San José State University
College of Social Sciences
ANTH/PSYC/SOCI 193: Behavioral Science in Practice, Section 1, Fall 2021

Instructor: Dr. Charlotte Sunseri
Office Location: Clark Hall 404G [note: office hours will be online]
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Email: charlotte.sunseri@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Thursday 10:00AM-12:00PM on Zoom, or by appt. https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/84719219949
Class Days/Time: Hybrid Asynchronous/In-person: Tuesdays 12:30-1:45PM
Classroom: CL 226
Prerequisites: Students must have senior standing (90 or more units) AND declared major in Behavioral Science.

Course Description

This course is a capstone course for all BEHS majors, though its material is relevant across the social sciences. Students assess methods and knowledge of anthropology, psychology and sociology, and synthesize them by reflecting upon case studies of individual, organizational, community, and global issues. Emphasis is on cooperative learning, reflection and synthesis of skills and knowledge.

The intent of this course is to engage students in conversations about current issues in relevant fields, and how the skills and knowledge acquired throughout their studies to date can be utilized and applied in real-world and/or future academic settings. The seminar format of this course uses reading and class discussions to address critical social issues. This course also covers professional preparation.

Course Format: Online Course

This course adopts an online classroom delivery format. The course will require students to use devices to access to the Canvas learning platform using a computer, tablet, or phone. See University Policy F13-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-2.pdf for more details.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website at http://sjsu.instructure.com. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU on Spartan App Portal http://one.sjsu.edu (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates. For help with using Canvas see Canvas Student Resources page (http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources)
Course Content Learning Outcomes

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

1. Assess the major methodologies and contributions of anthropology, psychology, and sociology to a better understanding of human behavior;
2. Apply the disciplinary perspectives of the behavioral sciences to case studies at individual, organizational, community, and global levels;
3. Access important sources of information relevant about the behavioral sciences and relevant data;
4. Synthesize the disciplines of anthropology, psychology, and sociology in support of professional career development; and
5. Prepare a portfolio that will support the transition to a professional education or career.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook


Other Readings

Supplementary course readings or handouts in PDF format. Available on Canvas website.

Course Requirements and Assignments

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 three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Students will be evaluated on the basis of:

1. Resume, skills assessment, cover letter. You will prepare a resume and a skills assessment which describes your past work experience, internships, academic courses, etc. You will also prepare a cover letter to a hypothetical future employer. These documents will be reviewed in peer groups in class. (20 points)
2. Elevator Speeches. Each student will prepare a short “elevator speech” to describe Behavioral Science as a major to an uninformed colleague, employer, or funder. (15 points)
3. Informational interview. You will conduct a 30-60 minute informational interview with a person working in a field or organization in which you are interested and write a two page summary of your results. (15 points)
4. Mock interview. You will conduct a mock interview for a fictitious job position with an Employment Coach. The interview will focus on two questions and you will receive live feedback from them. (10 points)
5. Case study. Each student—working as a member of a team—will analyze one of several topics that emerge from the readings and class discussion. This semester, the cases will be drawn from the textbook in comparison to our own region. Topics will include cross-cutting disciplinary issues. Each team will create a 20-minute slide presentation on the topic and how it can be studied. (20 points.)
6. **Final exam and portfolio.** At the end of the semester you will be expected to compile the materials you have prepared for this course and submit them as a portfolio. (15 points)

7. **Class participation and Discussion Board posts.** Each week we will read a series of chapters from the textbook and students are expected to read and converse about the topics in assignments, classroom in-person activities, and online discussion boards. All students must attend and participate in activities during our Tuesday in-person class meetings, wearing a face covering (34 points).

8. **Reading summaries.** Summaries of the readings from the textbook will be submitted through Canvas, and provide accountability for students to keep up with the readings and course content in each Module. (10 points)

**Final Examination or Evaluation**

The Final Portfolio, outlined above, will be the final examination for the course. [University policy S17-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf) *which states that* “Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.” In our seminar the 3-Minute Forum film and text (transcript) submission will constitute the culminating event.

**Grading Information**

Grades will be assessed based on writing competency and clarity, coherence and accuracy of argument, and professional presentation.

- A plus >99%, A 94-99%, A minus 90-93%
- B plus 88-89%, B 84-87%, B minus 80-83%
- C plus 78-79%, C 74-77%, C minus 70-73%
- D plus 68-69%, D 63-67%, F <63%

**Policies:**

- Students will be held to the highest standards of academic integrity and intellectual ethics. The chief product in the social sciences is new knowledge and original thinking. Plagiarism is intellectually dishonest and a form of theft. It will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in accordance with university Academic Integrity Policy.
- Clear criteria for grading will be provided for each assignment format. Feedback to students will be immediate and as detailed as manageable. The instructor will make every reasonable effort to provide timely and constructive feedback to students concerning performance throughout the semester, especially on written work.
- **Assignments will not be accepted after the last day of class.**
- The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus, exam dates, or course content as deemed necessary to facilitate the highest achievement and performance of the class, or to explore timely topics.

**University Policies**

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo), which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.
## Course Schedule

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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| 1    | Aug 19-20             | **Module 0:** Course Welcome: Introduction to the course, Canvas functions  
Discussion: test entry to introduce yourself  
Sign up for Disciplinary Assessment teams for Module 1 |
| 2    | Aug 23-27, Aug 30-Sept 3 | **Module 1: Behavioral Science—Perspectives on the Major:** what is behavioral science and your interests in it?  
Read & annotate: Turkle (Authors Note/Introduction, 1)  
Discussion: brainstorm in teams on knowledge and skills in the field of Behavioral Science  
Assessment: Elevator speeches |
| 3    | Sept 7-10, Sept 13-17 | **Module 2: Jobs and Career Pathways**  
Read & annotate: Turkle (Ch. 2-5)  
Discussion: Plan your informational interview topic/person  
Assessment: Skills and Abilities Assessment  
Set up teams for Informational Interview Support |
| 4    | Sept 20-24, Sept 27-Oct 1 | **Module 3: CVs and Resumes:** graduate school, applications for MA/PhD programs, job application materials  
Read & annotate: Turkle (Ch. 6-9)  
Discussion: Informational interview preparations and list of questions  
Assessment: Resume workshop in teams (Tuesday Sept 21)  
Assessment: Cover letter (Tuesday Sept 28) |
| 5    | Oct 4-8               | **Module 4.1: Informational Interviews**  
Read & annotate: Turkle (Ch. 10-11)  
Discussion: Talk about all the groups’ interviews in your Informational Interview Support team  
Assessment: Informational Interview |
| 6    | Oct 11-15 Oct 18-22   | **Module 4.2: Mock Interviews**  
Read & annotate: Turkle (Ch. 12-14, Concl.)  
Assessment: Conduct Mock Interview with Employment Coach; see due dates based on Support Teams |
| 7    | Oct 25-29             | **Module 5: Case Study, Part 1:** Designing a research topic on relevant issues  
Discussion: Brainstorming topics for Case Study Teams, team sign up |
| 8    | Nov 1-5               | **Module 6: Case Study, Part 2:** Developing hypotheses and research agendas  
Discussion: Making hypotheses for your Case Study |
| 9    | Nov 8-12 Nov 15-19    | **Module 7: Case Study, Part 3:** Collecting data and designing your research  
Discussion: Report on your data collection plan for your Case Study team |
| 10   | Nov 22-26             | **Module 8: Case Study, Part 4:** Analyzing data and interpreting results  
Discussion: Show your data in raw form, and tables/graphs  
*No Tuesday in-person meeting this week* – work on team presentation videos |
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Nov 29-Dec</td>
<td><strong>Module 9: Case Study, Part 5:</strong> Presentations of your team’s research design and results</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Dec 3</td>
<td>Assessment: Case Study Forum Presentation</td>
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<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Discussion: Online Viewing of Case Study by peers. discuss them</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Final portfolios due online by [date TBA at website:</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.sjsu.edu/classes/final-exam-schedule/fall-2021.php">https://www.sjsu.edu/classes/final-exam-schedule/fall-2021.php</a>]</td>
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