

Office Hours: Wednesdays 11:00a-1:00p, and by appointment
Office: Social Sciences Building (SSB) 423
Email: e1bender@ucsd.edu

“People are often puppets, blindly danced by strings of which they are unaware and over which they are not free to exercise control. A major function of sociology is that it permits us to recognize the forces operative on us and to untie the puppet strings which bind us, thereby giving us the option to be free.”

Reece McGee

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Welcome to The Study of Society. What is society? How do we know society when we see it? How can society be studied? Sociology is a social science that investigates this thing called society: the array of social relations, beliefs, resources, and behaviors that accumulate and take on a life of their own. At its most basic level, sociology requires us to question “common sense” and to push back against things that we often consider normal. It requires a particular disposition, what C. Wright Mills called “**the sociological imagination,**” and a willingness to “**make the familiar strange.**”

In SOCI 2, we will be following the sociological perspective, which requires us to contend with our society as something strange, as something that is contested and evolving, and as something that can be analyzed and explained. This course is designed to follow in tandem with SOCI 1, Introduction to Sociology, while still being general enough that a new learner to sociology can grasp the material. In SOCI 1, students explore the many ways our lives are **socially constructed** and apply this knowledge to three phenomena: class, race, and gender. SOCI 2 is meant to build from that foundation by critically examining the **large-scale social forces** that are beyond our individual control, yet profoundly shape and direct our lives.

In general, we will explore two types of large-scale social forces: 1) the emergent processes that influence individual behavior and identity, and 2) the institutions that direct our lives, channel our behavior, and determine our life chances. We will analyze all of these forces from two contrasting paradigms in sociology: the functional/order paradigm and the critical/conflict paradigm. The goal of this class is to empower you to **critically engage** with your social world by asking questions about **why things are the way they are** and **who benefits** from things being the way they are. Therefore, the class will favor the critical/conflict perspective as a **tool** for opening up your consciousness and critical awareness.

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Explain and analyze how emergent social processes and institutions shape individual lives
- Contrast the order and conflict paradigms in reference to a variety of phenomena
- Demonstrate critical thinking and an ability to critique society
- Articulate the scope of social problems
- Critically read, reflect upon, and discuss sociological texts
- Write coherent and sociologically informed analyses
- Recognize how to support an argument with evidence
- Apply course material to analyze contemporary social phenomena

REQUIRED READING

The reading for this class will come from two sources: a required textbook and copies of excerpted chapters/articles available in PDF format on TritonED (previously known as TED).

The required textbook is titled ***In Conflict and Order: Understanding Society 13th Edition*** by Eitzen, Baca Zinn, and Eitzen-Smith. The book is available at the bookstore for rental/purchase and will be put on reserve in the library. You will need to use the 13th edition.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 20%** Weekly Reading Quizzes (8 quizzes, 2.5% each)
- 10%** Application Paper
- 25%** Midterm exam
- 30%** Final Paper
- 15%** Discussion Section Attendance/Participation

Discussion Section Attendance/Participation (15%)

When you enrolled in this class, you enrolled in a particular discussion section. Discussion section is a mandatory element in this class and you must attend the discussion section for which you are enrolled. The TAs have the autonomy to exercise complete discretion over the activities and/or assignments utilized in the discussion section. All section activities will combine to be worth 15% of your course grade.

TA Information

Stacey Livingstone (sbliving@ucsd.edu)

Sections A01, A02, A03 (Monday 3pm and 4pm, Wednesday 2pm)

Lindsay DePalma (ldpalma@ucsd.edu)

Sections A04, A05, A06 (Wednesday 3pm, Friday 12pm and 1pm)

Section Attendance Policy

You are allowed one "free" absence*.

2 Absences: Section/participation grade reduced by 1 weighted point (14/15)

3 Absences: Section/participation grade reduced by 4 weighted points (11/15)

4 Absences: Section/participation grade reduced by 7 weighted points (8/15)

****There is no "free" absence for students enrolled in Monday sections***

Weekly Reading Quizzes (20%)

We will have one reading quiz every week, except weeks 5 and 10, for a total of 8 quizzes. All of the quizzes will be administered through TritonED (TED). These short quizzes will consist of multiple choice questions that will assess your completion/comprehension of the readings due that week. The quizzes will be straightforward and drawn directly from the reading. **Your quiz must be complete by Friday at 5pm every week.** At that time, the quiz will close and the system will shut down the quiz. **There will be no make-ups for late quizzes.** Please be aware that the only reason I assign readings quizzes is because I think they will help you; reading quizzes are meant to keep you on track with the readings and give you frequent opportunities to check your understanding of course concepts.

Application Paper (10%)

One of the learning objectives for this class is for you to apply course material to analyze contemporary social phenomena. To that end, you will be required to turn in **one 3-5 page application paper** at any point before the Friday of Week 9. I have posted a number of paper topics on TritonED. To complete the paper, you will need to pick one of these topics and follow the instructions for writing the paper. You will turn in your paper to me (not your TA); I will grade the paper and give it to your TA to return to you. **You must turn in your application paper in hard copy; email copies will not be accepted.** You can turn in your paper during lecture, office hours, or by appointment.

All application papers must be turned in by the Friday of Week 9. Late papers will not be accepted.

Midterm Exam (25%)

You will have an in-class midterm in the Friday of Week 5. The midterm will consist of 3-4 short response questions (approximately one page each). You will need to bring a blank bluebook to the exam.

Final Paper (30%)

Your final exam in this class will be a take-home paper (5-6 pages) due via Turnitin.com upload before or during the final exam period (Wednesday, March 16, 8a-11a). You must turn in a copy of your paper to Turnitin.com by the end of the final exam period; your final paper grade will be reduced for late submission. More detailed instructions to follow.

COURSE POLICIES

Lecture Attendance

Attendance in lecture will be crucial to your success. This course incorporates a range of activities that are meant to turn the classroom into an “active learning” environment, and as such your attendance and participation are *crucial* for the class to function. Lecture will supplement (not review) the course readings.

Classroom Demeanor

As members of the UCSD Community, I expect each of us to respect each other and create a class environment that is conducive to civil engagement and discourse. This includes being attentive during lecture, not engaging in side conversations (especially when your fellow students are trying to participate), demonstrating a commitment to hearing alternative viewpoints and experiences, and discussing topics in a courteous manner.

Email Policies

Your UCSD email will be the primary way that I contact you. I will try to respond to your emails within 24 hours (Monday-Friday). In addition, I much prefer answering questions verbally, where we can discuss precisely what is confusing you and resolve the confusion together. Thus, if you email me with a question that will take more than a few sentences to answer, I will ask that you speak with me in office hours or make an appointment.

Accessibility

I want the course to be as accessible to as many different people as possible. If you have an OSD accommodation, please consult with me any time after class or contact me via email. I am happy to work with you.

Campus Resources for Students

Beverly Bernhardt (Sociology Department Student Affairs Officer): (858) 534-4627
Shannon Goodison (Sociology Department Undergraduate Advisor): (858) 534-4628
The Writing Center (for help with all kinds of writing): (858) 534-4911
CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services): (858) 534-3755
OASIS (tutoring and study skills): (858) 534-3760

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

I expect you to uphold UCSD’s standards when it comes to academic integrity. I understand that sometimes it is hard to know what academic integrity means. As such, I have put a “Plagiarism Primer” and other resources on Academic Integrity on TritonED. You are expected to familiarize yourselves with these policies if you are otherwise unfamiliar. Any violations of academic integrity will be reported to the Academic Integrity Review Board.

COURSE SCHEDULE

*Readings are due ON the date they are assigned; read each item before the date they are assigned.
All required readings are from the required textbook or posted on TritonED in PDF format.*

Week 1: Introduction of Core Concepts in Sociology

Monday, January 4: Course Introduction

Required Reading: None

Wednesday, January 6: Sociology and the Sociological Imagination

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 1 pp.3-9 “The Sociological Perspective”

Friday, January 8: Introduction to the Functional/Order and Critical/Conflict Paradigms

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 3 “The Duality of Social Life: Order and Conflict”

Reading Quiz #1 on TritonED due by Friday at 5pm.

Week 2: Emergent Processes, Culture

Monday, January 11: What is culture?

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 4 "Culture"

Wednesday, January 13: Culture continued, Culture and Gender

Required Reading: "The Sanctity of Sunday Football: Why Men Love Sports" by Douglas Hartmann (TritonED)

Friday, January 15: Culture and Food

Required Reading: "America's National Eating Disorder" by Michael Pollan (TritonED)

Reading Quiz #2 on TritonED due by Friday at 5pm.

Week 3: Socialization

****Monday: January 18: HOLIDAY, NO CLASS****

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 5 "Socialization"

Wednesday, January 20: Socialization

Required Reading: "Boys vs. Girls" by Debra Rigney (TritonED)

Friday, January 22: Socialization continued, Agents of Socialization

Required Reading: "The Code of the Street" by Elijah Anderson (TritonED)

Reading Quiz #3 on TritonED due by Friday at 5pm.

Week 4: Social Control

Monday: January 25: Social Control

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 6 "Social Control"

Wednesday, January 27: Surveillance and Social Control

Required Reading: "From the Panopticon to Disney World" by Clifford Shearing and Philip Stenning (TritonED)

Friday, January 29: Social Control and Consequences

Required Reading: "Media Magic: Making Class Invisible" by Gregory Mantsios (TritonED)

Reading Quiz #4 on TritonED due by Friday at 5pm.

Week 5: Deviant Behavior

Monday: February 1: Deviant Behavior

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 7 "Deviance"

Wednesday, February 3: Deviance as a Social Construction

Required Reading: "Deviance and Liminality" by Beth Monetmurro AND "A Radical Perspective on Crime" by Reiman (TritonED)

****Friday, February 5: MIDTERM EXAM****

Required Reading: None; Study for midterm exam

(No Reading Quiz This Week)

Week 6: Institutions, Work and the Economy

Monday: February 8: The Economy

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 13 "The Economy"

Wednesday, February 10: The Economy and Globalization

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 8 "Structural Sources of Social Change" pp. 151-160

Friday, February 12: Workers and American Capitalism

Required Reading: "The (Even More) Overworked American" by Juliet Schor AND "Overworked America: 12 Charts That Will Make Your Blood Boil" by Dave Gilson (TritonED)

Reading Quiz #5 on TritonED due by Friday at 5pm.

Week 7: The Family

****Monday: February 15: HOLIDAY, NO CLASS****

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 15 "Families"

Wednesday, February 17: The Family

Required Reading: "The Way We Never Were" by Stephanie Coontz (TritonED)

Friday, February 19: The Family under Capitalism

Required Reading: "The Emotional Geography of Work and Family Life" by Arlie Russell Hochschild (TritonED)

Reading Quiz #6 on TritonED due by Friday at 5pm.

Week 8: Education

Monday: February 22: Education

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 16 "Education"

Wednesday, February 24: Educational Inequality

Required Reading: "From the Achievement Gap to the Education Debt" by Gloria Ladson-Billings (TritonED)

Friday, February 26: Addressing Educational Problems

Required Reading: "Charter Schools and the Public Good" by Linda Renzulli and Vincent Roscigno (TritonED)

Reading Quiz #7 on TritonED due by Friday at 5pm.

Week 9: Power and the Political Process

Monday: February 29: Types of Power

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 14 "Power and Politics"

Wednesday, March 2: Who Rules America?

Required Reading: "Who Rules America" by G. William Domhoff

Friday, March 4: Power and American Democracy

Required Reading: "Follow the Money" by Dan Clawson, Alan Neustadt, and Mark Weller (TritonED)

Reading Quiz #8 on TritonED due by Friday at 5pm.

Week 10: Social Change and Social Movements

Monday: March 7: Human Agency and Social Constraints

Required Reading: *In Conflict and Order*, Chapter 18 "Human Agency"

Wednesday, March 9: You Have Power

Required Reading: "The Nature of Disruptive Power" by Frances Fox Piven (TritonED)

Friday, March 11: What Can Social Movements Do?

Required Reading: "How Social Movements Matter" by David Meyer (TritonED)

(No Reading Quiz This Week)

FINALS WEEK

*Turn in your final paper via upload to Turnitin.com by **Wednesday, 11am.***