

**San José State University**  
**Department of Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences**  
**Sociology 105: Qualitative Research Methods**  
**Spring, 2025, Course Syllabus**

**COURSE AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

Instructor:	Soma de Bourbon
Office Location:	DMH 238A
Telephone:	N/A
Email:	soma.debourbon@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Mondays 12:00 to 1:30 pm and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Mondays and Wednesdays 10:30 to 11:45 am
Classroom:	DMH 231

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

SJSU Catalog Description: Philosophy and logic of research design, interviewing techniques, field methods, issues of participant observation, theoretical perspectives, content analysis, and qualitative techniques required for Sociology majors.

Prerequisite(s): SOCI 1 or equivalent, SOCI 100W, SOCI 101, and upper division standing.

**Grading:** Letter Graded

**COURSE FORMAT**

This class meets in person in DMH 231.

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on Canvas. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (or other communication systems as indicated by the instructor). To log onto Canvas, go to [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#)

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLO)**

CLO	Measurement
Provide examples for some of the sociological theories researchers utilize to engage in qualitative methods	Midterm and final exam Reading quizzes In-class exercises
Understand several different qualitative methodologies	Midterm and final exam Reading quizzes In-class exercises
Identify and describe some of the ethical challenges to conducting qualitative research	Midterm and final exam Reading quizzes
Record, transcribe, and analyze a qualitative interview	Qualitative interview project

## **REQUIRED TEXTS / READING**

All readings will be available on Canvas or via an internet link.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

## **POLICIES**

### **LATE POLICY**

I will accept assignments turned in to me before class up until one week past the due date. **I will not accept assignments through email.** If you turn in the assignment late, you will receive partial credit, up to one half of the full credit for the assignment.

### **CLASSROOM PROTOCOL**

You are expected to arrive on time, participate in class discussions, and to be attentive during lectures and discussions. It is important

90-92	A-	Research Project	40
88-89	B+	Midterm	15
83-87	B	Final Exam	15
80-82	B-	TOTAL	100
78-79	C+		
73-77	C		
70-72	C-		
68-69	D+		
63-67	D		
60-62	D-		
59-	F		

### Course Schedule

Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, and Deadlines (THIS IS A GENERAL GUIDE, BUT TOPICS AND DEADLINES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH ADEQUATE NOTICE)
Jan 27	<p><b>Topic(s):</b> First Class!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Getting to know your classmates</li> <li>Syllabus discussion</li> <li>Setting expectations</li> </ul>
Jan 29	<p><b>Topic(s)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Getting to know your classmates</li> <li>Picking Group Projects</li> </ul>
Feb 3	<p><b>Topic(s):</b> What is Social Science Research?</p> <p><b>Reading(s):</b> _____, Chapter 1</p> <p><b>Due:</b> Quiz 1: In-class Reading Quiz on _____, Chapter 1</p>
Feb 5	<p><b>Topic(s):</b> The Connection Between Theory and Method</p> <p><b>Reading(s):</b> _____, Chapter 2</p> <p><b>Due:</b> Quiz 2: In-Class Reading Quiz on _____, Chapter 2</p>
Feb 10	<p><b>Topic(s): Transgender Rights</b></p> <p><b>Reading(s):</b> “Understanding Gender,” and “Some Common Myths About Gender,” and “The Language of Gender”</p>

Feb 19

**Topic(s):** Research Ethics

**Reading(s):**

Dixon, Singleton, and Straits,  
The Belmont Report

, Chapter 3

**DUE:**

