

SUMMER 2019 UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

December 18, 2018

IMPORTANT! This listing is subject to change. If anything changes, the listing will be amended accordingly and publicized on the sociology department website: <http://sociology.berkeley.edu>.

Registration for summer session courses using CALCentral will begin in early February. Enrollment is first-come, first-served, and the department is not allowed to give priority to any particular majors, including Sociology majors (except in Soc 190, which has a special enrollment process). If a course fills up, please put your name on the CALCentral waiting list.

FIRST SIX-WEEK SESSION A (MAY 28 – JULY 5, 2019)

Sociology 112	Jerome Baggett	Enrollment Limit: 50
M-R 10-12	110 Barrows	
<p>SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION: Religion is an enormously important and, to many observers, a surprisingly persistent component of contemporary life. Focusing primarily, although not exclusively, on the United States, this course introduces students to the sociological study of religion and provides them with the theoretical tools necessary for thoughtfully analyzing the place of religion in the modern world. Among the topics this course will address are: the ways in which religion provides many with a sense of personal meaning; the social construction of religious conversion and commitment; the types and dynamics of religious groups (churches, sects, cults, etc.); the increasing significance of both the “spiritual but not religious” and the nonreligious; the various connections between religion and popular culture; the intersection between religiosity and other dimensions of personal identity; and the impact of religion on social cohesion, conflict and change. This course has no prerequisites. Its requirements are: ongoing and active class participation, three brief (2-3-paged) critical analysis papers, and an in-class final exam.</p>		
Sociology 114	Andy Barlow	Enrollment Limit: 50
M-R 10-12	170 Barrows	
<p>SOCIOLOGY OF LAW: The sociology of law studies law and legal institutions as social relationships. Everyday life both incorporates and creates legal meanings and practices. Utilizing sociological theories and methods, this course explores the legal field as a set of social networks and cultural meanings, and examines the relationship of the legal field to social life. Specifically, the course examines the ways that ‘legality’ is constituted in the United States by a wide range of political, economic and cultural practices, and the ways that law appears in the very conceptions of American society, community and the individual. Topics to be covered include: sociological theories of law and society, and the social constitution of tort law, contract law, criminal law and institutions. Throughout, attention will be given to the concepts of social justice as they appear in the legal construction of class, race, gender, citizenship and sexuality in the United States. Course requirements include class participation, two midterms, a final exam and a final paper.</p>		
Sociology 130	Szonja Ivester	Enrollment Limit: 65
M-R 12-2	126 Barrows	
<p>SOCIAL INEQUALITIES: The past 50 years have brought with them tremendous increases in social inequality around the world. In many instances, these have taken place in the context of formally meritocratic regimes. What happened? How can explain these changes and what, if anything, can we do about them? These questions will form the backbone of this class. Throughout the summer, we will cover recent debates, competing theories, and empirical research on social inequality. We will also explore how class, race, ethnicity, and gender continue to shape our life chances in the post-industrial world.</p>		
Sociology 150	John Kaiser	Enrollment Limit: 65
M-R 4-6	126 Barrows	
<p>SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY: This course in sociological social psychology explores the relationship between society and the self. With the help of research and theory from a number of social psychological traditions, especially interpretive, constructionist, and symbolic interactionist perspectives, we identify</p>		

features of society, including its institutions and symbolic systems, that influence the thinking, action, and identity of individuals and groups. Readings, films, and guided research initiatives over the session shed light on the processes by which the external world affects members of society. With a sociological focus, we examine the formation of personal identities within social categories of race, gender, sexuality, and social class. We revisit landmark episodes of collective behavior in history to better understand the social factors involved in communal violence and moral panics. We also explore the force of structural contexts and social situations in intimate activities like mothering, falling in love, and social withdrawal among educated youth in contemporary, high-tech societies. Writings: Short mid-term study of processes of identity formation of two individuals; final course project report, developed in stages (several brief 2 page field reports) over the summer, examining structures and processes linked to identity-formation observable in a setting selected by the student, with the approval of the instructor.

Sociology 160	Caleb Scoville	Enrollment Limit: 65
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M-R 2-4	126 Barrows
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SOCIOLOGY OF CULTURE: This course will introduce students to sociological approaches to the question of culture. We will begin by examining important theoretical debates about what culture is, where it comes from, and how it works. Next, we will consider the relationship between culture and power, focusing on empirical sites of culture in action including class, race, gender, and sexuality. The last part of the course will center on culture’s role in relation to what is often purported to be its opposite: “nature.” This will show that even what may appear as the most “asocial” and “acultural” aspects of the world can be fruitfully analyzed using a sociological conception of culture. After considering multiple approaches to the course’s guiding questions, students will walk away well equipped to critically analyze cultural phenomena in the contemporary world.

Sociology 190	Jason Ferguson	Enrollment Limit: 25
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MW 12-3	402 Barrows
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SEXUALITY & SOCIAL THEORY: What did classical social theorists write about sexuality? How have contemporary scholars built on and challenged their work to rethink sexual desire, practice, and identity? This course traces the lineage of contemporary theories of sexuality back to the founding ideas of sociology. The course will pair classical texts in social theory with contemporary texts from the postwar period. We will examine, for example, works of theorists in the Marxian tradition on capitalism and sexual cultures, theorists in the Durkheimian tradition on the “cult of the individual” and the emergence of gay rights, Weberian theorists on bureaucracy and the organization of sexuality, and theorists in the Freudian tradition on civilization, sexual repression and sexual liberation, etc. For those who have already studied social theory, it will be an opportunity to revisit the classics; for those who have not, it will be a chance at a first encounter. The class will also introduce students to “queer of color” and postcolonial critiques, which also engage deeply with classical sociological texts. Prior knowledge of social theory is not a prerequisite for this course.

EIGHT-WEEK SESSION C (JUNE 24 - AUGUST 16, 2019)

Sociology N1H	Mel Jeske	Enrollment Limit: 50
T-TH 4-6	110 Barrows	
<i>NOTE: Students who have taken Soc 3, 3A or 3AC will not earn credit for Soc 1.</i>		
<p>INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY FOR PRE-HEALTH STUDENTS: This section of Introduction to Sociology is designed for pre-health professionals and those preparing for the MCAT, but students of all majors are welcome. This course surveys the major theories, concepts, and substantive areas of sociology in ways that are specifically designed to assist undergraduate students pursuing careers in health and medicine. The readings, lectures, and assignments have been chosen with the needs of pre-med students in mind, consisting of units on social relationships, cultures, institutions, stratification, inequalities, and social change, with an emphasis in health inequalities. There are no prerequisites.</p>		
Sociology 5	Edwin Lin	Enrollment Limit: 50
T-TH 12-2	56 Barrows	
<i>Note: This course has sections that you will need to register for.</i>		
<p>EVALUATION OF EVIDENCE: We seem to have available to us more and more information about individuals, groups, and whole societies, but this does not always lead us to cite facts more accurately or hold more justifiable opinions. This course provides students with skills to evaluate claims about social life by examining whether they are based on good evidence, sound reasoning, and ethical practices. It does so by surveying the ways that professional social researchers ask and answer empirical questions. Students will learn the basic principles and practices that guide good empirical research, how to decide whether others have followed them, and how to follow them themselves. By the end of the course students will have acquired skills that will make them more responsible consumers of social science and debates about social trends and public policy.</p>		
Sociology 7	Casey Homan	Enrollment Limit: 25
T-TH 2-4	104 Barrows	
<p>THE POWER OF NUMBERS: QUANTITATIVE DATA IN SOCIAL SCIENCES: This course will provide students with a set of skills to understand, evaluate, use, and produce quantitative data about the social world. It is intended specifically for social science majors, and it focuses on social science questions. Students will learn to do the following: produce basic graphs; find good-quality, relevant data on the Web; use software to visualize and analyze data; understand and calculate basic statistical measures of central tendency, variation, and correlation; understand and apply basic concepts of sampling and selection; and understand and apply elementary techniques for hypothesis testing such as <i>t</i>-tests, chi-squared tests, and simple regression. Students do not need a strong mathematical, statistical, or computing background to succeed in this course.</p>		

SECOND SIX-WEEK SESSION D (JULY 8 – AUG 16, 2019)

Sociology R1B	TBD	Enrollment Limit: 17
M-R 12-2	174 Barrows	
<p>Sociology R1B: Social Inequalities: Sociology R1B fulfills the second half of the Reading and Composition requirement. It has three main goals: 1) to assist you in developing a clear, persuasive, and personal prose style in English; 2) to refine and build upon the close reading techniques you practiced in R1A; and 3) to equip you with the skills necessary for writing a research paper—a standard requirement of many upper-division (100-level) courses. In the first part of the course, we study fundamentals: writing analytically; the structure of essays and paragraphs; how to construct arguments; sentence mechanics; and analytical reading techniques. We practice these techniques by writing essays on a range of scholarly texts on the theme of inequality. The second part of the course applies these skills to a longer research paper on a topic that students choose that requires synthesizing multiple sources to develop a relatively-complex argument.</p>		
Sociology 110	Linus Huang	Enrollment Limit: 60
M-R 10-12	166 Barrows	
<p>ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS: How does social structure shape organization's objectives and practices? What consequences does this have for society? How do we effect change in organizational behavior, and why is it difficult to do so? This course will introduce theoretical perspectives organizational sociologists use to make sense of the organizational world. Although the course is built upon specific case studies, students will learn how to understand and engage any part of the organizational world—organizations large and small, for-profit and not-for-profit, or public and private.</p>		
Sociology 111AC	Mario Castillo	Enrollment Limit: 30
T-TH 2-4	136 Barrows	
<p>SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY: This course will critically examine the complex relationship between <i>the family</i> as a social institution and broader social forces. Rather than assuming a universal model of the family, we will look at families as evolving, diverse, social entities that are both supported and constrained by political climates, economic factors, gender ideologies, racial and ethnic hierarchies, sexual norms, and consequential cultural shifts. By understanding how and in what ways broader social forces affect families in general, we can better understand not only the dynamics within individual families but also the unique dynamics existent within our own family structures.</p>		
Sociology 140	Laleh Behbehanian	Enrollment Limit: 75
M-TH 4-6	20 Barrows	
<p>POLITICS & SOCIAL CHANGE: This course provides an introduction to political sociology through in-depth engagement with major contemporary developments. In Part I, we focus on the Global Economic Crisis of 2008, drawing upon a long tradition of Marxist scholarship that seeks to understand the relationship between state and economy. In doing so, we will grapple with a range of issues (the relation between state and capital, the political and economic power of the “ruling class,” the role of the state in mediating or exacerbating the crises of capitalism) that we then apply towards understanding the Global Economic Crisis. In Part II, we explore the US’ “War on Terror” through a range of Weberian approaches that focus upon the means of state power (violence, bureaucracy, war-making). What is the relationship between states and violence? How do states monopolize the power to classify certain forms of violence as “(il)legitimate”? How is war-making central to processes of state-making? What are the various forms of state power and how are they intrinsically gendered? Finally, we conclude in Part III by turning to Foucauldian scholars who reject “state centered” approaches, focusing instead upon the exercise of “technologies of power.” What new technologies of power emerge with the “securitization” fueled by the “War on Terror”? In particular, we examine surveillance practices, contextualizing them within a long history of efforts to govern race and class relations in the US, and concluding by considering the emergence of new techniques of "risk assessment" in the contemporary period. Through exploring these contemporary developments, students are introduced to a range of important concepts (with an emphasis on “the state”),</p>		

theories and debates within the field of political sociology.

Sociology 145	Dylan Riley	Enrollment Limit: 40
T/R 2-6	402 Barrows	

SOCIAL CHANGE: PLEASE CONTACT PROFESSOR

Sociology 167	Edwin Lin	Enrollment Limit: 65
T/R 2-6	3106 Etcheverry	

VIRTUAL COMMUNITIES/SOCIAL MEDIA: This course provides an overview of the social dynamics and phenomena of the internet. This course will provide students with an understanding of the fundamental cultural and social principles of the internet, from the perspective of social sciences and with a focus upon the relationship between technology and society. This course examines the ways in which society is changing due to the introduction and wide spread use of computers and computer network communication. We will explore the subjects social and economic change due to the internet – the internet in developing nations, new social networks and their impact on social lives, predation and cyber-bullying, online gaming and the social dynamics of virtual worlds, culture without a nation – the culture of the internet, censorship and control of information, publishing open to all, dating and romance online, exploiting new technology: cyber-warfare and virtual crime.