

# San José State University

## Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Preston Rudy, Ph.D.
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Office Hours:	Monday 3-3:30, Tuesday 2-2:30, Wednesday 10-10:30, Online Wednesday 11-11:30 & by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Tues. & Thurs 9 -10:15
Classroom:	Clark 234
Prerequisites:	Must be registered for graduation in December 2023 and have completed Soci 1, Soci 100W, Soci 101, Soci 104 or 105 (student must have taken at least ONE of the required research methods courses before enrolling in the capstone course)

## Course Description

**From the SJSU Catalog:** Capstone course to expand undergraduate senior opportunities and options. Analyzes trends in sociology; explores employment and careers, reflection and assessment of learning in the major.

**General Course Information and Background:** Sociology 181B is the department's capstone course designed to "expand undergraduate senior opportunities and options" and to explore employment and careers, as well as to reflect and assess learning in the major. This course focuses on the transition from working as a student to entering a career. For this course we will organize our reflection and our discussion around four foci: **Self-Knowledge, Sociological Imagination, Community Engagement, and Professional Development.**

Associated with these foci, the course is organized around four themes of transformation that many students go through as they complete their degree and move into a new life. These transformations include finding a career, becoming an engaged participant in our democracy, pursuing more learning and education, and finding a fit between the time claimed by employment and the time for family and community. By thinking about and reflecting upon these transformations, you will expand your opportunities and options for your career and life.

This capstone course is designed to help you integrate the knowledge from your sociology coursework (theory, methods, research, writing, quantitative and informational literacy) and to prepare you for your work after you are awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree. Thus, it will help you reflect on your career as a sociology student, learning to translate your social science for employers, to develop knowledge about possible careers for which your sociology prepares you, and to prepare for future careers by learning what sociology can tell us about work, careers and being successful with your college degree.



## **Course Content Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

CULO 1 — Clarify the types of jobs/careers that employ sociologists. Students will explore and develop professional relationships to further occupational/career goals.

CULO 2 — Summarize and employ sociology's concepts to appraise employment practices and make inferences from evidence to create and advance life goals.

CULO 3 — Compose aspirations for active participation in society and prepare for practices of learning and civic activity during a lifetime.

CULO 4 — Complete research reports combining quantitative and qualitative methodological skills and theory in an analysis of social issues.

CULO 5 — Prepare and present, orally and in writing, sociological knowledge, transferable skills and educational qualifications (i.e., interviews, oral presentations of research material).

CULO 6 — Produce materials (cover letters, resumes) to use in applying to professional occupations.

## **Required Texts/Readings**

1. *Spartan Daily* and *San Jose Mercury News* (or other regional newspaper)
2. Sallaz, Jeffrey J. (2013) *Labor, Economy and Society* Malden, MA: Polity Press.
3. *21<sup>st</sup> Century Careers with an Undergraduate Degree in Sociology* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). 2013. American Sociological Association (This will be handed out by the Professor)

### Additional Readings:

—Selected readings from *Contexts: understanding people in their social worlds*, a publication of the American Sociological Association; available at the King Library through ejournals.

## **BOOKS at Library RESERVE through Leganto**

Lambert, *Great Jobs for Sociology Majors*

Sallaz *Labor, Economy and Society*

## **Recommended Books:**

Sonia Sotomayor (2013)







## University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/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 [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo>), which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

## Course Schedule

*This is the schedule of classes and readings and assignments. The schedule may change, and those changes will be announced in class and on Canvas.*

Week	Date	Assignment Due	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1		Begin self-assessment sheet (on Canvas)	<p><b>Introduction, Course Outline, Expectations, plan for semester</b>            Read Lambert introduction and Chapter 1 — Self-Assessment            Construct a Self-Assessment worksheet for yourself based on Lambert p. 5-6</p> <p><a href="https://www.nytimes.com/video/opinion/100000006719947/europeans-view-americans.html?smid=url-share">https://www.nytimes.com/video/opinion/100000006719947/europeans-view-americans.html?smid=url-share</a></p> <p>Register with Handshake at Career Center and regularly check their calendar of events.</p> <p><b>Who are you? Telling your story</b>            What is the ‘sociological imagination’? How to use this imagination            Visit the Self-Assessment page of the Career Center and begin to systematically complete the parts of that page</p>
2		View ASA webinar and be prepared to discuss	<p><b>Researching Employment: What can we do with Our sociology BA?</b>            View ASA videos and be prepared to discuss (links on Canvas)            Additional materials of use from ASA on Canvas  <a href="https://www.asanet.org/footnotes-issue/sociological-careers-in-practice-settings/">https://www.asanet.org/footnotes-issue/sociological-careers-in-practice-settings/</a></p>
		<p>-----  <b>DUE Feb 1: Self-Assessment sheet            AND            One page reflection about questions from ASA video</b></p>	<p>-----</p>



Week	Date	Assignment Due	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
			<p><b>Time, Money and Savings: Finances for Long-term security</b></p> <p><b>Brief presentation of PORTRAIT OF CALIFORNIA data on neighborhoods</b></p>
6		<p><b>Due: Find 2 careers at O*net and Career OneStop</b></p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Due: Census data for zip code &amp; neighborhood, city, county</b></p>	<p><b>Work and Employment</b></p> <p>Chapter 1 “What good is work?”</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Paid work and Culture</b></p> <p>Sallaz chapter 3a “Clau “Cl</p> <p>Chapter 2 “The Great Transformation of Work” pp. 17-40</p>

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>	<b>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</b>
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