

UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...

SOCY 136: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...

I'm Dr. Megan McNamara (*pronouns: user's choice*), and I'll be working with you during Summer Session 1 in Social Psychology. You can call me Megan, Professor Megan, Professor McNamara, or Dr. McNamara, whichever of those is most comfortable for you (I'm fine with first names).

Soc 136 will provide you with a sociological angle on a topic that I've always felt to be the perfect marriage between Sociology and Psychology: Social Psychology. To give you a sense of how much I love this subject: if there were do-overs in life, I would have majored in Social Psychology.

Our course begins on Monday, June 24th. Our class sessions will be completely asynchronous, which means that you will have assignment due dates, but no pre-set lecture times. You can complete the work in accordance with your own schedule preferences each week.

This site contains important information that you will need to get off to a good start. Please take a few moments to read it in its entirety and take any recommended actions like buying books and getting oriented to Canvas. If you need to reach me before the course opens, you can email me at mmcnamar@ucsc.edu.

P.S. Ursa Major, the kitten on my shoulder in the photo, is now a grown-up cat of 4 years, and she has 18 kitty siblings! We also have five baby foster kittens right now. If you need a cat fix, come to Zoom office hours. There are no kitty-free Zoom meetings in my house 🐾

A SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT OUR SUMMER COURSE



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...

need to be able to dedicate about **15-20 hours per week** to reading and writing. It will feel like two courses rather than one -- because, in terms of pace, it literally *is* two courses' worth of work. I also recommend against taking more than two Summer Session courses at a time. To set yourself up for doing your best work, stick to a single course per session so you can focus the necessary time and attention on your one course. Under NO circumstances should you take 3 at once. I promise.

This class is also most appropriate for upper-division social science majors. While Summer Session allows students who would not normally be eligible in courses during the school year to register in them during the summer, Socy 136 is not designed to be any easier in summer. It assumes a pre-existing level of familiarity with Sociology and has a heavy reading and writing load. If you do not have the necessary social science background, or if you are a first-year student who has never taken college classes, I *strongly recommend* that you drop this course in favor of a lower-division course (numbers 0-99 in the class schedule). We have many excellent lower-division Sociology courses available during the summer.

Please know that I design my courses in order to make the online learning process as hassle-free as possible. If for any reason during the course you are having a hard time figuring out how to navigate the course or understanding the requirements and expectations, I will always be glad to assist you.

WHAT IS THIS COURSE ABOUT?

Social psychology explores the effects of social context on individual and group behavior. It interrogates questions of, among others: microsocial process, micro-level social interaction, embodiment, cognitive biases, social interaction, the social construction of self, inequality, social structures, boundary-making, and the construction of reality. The field provides a unique opportunity to intersect key claims of sociology and psychology – two modes of inquiry that are sometimes at odds with one another – in terms of the theoretical lens each uses to understand the social world. Its insights thus serve to help us make sense of the relationships between the individual and the social and to forge cross-disciplinary intellectual alliances that enhance the relevance of both fields.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...

student in recovery, a student of non-traditional age, a student dealing with COVID-related health or financial issues, a student working with mental health concerns, a student with challenging family relationships, a person who just went through a difficult time because of a breakup or losing your housing, a student who is newly confronting their own privilege, a person struggling with self-doubt....this course is for you. I am here to support you. Please don't hesitate to reach out and let me know how I can help.



ABOUT THE BOOKS



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...

Inside Social Life

Readings in Sociological Psychology and Microsociology



Spencer E. Cahill | Kent Sandstrom | Carissa Froyum

EIGHTH EDITION

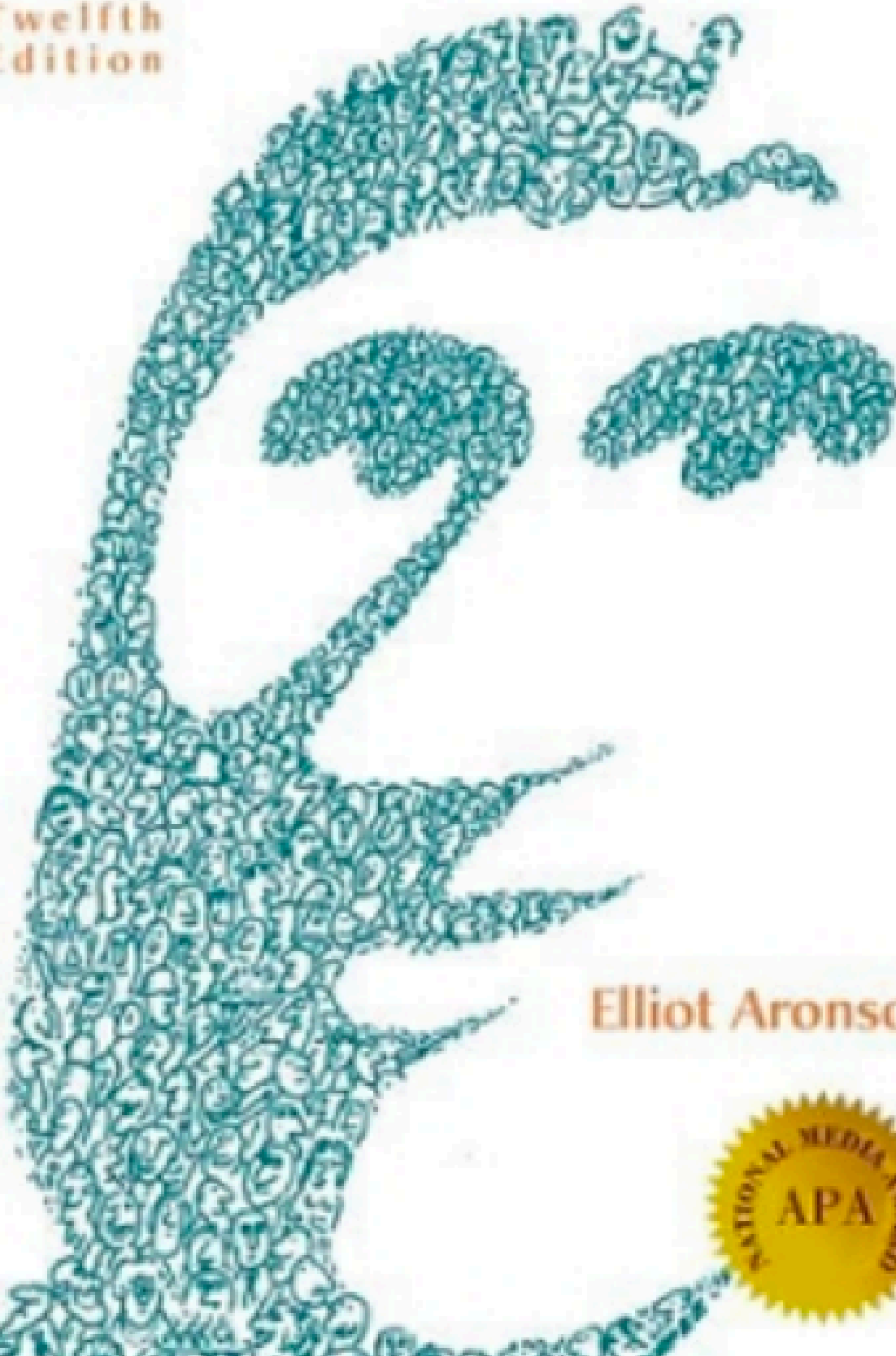
OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...

The Social Animal

Twelfth
Edition



Elliot Aronson



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...

them immediately so that you will have it available to you when the course starts. You are welcome to purchase or rent them from any source. You can buy/rent them in any format that works for you, including electronic. [This is the link to our course page at the Bay Tree Bookstore.](#)

Please ensure that you purchase the 8th edition of *Inside Social Life* as I have specified. Earlier editions don't have the same readings. The best way to make sure you have the right edition is to search by the book's ISBN number (see below) and double-check the cover illustration. The cheapest way to access it is to rent it from Chegg as a hardcopy (\$33), or to purchase the ebook from [Chegg](#), Vital Source, or other online purveyors (about \$46). If you prefer a hard copy, you should definitely order without delay so you have it for the start of the course.

Although the newest version of *The Social Animal* is more up-to-date, you can get away with having the 11th edition. Some of the chapters are in a different order so you'll just need to pay attention to the chapter titles rather than their numbers when you look them up for your readings.



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...

ARLIE RUSSELL
HOCHSCHILD
**STRANGERS
IN THEIR
OWN LAND**



ANGER AND MOURNING ON THE AMERICAN RIGHT

UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...



Special note about *Strangers*: If you like audiobooks, Audible has an excellent recording of *Strangers in Their Own Land* that you can get for about the same price as a new copy (or even for free as a trial membership if you have never been an audible member before). If your eyeballs get as tired as mine do with all the reading associated with Sociology, listening can be a really nice break!

Aronson, Elliot. 2018. *The Social Animal* (12th Ed.). ISBN: 9781464144189

Cahill, Spencer et al. 2017. *Inside Social Life* (8th Ed.). New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-190-64788-9

Hochschild, Arlie Russell. 2016. *Strangers in their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right*. New York: The New Press. ISBN: 978-0-62097-225-0

TROUBLESHOOTING

- If you are not able to log in to Canvas or your course site on the first day of classes, please contact help@ucsc.edu or [click here to open a support ticket](#).
- **Written guides** about how to use Canvas are available at <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-4121>
- I've always found old-fashioned Google searches to be extremely helpful. The use of Canvas is so widespread at this point that just googling "How do I do ___ on Canvas?" is often all you need to get your question resolved.

HOW TO START THE COURSE ON DAY 1



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...

(also, you can wait until the first day if you prefer!).

I look forward to getting to you know all over the next five weeks! Please feel free to contact me before opening day if you have any questions: mmcnamar@ucsc.edu.

Take care,

Megan/Professor Megan/Dr. McNamara/Professor McNamara (I answer to any one of these 😊)



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...



UC Santa Cruz Sociology 136: Social Psychol...

Dr. Megan McNamara mmcnamar@ucsc.edu

