SOCY 1 - Introduction to Sociology

Department of Sociology, UC Santa Cruz
Time/Location: MW 09:00AM-12:30PM; Soc Sci 2 141
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Office Hours: TBD

Course Description

How do we make sense of the world today? How do we make sense of ourselves? What is the relationship between the individual and society? In this course, we explore such questions through the lens of sociology. By surveying the field of sociology, students develop what sociologist C. Wright Mills called “the sociological imagination,” or the ability to connect our individual experiences with the broader, social forces that shape our societies. The course introduces students to the classical, theoretical traditions of Karl Marx, Emile Durkheim, and Max Weber. It also surveys research conducted by contemporary sociologists across a range of topics that includes political economy; culture; social inequalities and stratification; race and racial discrimination; gender and sexuality; cities and urbanization; environmental sociology; immigration, nation-states and globalization; and more. We will examine common-sense assumptions about the social world and interrogate them through a sociological approach rooted in evidence-based reasoning. By developing foundational skills in reading, writing, and critical thinking, this course prepares students for a deeper engagement with theory and methods in the social sciences.

Readings

You must purchase two books for the class. You may either purchase print or ebook versions. Please make sure to purchase the correct edition. Both will be available at the Bay Tree bookstore.


**Academic Integrity:** If you present someone else’s words or thoughts as your own, that is plagiarism and a serious violation of academic integrity. Whenever you use someone else’s ideas, you must cite them properly even if you are simply paraphrasing them rather than using exact quotes. When you are in doubt about whether an idea is someone else’s or your own, it’s always best to cite. Please familiarize yourself with the University’s Academic Integrity Policy. Any violations may be reported to the UC Academic Integrity Program for further investigation and could result in disciplinary action. If you are unclear about the University’s policy, please go to: [http://undergraduate.ucsc.edu/acd_integrity/index.html](http://undergraduate.ucsc.edu/acd_integrity/index.html)

**Disability:** If you qualify for classroom accommodations because of a disability, please get an Accommodation Authorization from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and submit it to me in person within the first two weeks of the quarter. Contact DRC at 459-2089 (voice), 459-4806 (TTY), or [http://drc.ucsc.edu](http://drc.ucsc.edu) for more information on the requirements and process.

**Absences, Lateness, Incompletes:** Students should speak to instructor if an absence is unavoidable. Persistent lateness or absences will result in a sharp reduction of grade. More than one unexcused absence will result in a dropped letter grade from your final score. Grades will be posted at the end of the quarter. Incompletes will be granted only in accordance with UCSC policy.

**Title IX Policy:** Please be aware that under the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment, faculty and student employees (including Teaching Assistants, Readers, Tutors, etc.) are “responsible employees” and are required to notify the Title IX Officer of any reports of incidents of sexual harassment and sexual violence (sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, stalking, etc.) involving students. Academic freedom exceptions exist for disclosures made within a class discussion or assignment related to course content; under those conditions only, a report to the Title IX Officer is not required. The Campus Advocacy Resources and Education (CARE) Office (831) 502-2273, care@ucsc.edu can provide confidential support, resources, and assist with academic accommodations. To report a possible Title IX Violation you can call (831) 459-2462 or use this online reporting link: [https://ucsc-gme-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report/index.php/pid325202](https://ucsc-gme-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report/index.php/pid325202)
**Assessment**

Reading Responses: 40% — Students will write eight, two/three-page reading responses. These are due on Canvas at 11:59 pm the night before class. Please note that late papers will be deducted by 50% if turned in within 24 hours and will receive no credit if turned in after that. Do not wait until the last minute to submit your response. **There will be no exceptions to this policy.**

Midterm Exam: 30% — will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and one essay

Final Paper: 20% — students will write a 5-6 page final paper and upload to Canvas

Attendance: 10% — I will take attendance each class. Students are permitted one, free absence. A letter grade will be deducted from your final grade for every missed day after the first. Lost attendance points cannot be made up under any circumstances and there will be no extra credit.

**Course Schedule**

Please have the readings completed *before* coming to class each day. Your reading responses will be due on Canvas by 11:59 pm the night before class. *You may be asked to read from your reading response in class during discussion.*

**Week 1, July 29 and July 31**

1. Day 1: Chapter 1; Chapter 2 *no reading response due, but please prepare the readings*

2. Day 2: Chapter 3; Chapter 4; Chapter 5 *Reading Response due 11:59 pm before class*

**Week 2, August 5 and August 7**

1. Day 1: Chapter 6; Chapter 7; Chapter 8 *Reading Response due 11:59 pm before class*

2. Day 2: Chapter 10; *Communist Manifesto*: Introduction, Chapter 1, Chapter 2 *Reading Response due 11:59 pm before class*

**Week 3, August 12 and August 14**

1. Day 1: Chapter 9; Chapter 11 *Reading Response due 11:59 pm before class*

2. Day 2: MIDTERM EXAM during first half of class
For second half of class, please have completed the following readings: Chapter 17; Chapter 18. *Reading Response due 11:59 pm before class*

**Week 4, August 19 and August 21**

1. Day 1: Chapter 12; Chapter 13; Chapter 15 *Reading Response due 11:59 pm before class*

2. Day 2: Chapter 16; Chapter 20 *Reading Response due 11:59 pm before class*

**Week 5, August 26 and August 28**

1. Day 1: Chapter 22; Chapter 23 *Reading Response due 11:59 pm before class*
   - In-class film and activity: Roger & Me (1989) dir. Michael Moore

2. Day 2: Chapter 19; Communist Manifesto: Chapter 4 *Reading Response due 11:59 pm before class*

*Your final paper will be due on Canvas. Details and date will be announced in class.*