

**San José State University**  
**Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences**  
**SOCI 01: Intro to Sociology (Section 04) Spring 2025**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. William Armaline
<b>Office Location:</b>	DMH 216
<b>Telephone:</b>	(408) 294-2935
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Mondays and Wednesdays 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30 – 5:45 p.m.
<b>Classroom:</b>	Clark Hall 234
<b>GE Category:</b>	GE Area D

**Catalog Course Description**

How does society affect individual behavior and how does individual behavior affect society? Influence of social institutions and arrangements (family, school, workplace, politics, etc.) on roles, groups, values. Basic sociological theories and methods. Careers, specializations. Required for majors, minors.

**Instructor Course Description**

This course will be an opportunity to develop what C.W. Mills called the “sociological imagination,” in that we will work to apply basic sociological concepts and approaches to make sense of our own lives and the world around us. A great deal of our time together will be spent applying a sociological analysis to better understand the events of the day and the social problems that confront our communities and society at large. Generally speaking, this course will cover basic sociological theories/theorists, research methods, and applications.

**GE/SJSU Area D Specific Learning Objectives (LO)**

- 1) Identify and analyze the social dimension of society as a context for human life, the processes of social change and social continuity, the role of human agency in those social processes, and the forces that engender social cohesion and fragmentation.
- 2) Place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts.
- 3) Identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them.
- 4) Evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues.
- 5) To recognize the interaction of social institutions, culture, and environment with the behavior of individuals.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

Henslin, Jim. 2018. *Essentials of Sociology: A Down to Earth Approach* (13<sup>th</sup> Ed.). London, England: Pearson.

ISBN: 9780134736587

You may use the hard copy text or e-text. Note that the e-text will have access to tools such as imbedded video.

### Other Readings

All assigned readings beyond the required texts above will be provided by the instructor via email (PDF files). Should you have any problems obtaining reading materials throughout the course, please email the instructor for assistance.

### Library Liaison

For help with library resources and library research (including the use of databases and online research materials—such as journal search engines), students are strongly encouraged to contact the Sociology Subject Librarian:

Kathryn Blackmer Reyes, [Kathryn.BlackmerReyes@SJSU.edu](mailto:Kathryn.BlackmerReyes@SJSU.edu).

## Course Requirements and Assignments

### Readings

Students are expected to complete readings by the class session indicated on the course schedule. Students should come to class prepared to *discuss* the assigned readings such that class time is not wasted, and we can engage the material together.

### Classroom Activities and Discussion

Though not graded per se, this course requires a great deal of classroom discussion and classroom activity. Discussions and classroom activities are designed to help students successfully achieve all learning objectives and to develop students' graded assignments (LOs 1-5).

### Mid-Term and Final Examinations

Description and Purpose: Students will complete two exams where they can demonstrate their mastery of course materials (readings, lectures, videos, etc.) (LOs 1-5).

Grading: Exams will be worth **100% of the final course grade (50% each)**.

## Grading Information

### Determination of Grades

Final grades will be calculated as a percentage on a typical "100 point scale":

98-100%	A+
94-97	A
90-93	A-

88-89	B+
84-87	B
80-83	B-
78-79	C+
74-77	C
70-73	C-
68-69	D+
64-67	D
60-63	D-
<60	F

<u>Graded Assignment</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Mid-Term Exam	50%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>50%</u>
FINAL GRADE	100%

Students have the opportunity to complete unlimited **extra credit** for this course. Extra credit opportunities will be announced in class. Further, students can “pitch” their own extra credit assignments to the instructor at any time for approval. These assignments and opportunities will be discussed further throughout the course.

### **Classroom Protocol**

1. This course depends on participation and interaction. Students are expected to be on time to class out of respect for your colleagues and instructor.
2. All classroom participants are expected to foster an environment that encourages participation, rather than silencing others (be respectful to one another, do not insult or intimidate others, and so forth).
3. Students are expected to complete all readings and assignments by the dates indicated on the syllabus.
4. Students are responsible for any and all notes and materials missed in their absence.
5. Cell phone, PDA, and Laptop/Internet use will not be tolerated during class time unless they are part of class activities or necessary to field an emergency.

### **University Policies**

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>”

### **University Resources**

#### **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 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the AEC (Accessible Education Center) to establish a record of their disability.

**Student Technology Resources:**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Student Union. 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 digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

**Learning Assistance Resource Center:**

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. [The LARC website is located at: http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/](http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/).

**SJSU Writing Center:**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. The Writing Center is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. [The Writing Center website is located at: http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/).

**Peer Mentor Center:**

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. [The Peer Mentor Center website is located at: http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/).

# SOCI 01: Introduction to Sociology (Section 04) Spring 2025 Course Schedule

*This schedule is subject to change with fair notice from the course instructor via email.*

## Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	1/27	Introduction to course and explanation of syllabus  What is the point of sociology and what do sociologists do? What is the importance of current events and critical news literacy?
1	1/29	The sociological imagination and an introduction to sociological theories and theorists; <i>Read Chapter 1</i>
2	2/3	Sociological imagination and sociological theories continued
2	2/5	Culture; <i>Read Chapter 2</i>
3	2/10	Culture continued
3	2/12	The process of socialization; <i>Read Chapter 3</i>
4	2/17	Socialization continued
4	2/19	Social Structure and Social Interaction (Macro and Micro level sociology); <i>Read Chapter 4</i>
5	2/24	Macro vs. Micro sociology continued
5	2/26	Social Groups and Social Organization; <i>Read Chapter 5</i>
6	3/3	Social Organization continued; Midterm exam review guide distributed by instructor via email and Canvas
6	3/5	Deviance and Social Control; <i>Read Chapter 6</i>
7	3/10	Deviance and Social Control Continued
7	3/12	<b>MIDTERM EXAM – Please remember to bring a scantron form and pencil.</b>
8	3/17	The Material Relations of Society - Marx and Weber; <i>Read Chapter 7</i>
8	3/19	The Material Relations of Society - Marx and Weber Part II; <i>Read Chapter 8</i>
9	3/24	The Material Relations of Society – Part III
9	3/26	Race and Ethnicity (also looking at racism as a social system and (neo) colonial international relations); <i>Read Chapter 9</i>
10	3/31	NO CLASS – SPRING RECESS
10	4/2	NO CLASS – SPRING RECESS
11	4/7	Race and Ethnicity continued
11	4/9	Gender and Age (also looking at the social system of patriarchy, the politics of gender identity, and the intersection of age and inequality in the contemporary U.S.); <i>Read Chapter 10</i>

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
12	4/14	Gender and Age continued
12	4/16	Politics and the Economy (and the election tomorrow!); <i>Read Chapter 11</i>
13	4/21	Politics, the Economy, and the 2024 elections (debrief) continued
13	4/23	Marriage and the Family; <i>Read Chapter 12</i>
14	4/28	Marriage and the Family continued
14	4/30	Education and Religion; <i>Read Chapter 13</i>
15	5/5	Education and Religion continued; Final exam review guide distributed by instructor via email and Canvas
15	5/7	Social Change and the Environment; <i>Read Chapter 15</i>
16	5/12	Social Change and the Environment continued; Final Exam Review; Last day to turn in any extra credit assignment(s)
<b>Final Exam</b>	5/20	The <b>FINAL EXAM</b> will be held in our regular classroom from 3:15 – 5:15 p.m.  <b>Please remember to bring a scantron form and pencil.</b>