group discussion
  o Class exercise, videos, and class discussion

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

• Identify, explain, and apply four main theoretical positions in Sociology: Feminist, Conflict, Functionalist, and Symbolic Interactionist.
  o Lectures, films, readings, writing assignments, class discussions, and exams are all designed to address this course objective.

• Explain and appropriately apply key sociological concepts.
  o Lectures, readings, writing assignments, class discussions, and exams are all designed to address this course objective.

• Describe and explain the basic dimensions of social inequality and social change in contemporary society.
  o Lectures, films, readings, writing assignments, class discussions, and exams are all designed to address this course objective.

• Use your sociological imagination to analyze your own perspective on the social world and explain how you came to possess this outlook.
  o Lectures, readings, video clips, writing assignments, class discussions, and exams are all designed to address this course objective.
Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Other Readings
Additional online reading links will be given in class

Course Requirements
Students are expected to regularly attend class and complete all readings by the date indicated on the syllabus. A great way to fully understand concepts from the readings is by writing down questions while you read. Additionally, please be on time. I understand traffic exists, but there is no reason why a student should be consistently late. By walking in late, students, as well as professors, become distracted, which in turn, disrupts the learning environment. Also, please silence your cell phones before class begins. If the call is important, the caller will leave you a voice-mail. No laptop computers unless you have my approval.

Late Assignments: If you are not present when I collect assignments at the beginning of class, it is considered late. Late assignments will automatically be deducted 10%. No exceptions.

Exams: There will be two in-class exams (one midterm and one final). These exams will measure your understanding of the assigned readings, lectures, and films presented in the course. Every exam will be composed of multiple choice, essay, and true/false questions. Each exam will be worth 100 points (200 points total). I will not be grading on a “curve.” If for any reason you are unable to make a test date I provided, let me know as soon as possible. I will earnestly try to accommodate your situation.

Quizzes: There will be two in-class quizzes. Each quiz will be worth 50 points (100 points total).

Reflection Papers: You will be required to turn in a total of three reflection papers this semester. The first reflection paper will be worth 50 points each (150 points total). Each reflection paper must be at least 3 full pages, standard 12-point font, double-spaced and printed out. No exceptions. You will also be required to give a brief presentation on each reflection paper.

Final Project: You will be required to complete a fun, but thought-provoking final project before the end of the course. The requirements for the project will be discussed in detail no later than the fourth class session.

Final Exam: Friday, May 18th, 2018 from 2:45pm-5pm
Grades: Every student has the opportunity to earn a maximum of 725 points.
100 points for each exam (200 total)
50 points for quizzes (100 total)
50 points for each reflection paper (150 total)
100 points for final project
175 points for class participation (in-class assignments, homework, participating in class discussion)

100-90% = A (653-725 points)
89-80% = B (580-652 points)
79-70% = C (508-579 points)
69-60% = D (435-507 points)
Below 60% F (0-434 points)

I will not be giving points for class attendance. However, about 95% of the exams/quizzes will come from lectures, films, in-class assignments, and discussion. In addition, there will be pop quizzes and in class assignments that will count towards your final grade. Therefore, it is in the best interest of the student to attend class sessions regularly. If for any reason you miss a class, make sure you get the notes from another classmate. There is no extra credit available in this class. If you have any concerns about your grade during the semester, please feel free to talk to me at any time. We can chat during my office hours, over lunch, over coffee, emails, etc. In other words, I am readily available to help you.

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.

Workload and Credit Hour Requirements: 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 45 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.”

**Attendance and Participation**

Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading. However, students are expected to attend all meetings for the courses in which they are enrolled as they are responsible for material discussed therein, and active participation is frequently essential to ensure maximum benefit to all class members. In some cases, attendance is fundamental to course objectives; for example, students may be required to interact with others in the class. Attendance is the responsibility of the student. Participation may be used as a criterion for grading when the parameters and their evaluation are clearly defined in the course syllabus and the percentage of the overall grade is stated. The full policy language can be found at [http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-3.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-3.pdf)

**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](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at [http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html](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](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at [http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/](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](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/).

**Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material**

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/](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

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*Instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus to meet class needs*
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. 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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**CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENT DUE DATE**

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*Instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus to meet class needs*
January 25, 2018
(Developing a Sociological Consciousness)
1. Introductions
2. Chapter 1

January 30/February 1, 2018
(Culture and Social Structure)
1. Chapter 2
2. Review for Quiz #1

February 6/February 8, 2018
(Socialization)
1. (2/6) Quiz#1: Chapters 1-2
2. “Keep Ya Head Up” by 2pac content analysis
3. Chapter 3
4. Film: Secret of the Wild Child

February 13/February 15, 2018
(Socialization; Social Groups)
1. Discussion on Genie film
2. Go over “The Streets”
3. Implications of Social Media
4. Film “Black Mirror: Nosedive”
**(2/15) Reflection Paper #1 due

February 20/February 22, 2018
(Social Groups; Deviance and Crime)
1. Chapter 4
2. Chapter 5
**Chapter 4 and 5 review questions due (2/22)

February 27/March 1, 2018
(Deviance and Crime)

April 10/April 12, 2018
(Gender Inequality)

1. Review for Midterm (Chapter 1-5, articles, Films)

March 6/March 8, 2018
(Social Stratification)
1. (3/6) Midterm: Chapters 1-5; other articles
2. Chapter 6
**(3/8) Chapter 6 review questions due

March 13/March 15, 2018
(Social Stratification)
1. Go over Midterm
2. Film: People Like Us
3. Discussion of People Like Us
**(3/15) Reflection Paper #2 due

March 20/March 22, 2018
(Race and Ethnicity)
1. Chapter 7
**(3/22) Chapter 7 review questions due

March 27/March 29, 2018 (No Class)

April 3/April 5, 2018
(Race and Ethnicity)
1. “Incarceration vs. Education: Reproducing Racism and Poverty in America” by Manning Marable
2. “White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack” by Peggy McIntosh
3. “White Privilege II” by Macklemore content analysis
4. Review for Quiz #2: Chapters 6-7, other articles

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1. (4/10) Quiz on Chapter 6-7; other articles
2. Film: Tough Guise
3. Film discussion

**April 17/April 19, 2018**
(Gender Inequality)
1. Chapter 8
***(4/19) Chapter 8 review questions + Second Shift questions due

**April 24/April 26, 2018**
(Social Change)
1. Chapter 13
2. Film: Hate Rising
***(4/26) Reflection paper #3 due

**May 1/May 3, 2018**
1. TBD

**May 8/May 10, 2018**
1. Final Project Presentations
2. Final Project Presentations

**May 15, 2018**
1. Review for Final Exam (Chapters 6-9, films, other articles)

**(Friday) May 18, 2018**
1. *Final Exam at 2:45pm-5pm