

San Jose State University
Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Science Department

SOCI 174: Sexualities

FALL 2023

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Bianca Hernandez, M.A.
Office Location:	DMH 220
Telephone:	Google Voice: 831-264-7741
Email:	bianca.c.hernandez@sjsu.edu or on Canvas
Drop in office hours for: - Checking in - Questions about assignments, grades etc. - Advising chats - Safe space	Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm Other day/time that works for you Over Zoom
Class Days/Time and Classroom:	Tuesday and Thursday 4:30-5:45 pm Dudley Moorhead Hall 226A
Prerequisites:	SOCI 1

Course Description:

Examines diverse social constructions of sexual intimacy, meanings, identities, practices, and power embedded in relationships, communities and organizations. Sociological themes of morality, control, sexual citizenship, science and the production of sexual subjects, and the political economy of sex may be examined.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO):

1. Students will be able to think sociologically about the relationship between social structure, interaction, identities, and inequalities.
2. Students will be able to identify and explain major sociological theories and apply them to everyday life.
3. Students will be proficient in qualitative and quantitative research design, data collection and data analysis.
4. Students will be proficient in oral and written communication skills appropriate to the discipline.
5. Students will be able to practice sociology as educated and civically engaged persons.

Required Texts/Readings Textbook:

- Fischer, Nancy L. (2022) *Introducing New Sexuality Studies*. 4th Edition. New York: Routledge.
- Other material will be linked on Canva

Library Liaison:

The library liaison for Sociology & Interdisciplinary Social Sciences is Michael Aguilar. They can be reached at michael.aguilar@sjsu.edu and are available by appointment to support with materials.

SJSU Writing Center:

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Room 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>.

Course Assignments and Grading Policy:

I grade using a point system. Your final grade is an accumulation of points you have earned throughout the semester. The following assignments, essay exams, facilitation and weekly assignments contribute to the CLO's and GELO's. It is your responsibility to complete assignments on time, due dates can be seen on the schedule and more will be on Canvas. Below is the breakdown of assignments for this semester and a rubric.

In Class Assignments: Throughout the course you will be asked to do an in class writing response or group activity based on the readings for that week, a film shown in class, or guest speaker. These activities are a way to assess that students are understanding the material provided in class.

*NOTE: THESE ASSIGNMENTS **CAN NOT BE MADE UP!***

SJSU Campus Services Assignment: Please Visit one of the following SJSU centers: Student Wellness Center, Gender Equity Center, Chicana/Latina Student Success Center, PRIDE Center, Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Student Success Center (APIDA), Black Leadership and Opportunity Center (BLOC) and learn more about what they do. Create a poster (digital posters accepted as well) with the center's information, what they do, recent events/celebrations they have had or will have, why you chose them and how they can help SJSU students.

Facilitation Presentation: One time during the course of the semester you will be asked to facilitate a class session. This presentation will demonstrate your knowledge on the reading, create discussion questions for the class and present your research of outside or current events relating to the material. More details will come as the course begins. These presentations will begin around Week 4 and run until Week 15.

Midterm Short Essay or Multiple Choice Quiz: Details, guidance and support on this assignment will be given when we begin the course and will have input from the class as a whole.

Final Short Essay or Multiple Choice Quiz: Details, guidance and support on this assignment will be given when we begin the course and will have input from the class as a whole.

Extra Credit: Collaboratively we will bring up extra credit opportunities that are free and accessible but will be on a TBA basis.

Grading Information:

Total: 1,000 Points

<i>Assessment Criteria</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Program Learning Outcomes</i>
<i>In class assignment (15)</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>PLO 1-5</i>
<i>Facilitation</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>PLO 1-5</i>
<i>Films (3)</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>PLO 1-5</i>
<i>SJSU Assignment</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>PLO 1-5</i>
<i>Midterm</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>PLO 1-5</i>
<i>Final</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>PLO 1-5</i>

Classroom Protocol:

You should attend class regularly and participate in class discussions. Class will be a combination of lecture, discussion, guest speakers, and films. *All activities during class time, including guest speakers, films, and discussions, are part of the class and may be part of your exams or assignments.*

You are also expected to do all of the assigned reading for the week before class. You are expected to bring that day's reading to class, arrive on time, and participate in class discussion by asking and answering questions.

Furthermore, students are responsible for all assignments and announcements presented in class. If you are late or absent, it is your responsibility to contact another student.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated and is a serious offense. All references must be cited. Penalties for plagiarism range from an F in the course to expulsion from the university. Students suspected of plagiarism will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action. For more information please see <http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/plagiarism/>

Late work policy: Please connect with me as soon as possible regarding late work, this will work on a case by case basis.

Please be aware of your conduct in class. Racist, sexist, homophobic, crude, or inappropriate remarks of any kind will not be tolerated. Practice active listening and be fully present. Always respect your classmates and instructor while using civil discourse in class.

University Policies:

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), 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](#) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Dropping and Adding:

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material:

University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course.

- "Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material."
- "Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent."

Academic Integrity:

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. <Http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic coursework. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

SJSU Counseling Services:

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

A Note about SOCI 174:

WOMS 101: Sex, Power, and Politics, Spring 2023

This class will be a challenge because: The Workload- Officially, a three-unit course entails six hours of work outside the classroom. Each week you will be expected to read between 30-60 pages and class assignments will require a substantial amount of work outside of class.

Topic Matter: There will be frequent instances throughout the semester in which sensitive and difficult issues will be discussed. Many of these issues will require an open mind. Feminist readings of topics may go against moral or religious teachings with which you have grown up. Frequently, students in this course find that they begin to see almost everything in a new light. This experience can be both exciting and disturbing.

Trigger Warning: Using a trauma informed approach, trigger warnings will be given to each class to create a safe space for all. In this class we will be discussing topics such as violence- sexual violence, racially, politically and religiously charged topics. These topics may cause psychological trauma for some students. Please take some time for self care after a class.

R-rating: As you will come to find, we may be using several texts that involve “profane” language. Some of the films that we will use in class also contain nudity and/or violence. Please be forewarned and take time for self care.

Self Care: Navigating higher education can be hard, juggling many classes can be hard, juggling school and work and more can be hard and attending a class like this one with a heavy topic matter can also be hard. Please be sure to take care of yourself and make time for self care. We will make time for this in class and learn how to do this but this is also important to do outside of this space.

Course Schedule

*Schedule is subject to change with fair notice.
Readings should be done by the beginning of the week!*

Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1: Laying the Foundation	8/22 & 8/24	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction of Professor/Student and SOCI 174 ● Trigger Warning and Self Care ● Syllabus ● Discuss assignments <i>*Readings:</i> 1) Welcome to the new sexuality studies 2) Construction as a social process In class assignment #1
2: Bodies and behaviors	8/29 & 8/31	In class assignment #2 <i>*Readings:</i> 5) Unthinking compulsory sexuality: introducing asexuality 10) Sex Positivity: a Black feminist gift 11) The social meaning of sexual intercourse 12) Polishing the pearl: discoveries of the clitoris
3:	9/05 & 9/07	In class assignment #3 <i>*Readings:</i> 13) But can you ever win? Genital cosmetic procedures 14) The social meaning and practice of orgasm
4:	9/12 & 9/14 Last Day to Add/Drop	In class assignment #4 <i>*Readings:</i> 15) Anal sex: phallic and other meanings 16) Rethinking dick pics 18) Sex in later life: beyond dysfunction and the coital imperative
5: Sex, gender and sexuality	9/19 & 9/21	In class assignment #5 <i>*Readings:</i> 32) Trans sexualities: identities, relationships and desires 33) Adolescent girls' sexuality: sexual agency and the renovated sexual double standard 35) "Guys are just homophobic": rethinking adolescent homophobia and heterosexuality <i>Film: Muxes</i>

6: Social structures and institutions	9/26 & 9/28	In class assignment #6 *Readings: 36) Not “straight” but still a “man”: negotiating nonheterosexual masculinities 38) How “regular sex” contributes to the gender gap un orgasms 42) The marriage contract: the legal context of marriage 46) The coloniality of sexuality
7	10/03 & 10/05	In class assignment #7 *Readings: 48) The politics of sexuality and gender expression in schools 49) Sex education and its failures: from social inequalities to intimate possibilities <i>10/05- Campus Advocate Presentation</i>
8: Relating and relationships	10/10 & 10/12	In class assignment #8 *Readings: 21) One is not born a bride: weddings and the heterosexual imaginary 22) Yes, no, maybe so? Inequalities and sexual consent and sexual pleasure for young adults <i>Film: Victim/Suspect</i>
9: Navigating inequalities and oppressions	10/17- Midterm 10/19	In class assignment #9 *Readings: 50) The body, disability, and sexuality 51) The intersection of sexuality and intellectual disabilities: shattering the taboo 52) Disrupting dichotomies: nonbinary sexual identities 53) Creando una familia: LBQ Latinas facilitating bonds through shared race/ethnicity
10: Sexual cultures, places and scenes	10/24 & 10/26	In class assignment #10 *Readings: 57) The racial sexual stereotypes if the “down low” 62) “We will always remember”: reactivating queer places as expressions of grief, solidarity and protest after Pulse 63) Changing role of gay bars in America LGBTQ+ life <i>10/26- SJSU Gender Equity Presentation</i>

11: Sexual politics, social movements, and empowerment	10/31 & 11/02	In class assignment #11 <i>*Readings:</i> 65) Critical consent: negotiating consent in a trans-les-bi-queer BDSM communities 77) The Religious Right, same-sex marriage, and LGBTQ+ rights activism 80) Children's sexual citizenship
12	11/07 & 11/09	In class assignment #12 <i>*Readings:</i> 82) The history of activism against sexual violence and the modern #MeToo Movement 83) A public health approach to campus sexual assault prevention: sexual citizenship, sexual projects and sexual geographies 67) The sexual economy and Nevada's legal brothels
13: Sexual labor and commerce	11/14 & 11/16	In class assignment #13 <i>*Readings:</i> 68) Inclusive pleasure: feminist sex shops 70) Intimate labor in the adult film industry 71) Migrant sex work and trafficking: sorting them out <i>Film: The Stroll</i>
14	11/21	<i>Holiday Break</i>
15	11/28 & 11/30	In class assignment #14 <i>*Readings:</i> 72) Sex work, the victim, and the anti-trafficking movement 73) Sex workers' rights activism in the United States: navigating the internet in an age of s*x work censorship, state and corporate surveillance 74) Challenging the controlling images of vamps and victims: sex worker activism in India
16	Last day of Instruction: 12/05	In class assignment #15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prep time/questions/extra support for final ● Workshop final papers ● Questions about grades
		Note: Final venue and time TBA