

San Jose State University
Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Science Department
SOCI 175-01: Sociology of Masculinities and Femininities

Semester: Fall 2025

Instructor: Sneha Dutta Hazarika

Email: sneha.duttahazarika@sjsu.edu

Units:3

Office Phone: 408-924-2091

Zoom Office Hour Link: <https://sjsu.zoom.us/j/86309318486>

Classroom: DMH 165

Class Time: TR 12.00 pm – 1:15pm

Office Location: DMH 237A

Zoom Office Hours: Friday 10:00-11:00am

Course Description:

This course will examine and analyze the social construction of gender through interaction and social institutions. Students will explore gender-based identities and how intersections of gender, race, class, and sexuality shape men's and women's experiences. Students will also critically examine theories of gender and gender-based social movements.

Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to think sociologically about the relationship between social structure, interaction, identities, and inequalities.
2. Students will be able to identify and explain major sociological theories and apply them to everyday life.
3. Students will be proficient in qualitative and quantitative research design, data collection and data analysis.
4. Students will be proficient in oral and written communication skills appropriate to the discipline.
5. Students will be able to practice sociology as educated and civically engaged persons.

Course Goals and Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, students will

- Demonstrate an understanding of the sociological theories of gender.
- Explore gender-based identities and how intersections of gender, race, class, and sexuality shape men's and women's experiences.
- Identify and discuss concepts, theories, institutional or social structures, hierarchies, processes, or paradigms that lead to and perpetuate inequity and injustice on the basis of gender.
- Develop writing and speaking as well as discussion skills.

Required Texts and Materials:

Wade, Lisa and Myra Marx Ferree. 2023. Gender: Ideas, Interactions, Institutions, Third Edition. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

ISBN: 978-0-393-89286-4 (Print)

ISBN: 978-1-324-04405-5 (EBook)

There is also an eBook version of this textbook, here is the link:

<https://digital.wwnorton.com/gender3>

Supplementary Texts and Materials:

*** Additional Readings will be made available on Canvas.

Composition of Grade:

Final grading is based on the following:

5 Minute Papers	25 points
3 Online Exams	150 points
2 Film/Video Commentaries	20 points
10 Online Quizzes	100 points
4 Group Discussions	40 points
In-Class Writing Assignments	20 points
Jigsaw Discussion	15 points
Total	370 points

Grading Summary:

The following is the grading summary.

94-100%=A	73-76% = C
90-93% = A-	70-72% = C-
87-89% = B+	67-69% = D+
83-86% = B	64-66% = D
80-82% = B-	60%-63% = D-
77-79% = C+	Below 59% = F

Course Requirements

Attendance and Participation:

It is very important that each student attend class regularly. The course will meet in person every Tuesday and Thursday from 12.00 pm to 1:15pm. Please complete the necessary coursework for each given week, attend in – person class meetings, reading the assigned

materials, reviewing PowerPoints, complete the online writing assignments, the online quizzes and the reflection paper in addition to participating in class and group discussions. Additionally, please refer to emails and Canvas communications for updates on the course. I do not take attendance but if you are absent on a day when there is an in-class activity or discussion, you will not be allowed to make up for it unless you provide documentation for your absence. *However, I reserve the right to determine whether or not your circumstances are excusable.*

Film/Video Commentaries:

Students will be able to view/watch two (2) documentaries/films as a part of the course content. Additionally, each student is required to write a short commentary on two (2) of the documentaries/films/videos. Each commentary is worth 10 points. Details will be posted on Canvas under Film commentaries. **Please refer to the due dates in the course schedule/calendar.**

Group Discussions:

To develop a community of energetic and committed learners, you are asked to engage in group discussions during class meetings. Students are REQUIRED to develop and participate in discussions in a timely and appropriate manner following the course schedule. The discussions would indicate and reflect your learning from the course materials, your ability to apply these concepts and to reason clearly from the premises. The purpose of the discussions is to promote the development of an analytic approach toward the study of sociology. Our task in these discussions is to use scholarly ideas to understand social realities and behaviors. Only factual and scholarly tools, and academic analyses are acceptable. Please exert extraordinary care and caution in addressing issues with others because of the sensitivity of the material. Please do not criticize the values, beliefs or practices of others. Please be very careful to not offend, diminish or degrade others or their contributions in any manner. During the semester, students are required to participate and complete four (4) group discussions. Each discussion is worth 10 points. Please refer to the due dates in the course schedule/calendar.

Minute Papers:

Students are required to complete five (5) minute papers throughout the semester. Each paper is 5 points. I give very specific topic for the writing assignments pertaining to the weekly readings. There is no specific format for these in-class writing assignments, but emphasis will be given on the content such as applying critical thinking and analytical reasoning to address complex challenges and problems related to the subject matter. Please read the required materials for the week and be prepared to complete the writing assignments online using Journal available on Canvas. **Please refer to the due dates in the course schedule/calendar.**

Online Quizzes:

Students are required to complete nine (9) quizzes based on the reading materials. The quizzes will contain multiple choice questions, true/false, short descriptive questions. Please refer to the course schedule for the dates. There will be no makeup for the quizzes. Each quiz must be completed by the end of the scheduled week. Each quiz is worth 10 points. **Please refer to the due dates in the course schedule/calendar.**

Online Exams:

Students are required to complete three (3) exams throughout the semester. These exams will be worth 50 points each. The exams are in the form of multiple choice, true/false and short essay questions. **Please refer to the due dates in the course schedule/calendar.**

Missed Exams – Exams are scheduled well in advance so discretionary activity should be scheduled around these dates. Missed exams will be counted as a zero (0) except for extraordinary circumstances.

Class Policies

Conduct and Etiquette:

Be respectful of your classmates and instructor. In any classroom, there is a diffusion of responsibility. In any discussion, attacks of personal nature or use of slurs will not be tolerated. Disagreement and debates are welcome if conducted in a civil manner. While disagreeing with your fellow classmates during discussion forum boards, I encourage you to use the phrase “I disagree with you rather than I think you are wrong”.

Emails, Communications, and Response Time

If you have any questions about the course, please email me using your Canvas account and or my Gmail account and address me as Professor Dutta or Dr. Dutta. I will respond to your emails within 36-48 hours. I will also send periodic emails regarding important updates, such as reminders about upcoming quizzes and exams. For grading assignments and exams, please allow 7 to 10 days for feedback and grades.

University Policies

Per [University Policy 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 the [Syllabus Information](#) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Academic Integrity Policy

According to the University’s Academic Integrity Policy, cheating is “the act of obtaining credit, attempting to obtain credit, or assisting others to obtain credit for academic work through the use of any dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means, while plagiarism is “the act of representing the work of another as one’s own without giving appropriate credit, regardless of how that work was obtained, and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements.

The university's Academic Integrity Policy is available at: <https://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/docs/SJSU-Academic-Integrity-Policy-F15-7.pdf> . If I determine there has been a violation of this policy, students will receive an automatic F for the paper. In addition, I may file a report with the Academic Affairs Judicial Officer regarding the violation of the academic integrity policy.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

[Presidential Directive 97-03 \[pdf\]](#) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations register with the [Accessible Education Center](#) (AEC) to establish a record of their disability. AEC will contact the instructor with further details, if needed.

If special arrangements are needed in cases of emergency or if the building must be evacuated, please make arrangements with the instructor.

Timely Feedback on Class Assignments

Per [Timely Feedback on Assignments Policy S20-2 \[pdf\]](#), all students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades. The instructor would normally take 7 to 10 days to provide feedback and grades.

Workload and Credit Hour Requirements

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, and clinical practice. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Writing Center

The SJSU [Writing Center](#) offers a variety of free resources to help students become better writers. The center offers writing resources, workshops, and one-on-one and small-group tutoring sessions. Services support writing for students in all disciplines and at all levels. Workshops and tutoring are also available online. Visit their website to make an appointment, or to use the many online resources available. You can also visit them on the 2nd floor of the MLK Library.

Tentative Course Schedule Fall 2025

The course schedule is a tentative and general plan for the course
Adjustments may have to be made and will be announced in class

08/21/2025 Syllabus and Introduction

Week 1

08/26/2025 Read: Chapter 1: Ideas

08/28/2025 Chapter 1 continued: The Social Construction of Gender

***“Lorber, Judith. 2020. “The Social Construction of Gender”

Activities

for week 1 **Group Discussion#1**

Week 2

09/02/2025 Read: Chapter 2: Bodies

09/04/2025 Chapter 2 continued: Biosocial Interaction, Intersectionality, and Evolution

***Moshe Hoffman et al. 2011. “Nurture Affects Gender Differences in Spatial Abilities.” **PNAS 2011 (108, 36).**

Activities

for week 2 **Minute Paper#1**

Online Quiz#1 on Chapter 1 due on Thursday 09/04/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.

Week 3

09/09/2025 Read Chapter 3: Performances

09/11/2025 Chapter 3 continued: Doing Gender, Breaking the Rules, and Doing non-binary

*** Thébaud, S., & Taylor, C. J. 2021. “The Specter of Motherhood: Culture and the Production of Gendered Career Aspirations in Science and Engineering.” *Gender & Society*, 35(3), 395-421.

Activities

for week 3 **Group Discussion#2**

Online Quiz#2 on Chapter 2 due on Thursday 09/11/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.

Week 4

09/16/2025 Read: Chapter 4: Intersections

09/18/2025 Chapter 4 continued: Intersectionality

*** Crenshaw, Kimberlé. 2020, “Why Intersectionality Can’t Wait”

Activities

for week 4 **Minute Paper#2**
 In-Class Writing Assignment#1
 Online Quiz#3 on Chapter 3 due on Thursday 09/18/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.

Week 5

09/23/2025 Review for exam#1

Activities

for week 5 **Online Quiz#4 on Chapter 4 due on Tuesday 02/23/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.**

09/26/2025 Online Exam#1 due on Friday 09/26/2024 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.

Week 6

09/30/2025 Personal Day Off – No Class

10/02/2025 Read Chapter 5: Inequality: Masculinities

Activities

for week 6 **Minute Paper#3**

Week 7

10/07/2025 Chapter 5 continued: Toxic and Hybrid Masculinities

*** Kimmel, Michael S. 2020. “Masculinity as Homophobia: Fear Shame, and Silence in the Construction of Gende Identity”.

Homework: Watch a Film, “The Mask You Live In” 2014, dir. by Jennifer Siebel Newsom

10/09/2025 Read Chapter 6: Inequality: Femininities

Activities

for week 7 **Film Documentary Analysis#1 due on Friday 10/10/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.**

Online Quiz# 5 on Chapter 5 due on Thursday 10/09/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.

Week 8

10/14/2025 *** Longman, Jere. 2017. “Number of Women Coaching in College has Plummeted in Title IX era” New York Times.

*** Pharr, Suzanne. 2020, "Homophobia as a Weapon of Sexism", in *Race, Class, and Gender in the United States: An Integrated Study*, edited by Paula Rothenberg, NY: Worth Publishers. Eleventh Edition.

***** Welle, Brian, and Madeline Heilman. 2021. "Formal and Informal Discrimination Against Women at Work: The Role of Gender Stereotypes"

10/16/2025 Read: Chapter 7: Institutions

Activities

for week 8

Homework: Watch a Film, "Miss Representation", 2011, dir. by Jennifer Siebel Newsom

Film Documentary Analysis#2 due on Friday 10/17/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.

Jigsaw Discussion

Online Quiz#6 on Chapter 6 due on Thursday 10/16/2024 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.

Week 9

10/21/2025 Read: Chapter 7: Institutions cont....

10/23/2025 Read: Chapter 8: Change

Activities

for week 9

Group Discussion#3

Online Quiz#7 on Chapter 7 due on Thursday 10/23/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.

Week 10

10/28/2025 *** Kane, Nazneen. 2015. "Stay at-Home Fatherhoods" in *Contexts*, 14 (2), Issue 2, pp. 74-76

10/30/2025 Review for Online Exam#2

Activities

for week 10

Minute Paper#4

Online Quiz#8 on Chapter 8 due on Thursday 10/30/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.

Week 11

11/04/2025 **Online Exam#2 due on Tuesday 11/04/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.**

11/06/2025 Read: Chapter 9: Sexualities

Week 12

11/11/2025 Veteran's Day (No Class)

11/13/2025 *** Wade, Lisa. 2019. "What's So Cultural About Hookup Culture?"

Activities

for week 12 **In-Class Writing Assignment#2**

Online Quiz#9 on Chapter 9 due on Thursday 11/13/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.

Week 13

11/18/2025 Read: Chapter 10: Families

11/20/2025 *** Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierrette. 2016. "Families on the Frontier: From Braceros in the Fields to Braceros in the Home".

Activities

for week 13 **Group Discussion#4**

Week 14

11//25/2025 Read: Chapter 11: Work

11/27/2025 Thanksgiving Holiday (No Class)

Activities

for week 14 **Online Quiz#10 on Chapter 10 due on Tuesday 11/25/2025 on Canvas by 11.59 pm.**

Week 15

12/02/2025 *** Hoschild, Arlie, R. 2018. "The Time Bid: When Work Becomes Home and Home Becomes Work".

12/04/2025 **Last Day of Class: Review for Final Exam**

Activities

for week 15 **Minute Paper#5**

Week 16

12/09/2025 Study Conference Day (No Classes/No Exams)

12/11/2025 Final Exam