

San José State University
Department of Sociology
and Interdisciplinary Social Science

SOCI 104, Quantitative Research Methods, Section 3, Fall 2022

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Jana Ruijgrok Neubauerova
Office Location: DMH 210
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Office Hours: Tuesday 8:45pm - 9:45pm
Class Days/Time: Tuesday 6pm – 8:45pm
Classroom: DMH 162
Prerequisites: SOCI 101, SOCI 15 or SOCI 102, upper division standing

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.

Course Format

Technology Intensive

This class requires students to have access to the latest version of SPSS Statistics, and computer with internet access and MS Word or similar word processing software. Assignments will be submitted via Canvas and students will receive feedback on their assignments using that platform as well.

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 Texts/Readings

Textbook

Babbie, Earl. *The Basics of Social Research*. Belmont CA. Thomson Wadsworth. (Any edition will do)

Available in the SJSU Library in Stacks and on Course Reserve, or on Amano.com

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

Most recent version of SPSS Statistics. This software is available free to all SJSU students. For more information see class Canvas page or contact the instructor.

Calculator (any)

Library Liaison

Aguilar, Michael

Email: michael.aguilar@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

Readings:	Reading assignments should be completed before class and students should be prepared to discuss the readings.
Exams:	Three exams, worth 50 points each, are scheduled for this course. Exams will include true/false, multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions.
SPSS Portfolio:	All students will complete and maintain a portfolio of SPSS assignments. In all there will be seven assignments worth a combined 70 points. SPSS assignments will not be accepted more than two days late so please be aware of the due dates for each of these assignments.
Research Report:	At the end of the semester students will put together a brief research report. With this assignment you will have the opportunity to apply many of the skills you have learned throughout the class. This assignment will be worth 75 points.
Survey Exercises:	All students must complete five interviews with research subjects and enter the data into an SPSS database. These exercises will be worth a combined 30 points.
Class Exercises:	Several class exercises are planned this semester. These exercises will be completed in small groups. The goal of completing these assignments is to give students some experience in completing several of the steps in the research process.
Attendance:	Attendance is a very important part to successfully completing this course. Material covered during lecture will not necessarily duplicate what is covered in course readings. Students are strongly encouraged to attend class and actively participate in discussions.

Per [University Policy S16-9](#):

“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.”

Final Examination or Evaluation

[University policy S17-1](#):

“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.”

Exam #3, worth 50 points, will include true/false, multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions, together with a research report, counts as final examination and evaluation.

Grading Information

Points will be earned according to the following point distribution:

Exams (3)	150
SPSS Assignments	70
Research Report	75
Survey Exercises	30
Total Possible Points	325

Grade Distribution

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	<i>98 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>92 to 97.9%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>90 to 91.9%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>88 to 89.9 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>82 to 87.9%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>80 to 81.9%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>78 to 79.9%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>72 to 77.9%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>70 to 71.9%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>68 to 69.9%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>62 to 67.9%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>60 to 61.9%</i>

All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Items submitted after the start of class are considered late.

All assignments should be submitted on Canvas. Any assignment that is late will be penalized at 5 points per weekday until it is worth zero points.

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. 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 on Canvas. Any assignment that is late will be penalized at 5 points per weekday until it is worth zero points.
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](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf) 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](https://catalog.sjsu.edu/), at <https://catalog.sjsu.edu/>. 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. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](#) at <https://www.sjsu.edu/classes/calendar/2021-2022.php>. The [Late Drop Policy](#) is available at

<https://www.sjsu.edu/ue/uasc/>. 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/) 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), <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) 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](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](https://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/PD_1997-03.pdf) at https://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/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.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available, see [locations](https://www.sjsu.edu/it/support/service-desk/index.php) at <https://www.sjsu.edu/it/support/service-desk/index.php>. 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 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](https://www.sjsu.edu/peerconnections/) website at <https://www.sjsu.edu/peerconnections/> for more information.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>.

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](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

Additional Information

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 Spring 2022 session of SOCI 104.”

Your signature here

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Course Schedule

Date	Topics and Deadlines	Readings and Assignments
Aug. 23	Course Introduction Lecture 1 Introduction to Sociology SPSS EX1 Directions Discussed	No Reading
Aug. 30	Lecture 1 Continued Lecture 2 Human Inquiry and Science	Chapter 1 SPSS EX1 Due
Sep. 6	Lecture 2 Continued Lecture 3 Paradigms, Theory, and Research SPSS EX2 Directions Discussed	Chapter 2
Sep. 13	Lecture 3 Continued Lecture 4 Causation SPSS EX3 Directions Discussed	No Reading SPSS EX2 Due
Sep. 20	Exam 1 Review	
Sep. 27	EXAM 1 Lecture 5 Research Design	Chapter 4 SPSS EX3 Due
Oct. 4	Lecture 5 Continued Lecture 6 Conceptualization, Operationalization, and Measurement SPSS EX4 Directions Distributed	Chapter 5
Oct. 11	Lecture 6 Continued Lecture 7 Indexes, Scales, and Typologies SPSS EX5 Directions Discussed	Chapter 6 SPSS EX4 Due
Oct. 18	Lecture 7 Continued Lecture 8 Survey Research	Chapter 9 SPSS EX5 Due
Oct. 25	Lecture 8 Continued SPSS EX6 Directions Discussed SE1 Directions Discussed Review for Exam 2	
Nov. 1	EXAM 2	EXAM 2
Nov. 8	Lecture 9 Quantitative Analysis SPSS EX7 Directions Discussed	Chapter 14 SPSS EX6 Due
Nov. 15	Lecture 10 Sampling SE2 Directions Discussed	Chapter 7 SPSS EX7 Due SE1 Due
Nov. 22	Lecture 12 Ethics and Politics of Research Research Report Directions Discussed	SE2 Due
Nov. 29	Lecture 13 Other Methods of Social Research Review for Exam	Chapter 8 and 12
Dec. 6	Last Day of Class	SPSS Research Report Due
Dec. 13	FINAL EXAM https://www.sjsu.edu/classes/final-exam-schedule/fall-2022.php 5:15-7:30 PM	