University of California San Diego Dr. Christine Payne (she/her)

Department of Sociology [**capayne@ucsd.edu**](mailto:capayne@ucsd.edu)

Spring 2025

**MWF 4:00-4:50 pm PST**

**Mondays & Wednesdays: In-Person** **Instruction** **in** **SOLIS 107**

**Fridays:** **Synchronous Online Instruction\*\*\***

**Friday Synchronous Zoom Link**: [**https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/99946700641**](https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/99946700641)

**\*\*\*Exceptions:**

***In-Person* Friday April 4th (Week 1) & Friday June 6th (Week 10)**

***Asynchronous* Friday May 9th**

**Professor Payne’s Weekly Online Office Hours**: **Tuesdays/Thursdays** **11 am – 12 pm PST**

**Professor Payne’s Office Hours Link**: [**https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/99946700641**](https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/99946700641)

# **SOCI 2 – *The Study of Society***

**Diagnosis: ‘Free Markets’, ‘Family Values’, Fascism.**

**Demands: Freedom and Flourishing.**

What characterizes our society? What historical and ongoing structural conditions help to explain the current moment we find ourselves in? How are prevailing social, cultural, political, and economic relations related to contemporary beliefs, understandings, behaviors, and values? What is the relationship between ideological reification of the status quo and the reproduction of social relations?

What is the relationship between neoliberal capitalism, biopolitical assumptions and impositions of social hierarchies, and authoritarian forms of social organization? In terms of personal decisions and public policies, who is ‘in the driver’s seat’? How, and on what basis, do challenges and changes to social relations occur? What are the conditions of possibility for collective action? These are some of the key questions that a critical approach to the study of society addresses and which we will be analyzing together.

This course approaches the study of society in light of central sociological concepts including class, sex/gender/sexuality, and race. The course takes an explicitly systemic, historical, and critical approach. Our aim is to explore the historical and ongoing roots of our contemporary society in order that we may all contribute to more informed analysis and action now and moving forward.

# **Student Learning Objectives**

* Develop and deploy a critical and historically informed sociological perspective in relation to current society; understand and apply key sociological concepts and approaches as they relate to issues of culture and socialization, social control and reproduction, and collective action.
* Address the significance of neoliberal capitalism in relation to political-economy and culture;
* Analyze the historical and ongoing dynamics of authoritarian ideologies and practices;
* Identify and interrogate biopolitical assumptions and impositions of social hierarchies;
* Address the significance of ressentiment vis-à-vis past and present socio-political trajectories;
* Reflect upon the interdependent relationships between epistemic, political, and ethical standards and values;
* Identify and communicate interesting aspects of, or illuminating relations between, theoretical concepts and empirical applications;
* Critique concepts and arguments, evaluating their capabilities and limitations;
* Compose summative and analytic essays with organized, well-supported arguments;
* Identify potential interventions or transformations aimed at addressing issues of human freedom and flourishing.





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# **Email**

Allow 24 hours for a response to email messages Monday-Friday. If you know you have a question or will need to be in touch, please do so sooner than later. If you have questions that require in-depth answers, I may request that we meet during office hours.

# **Office Hours**

**Professor Payne’s Weekly Online Office Hours**: **Tuesdays/Thursdays** **11 am – 12 pm PST**

**Office Hours Link**: [**https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/99946700641**](https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/99946700641)

# **Readings and Lecture Notes**

Weekly course readings/viewings and weekly lecture notes are housed in associated weekly folders on course Canvas page under the **‘Files’ tab.**

# **Course Canvas Organization**

* Course Syllabus (**Syllabus**)
* Weekly Readings and Weekly Lecture Notes (**Files**)
* Captured Lectures (**Media Gallery**)
* Friday Synchronous Online Zoom Link (**Announcements**)
* Weekly Office Hours Zoom Link (**Announcements**)
* Grades (**Grades**)

**Canvas will be used to communicate all course-wide announcements.**

**Be sure that you are able to access Canvas for the duration of the course.**

**Check Canvas regularly for any course-wide announcements.**

# **Required Course Materials**

# **Blue Books** – Three (3); Any Size Okay

* **Pen/Pencil and Notepaper** for In-Class Reading Quizzes

# **UCSD Library & VPN Login Information**

**(For Documentary Viewings)**

[**https://blink.ucsd.edu/technology/network/connections/off-campus/VPN/**](https://blink.ucsd.edu/technology/network/connections/off-campus/VPN/)

# **Coursework & Grading**

The final course grade for SOCI 2 is calculated out of **1000 points**.

**Details of each graded component will be covered in lecture.**

1. **Weekly Discussion Sections in SSB 101.** Review your registration for day/time.

**(10 sections x 10 points = 100 points)**

**Section expectations and grading requirements will be reviewed in sections.**

1. **In-Class Reading Quizzes (25 points x 6 Quizzes = 150 points)**

**Two Lowest Scores Dropped**

**Consist of 1-3 short questions on weekly readings.**

**Beginning of Lecture Mondays; Weeks 2-3; 5-8**

1. **In-Class Midterm 1 (250 points)**

Consists of **one short essay covering Weeks 1-3**

**Wednesday April 23rd**

1. **In-Class Midterm 2 (200 points)**

Consists of **ten (10) key concept short answer responses covering Weeks 1-8.**

**Wednesday May 28th**

1. **In-Class Final Exam (300 points)**

Consists of **two essays covering Weeks 1-10.**

**Thursday June 12th 3-6 pm PST**

Two panel drawing. 

Top panel shows a large fish chasing a series of smaller fish. Reads: 'Don't Panic.'

Bottom panel shows smaller fish in formation as a large fish chasing the single big fish. Reads: 'Organize!'

# **Assignment Policies**

* **No Make-Up Reading Quizzes – Two Lowest Scores Dropped.**
* **No Unauthorized Make-Ups for Midterms. \***
* **No Make-Ups/Reschedules of Final Exam.**
* **No Retakes/Resubmissions of Graded Work.**
* **No Work Accepted Past Last Day of Regular Class – Fri. June 6th.**
* **Excepting Clerical Errors, No Grade Adjustments Made After Final Exam Due Date – Thursday June 12th.**

**\* Excepting Authorized Accommodations; Emergency.**

**\*Authorized Make-Up Midterms Must be Completed Within 1 Week.**

# **Course Grading Scale**

100+: A+

100-93: A

92-90: A-

89-88: B+

87-83: B

82-80: B-

79-78: C+

77-73: C

72-70: C-

69-60: D

59 and below: F

# **Respect**

At their best, college courses flourish when everyone involved takes seriously the responsibility to engage course material in a critical manner. Critical engagement is grounded in thoughtful reflection, and such thoughtful reflection may provide opportunities for respectful disagreement. Respectful disagreement often leads to illuminating discussions and further thoughtful engagement for us all.

What I expect and require across all components of our course is a mature and mindful space that refrains from personal attacks and explicit or implied hostility. In the intellectual and ethical interests of us all, I do not tolerate disrespectful or hostile discussion. As we cultivate our learning spaces together, it promotes our intellectual endeavors to harbor these differences and similarities, agreements and disagreements, towards promoting the free exchange of ideas and a space where that is possible.

**Academic Integrity**

All academic work must be done by the individual to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind.

**Avoid even unintentional plagiarism.**

**Cite all direct quotes, all paraphrases.**

**Give full credit to the sources for your ideas and writing.**

**Cite where your major concepts/ideas/arguments are coming from.**

**Use of AI to complete SOCI 2 coursework is a violation of academic integrity.**

**Violations of academic integrity will result in a grade of ‘0’ for the assignment.**

**Violations will also be referred to the college for administrative action**.

**UCSD’s academic integrity information can be viewed here:** [**https://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/index.html**](https://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/index.html)

If you have any questions regarding academic integrity, do not hesitate to reach out at any time.

***Course Content & Schedule (Subject to Minor Variations as Needed)***

**Week One – *Reproduction of Relations: Who Is In The Driver’s Seat?***

* **Mon.**

**Fisher**, Mark. 2009. *Capitalist Realism: Is There No Alternative?*Zer0 Books.

Ch. 1*: It’s Easier to Imagine the End of the World Than the End of Capitalism* **pp. 1-11**

* **Wed.**

**Fisher**, Mark. 2009. *Capitalist Realism: Is There No Alternative?*Zer0 Books.

Ch. 3: *Capitalism and the Real* **pp. 16-20**

* **Fri. In-Class Friday April 4th**

**Marx**, Karl. *Marx-Engels Reader*. 1978. Ed. Robert C. Tucker. W.W. Norton & Co

*Wage Labor and Capital* **pp. 203-217**

**Kitchell**, Mark. 1990. *Berkeley in the Sixties*

<https://fod.infobase.com/p_ViewVideo.aspx?xtid=57864>

**Week Two – *Freedom: Rhetoric vs. Reality***

* **Mon.–Fri.**

**Reading Quiz #1 Monday April 7th**

**Weeks,** Kathi. 2011. *The Problem with Work*.

Ch 3: *Working Demands: From Wages for Housework to Basic Income***pp. 113-150**

Ch. 4: *“Hours For What We Will”: Work, Family, and the Demand for Shorter Hours* **pp. 151-174**

**Shaffer**, Deborah, & **Bird**, Steward. 1979. *The Wobblies*

<https://www.kanopy.com/en/product/12764581?vp=ucsd&frontend=kui>

**Week Three – *Authoritarianism: Anxieties and Allures***

* **Mon.**

**Reading Quiz #2 Monday April 14th**

**Cooper**, Melinda. 2017. *Family Values: Between Neoliberalism and the New Social Conservatism*. Zone Books.

Ch. 1: *Between Neoliberalism and the New Social Conservatism* **pp. 7-24**

* **Wed. & Fri.**

**Brown,** Wendy. 2019. *In the Ruins of Neoliberalism: The Rise of Antidemocratic Politics in  
the West*. Columbia University Press.

Ch. 5 – *No Country for White Men: Nihilism, Fatalism, and Ressentiment* **pp. 161-188**

**Week Four – Midterm #1; *Introduction to Biopower***

* **Mon.**

**DuBois**, W.E.B. 1935. *Black Reconstruction in America: 1860-1880.* The Free Press.

Ch. 16 (XVI) - *Back Toward Slavery* **pp. 694-710**

* **Wed. April 23rd - In-Class Midterm #1**
* **Fri.**

**Introduction to Biopower; No Readings**

**Week Five – *Demographic ‘Destiny’ & ‘Natural’ Nationalism***

* **Mon.**

**Reading Quiz #3 Monday April 28th**

**Rasmussen**, Claire. 2023. “Fertile Ground: The Biopolitics of Natalist Populism” *ACME: International Journal for Critical Geographies* 22(3) **pp. 1069-1092**

* **Wed**.

**Tebaldi**, Catherine. 2024. “Granola Nazis: Fascism in the World of Health, Fitness, and Nature” *University of Oslo - Center for Research on Extremism*

* **Fri.**

**Sousa**, Alexandra N. 2024. “Wellness and White Power: A Fantasy Theme Analysis of U.S. Wellness Influencer Content and its Utilization of White Power Discourse” *Communication Quarterly* 72(4) **pp. 361-382**

**Week Six – *Autonomy For Me, Submission For Thee***

* **Mon.**

**Reading Quiz #4 Monday May 5th**

**Faludi**, Susan. 1991. *Backlash* Three Rivers Press.

Ch. 9: *The Politics of Resentment: The New Right’s War on Women* **pp. 241-268**

* **Wed.**

**Brown**, Jenny. 2019. *Without Apology: The Abortion Struggle Now*. Verso.

Ch. 1: *Abortion: The Basics* **pp. 1-30**

Ch. 2: *History* **pp. 31-81**

* **Fri. (Lecture is Asynchronous Friday May 9th 🡪 Canvas/‘Media Gallery’ tab)**

Ch. 3: *Ideas and Analysis* **pp. 83-127**

Ch. 4: *Strategy* **pp 129-184**

**Pildes**, Emma & **Lessin**, Tia. 2022. *The Janes*

<https://fod.infobase.com/p_ViewVideo.aspx?xtid=283436>

**Week Seven – *Mis/Disinformed Skepticism; Commodified Care***

* **Mon**.

**Reading Quiz #5 Monday May 12th**

**Rahbari**, Ladan. 2023. “COVID-19 Pandemic and the Crisis of Care: Wellness Discourses, Neoliberal Self-Care, and (Dis)Infodemic” *Social Sciences* 12: 137 **pp. 1-12**

* **Wed.**

**Hussain**, Azhar, et al. 2018. “The Anti-Vaccination Movement: A Regression in Modern Medicine” *Cureus* 10(7) **pp. 1-8**

**Bluth**, Rachel. 2022. *‘My Body, My Choice’: How Vaccine Foes Co-Opted the Abortion Rallying* Cry KFF Health News.

* **Fri.**

**Mayes**, Rick, et al.2024. “‘Not What We Signed Up For’: Nurse Shortages, Physician Scarcity, and Time for Collective Bargaining?” *World Medical & Health Policy* 16

**pp. 78–94**

**Week Eight – *False Equivalence & Manufactured Dissent***

* **Mon. & Wed.**

**Reading Quiz #6 Monday May 19th**

**Oreskes, Naomi & Conway, Erik**. 2010.*Merchants of Doubt: How A Handful of Scientists Obscured the Truth on Issues From Tobacco Smoke to Global Warming.*Bloomsbury Press.

Ch. 6:*The Denial of Global Warming* **pp. 169-215**

Conclusion: *Of Free Speech and Free Markets* **pp. 240-265**

* **Fri.**

**Lewis**, Avi. 2015. *This Changes Everything*

<https://video.alexanderstreet.com/watch/this-changes-everything?utm_campaign=Video&utm_medium=MARC&utm_source=aspresolver>

**Week Nine – Midterm #2; *History: Heavy & Hopeful***

* **Mon. May 26th – Memorial Day: No Class**
* **Wed. May 28th - In-Class Midterm #2**
* **Fri.**

**DuBois**, W.E.B. 1935. *Black Reconstruction in America: 1860-1880.* The Free Press.

Ch. 17 (XVII) - *The Propaganda of History* **pp. 711-729**

**Week Ten –** ***What Do We Have? What Do We Want? How Do We Get It?***

* **Mon.-Fri**. **In-Class Friday June 6th**

**Course Overview & Wrap-Up**

**Moore**, Michael. 2016. *Where to Invade Next*

**In-Class Final Exam –Thursday June 12th 3-6 pm PST**

Famous three panel drawing.

Panel 1 shows a woman at work. Reads: '8 hours for Work.'

Panel 2 shows a person asleep in bed. Reads: '8 hours for Rest.'

Panel 3 shows two people relaxing/reading in a boat on a lake. Reads: '8 hours for What We Will.'

# **Sociology Department**

Main Office SSB 401: <https://sociology.ucsd.edu/>

# **Advising**

<https://sociology.ucsd.edu/undergraduate/advising.html>

# **ACCOMODATIONS AND CAMPUS RESOURCES**

Every learning environment should be accessible to all. If you have a disability and require accommodations for this class, please contact:

**UCSD’s OFFICE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** [**https://osd.ucsd.edu/**](https://osd.ucsd.edu/)

**RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES**

Please let me know as soon as possible if, for any religious reasons, you will require an extension on a part of your overall assessments.

**UNIVERSITY ACTIVITES**

Please let me know as soon as possible if, for any university activities, you will require an extension on a part of your overall assessments.

**COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES**

The Counseling Center (CAPS) offers counseling for personal & career concerns, self-help information, and referrals for additional mental health services. <https://caps.ucsd.edu/make-appointment/appointments.html>

**NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE**: 1-800-273-8255

**STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES**

<https://wellness.ucsd.edu/studenthealth/Pages/default.aspx> (or: [studenthealth@ucsd.edu](mailto:studenthealth@ucsd.edu))

**UCSD BASIC NEEDS CENTER**

<https://basicneeds.ucsd.edu/>

**Writing HUB**

If you need help with writing with this or any class, please contact the UCSD Writing Hub.

<https://writinghub.ucsd.edu/>

**Gender Neutral Bathrooms**

There are gender-neutral restrooms on campus.  A complete list with maps can be found at: <https://maps.ucsd.edu/map/Default.htm?id=1005#!ce/37654?ct/0,18011?mc/32.876073117796686,-117.22527980804445?z/15?lvl/0>

**REPORTING SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

Please know that I, like all UCSD faculty, am mandated to report any allegations of sexual assault involving members of the University community to the campus Title IX office. You do not have to follow up with them if you do not wish to, but it is important that you are aware of your resources as well as rights, such as withdrawing from a class if need be. Review information about your rights, how to pursue a university discipline charge and a criminal charge, and how to report the violence without pursuing any charges at: <https://sos.ucsd.edu/filing-a-report/index.html> or call: 858-534-8298.

**UCSD ESCORT SERVICE**

Call extension 4-WALK or (858) 534-9255 from sunset to 4 a.m. daily. After 1 a.m., police department staff may provide this service. You can arrange a repeating escort so a community service officer (CSO) will meet you at the same place and time, which makes it more convenient to get a late-night escort.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM ADVOCATE**

<http://care.ucsd.edu/> or call: 858-534-5793

**INTERNATINAL STUDENTS AND PROGRAMS OFFICE (ISPO)**

<https://ispo.ucsd.edu/>

**TRITON TRANSFER CENTER**

[**https://transferstudents.ucsd.edu/**](https://transferstudents.ucsd.edu/)

**BLACK RESOURCE CENTER**

858-534-0471 <https://brc.ucsd.edu/>

**WOMEN’S CENTER**

858-822-0074  <https://women.ucsd.edu/>

**SAN DIEGO LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER**

3909 Centre St., San Diego, CA 92103

<http://www.thecentersd.org/>

**UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT SERVICES**

858-822-6916 <https://uss.ucsd.edu/> (or: [undoc@ucsd.edu](mailto:undoc@ucsd.edu))

**TRANSGENDER CARE**

 (858) 534-3300 <https://wellness.ucsd.edu/studenthealth/services/Pages/transgender-care.aspx>

**RAZA RESOURCE CENTRO**

858-822-0072 <https://raza.ucsd.edu/>

**INTERTRIBAL RESOURCE CENTER (ITRC)**

858- 822-0048 <https://itrc.ucsd.edu/>

**CROSS CULTURAL CENTER**

858-534-9689  [ccc.ucsd.edu](http://ccc.ucsd.edu/)

**OFFICE OF ACADEMIC SUPPORT & INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES (OASIS)/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (EOP)**

Especially helpful for first generation, non-traditional, and English as a Second Language Students, but of course open to all.

<https://oasis.ucsd.edu/> (or call: 858-534-3760)

**UCSD CAREER CENTER**

The UCSD Career Center can help you assess your interests.

858-534-3751 <https://career.ucsd.edu/> (or: [careercenter@ucsd.edu](mailto:careercenter@ucsd.edu))

**WELL BEING – “The Zone”**

<https://students.ucsd.edu/well-being/index.html>

# **Cheating and Plagiarism**

Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses. You are plagiarizing or cheating if you:

* For written work, copy anything from a book, article, website, **or AI generator** and add or paste it into your paper without using quotation marks and/or without providing the full reference for the quotation, including page number
* For written work, summarize / paraphrase in your own words ideas you got from a book, article, or the web without providing the reference for the source
* Use academic visuals obtained from a book, article, or website without providing a reference for the visual
* Recycle a paper you wrote for another class
* Turn in the same (or a very similar paper) for two classes
* Purchase or otherwise obtain a paper and turn it in as your own work
* Copy the work of a classmate

**Consequences of cheating and plagiarism**

Consequences are at the instructor’s and the administration’s discretion. Instructors are mandated by the UCSD system to report the offense to the administration. Consequences may include any of the following: warning; failing the assignment; failing the class; probation; suspension; expulsion.