

**San José State University**  
**Department of Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences**  
**Sociology 116: Global Society, Spring 2025 (02)**

**Course and Contact Information:**

Instructor: Chris J. Cox, ABD

Office Location: Dudley Moorhead Hall (DMH) 210

Telephone: (408) 924 5326

Email: [Christopher.cox@sjsu.edu](mailto:Christopher.cox@sjsu.edu)  
[Cj373@hotmail.com](mailto:Cj373@hotmail.com)

Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm and by appointment

Class Days/Time: MW 4:30 pm – 5:45 pm

Classroom: Dudley Moorhead Hall

Prerequisites: Introductory Social Science (Soci 01 or equivalent)

**Course Description**

This course will examine global social issues, evaluate the impact of change on world communities, and analyze the response of specific groups to emerging problems and opportunities. By looking at the theoretical and historical debates surrounding contemporary developments, we will develop a wider appreciation of the conflicts and complexities involved in such developments.

*Course Catalog Description:*

“Examination of global social issues, evaluation of the impact of change on world communities and analysis of the response of specific groups to emerging problems and opportunities. Required for majors.”

**Course Format**

This course is an in-person course that meets twice per week throughout the semester.

**Canvas Page and MYSJSU Messaging**

*Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#) at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. You are responsible for regularly checking the Canvas page through [MySJSU](#) on [Spartan App Portal](#) <http://one.sjsu.edu> to learn of any updates.*

## Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

In general, students should increase their understanding of contemporary global problems. This course is designed to help students make sense of remote events and complicated issues that appear in the newspaper. We will explore how global developments such as currency devaluations, free trade agreements, global warming, ethnic warfare, and democratization affect different social groups. By the end of the course, students should be able to assess the causes, consequences, debates, and solutions associated with different social problems. The specific course learning objectives (CLO's) are listed below:

CLO 1: Recognizing the interactions between social forces and individual behaviors will be accomplished through the use of the sociological imagination and its application throughout the course.

CLO 2: In discussing and analyzing global social, environmental, and economic issues, we will consistently focus on demographics and diversity, including, but not limited to, categories of class, race/ethnicity, and sex/gender, as well as other axes of international division and power.

CLO 3: Students will be able to understand the role of theory in sociology by learning, discussing, analyzing, and consistently applying key sociological theories and concepts to various issues related to global society.

CLO 4: Critical thinking and sociological analysis are strongly emphasized. We will employ the tools of analysis, synthesis, comparison and contrast, historical investigation and current events, case studies, theories, and alternatives.

## Required Texts/Readings

Martell, Luke. (2017) *The Sociology of Globalization* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). Polity press (available in pdf on Canvas)

## Other Readings

Additional readings will be made available in electronic format through Canvas.

## Library Liaison

Jane Dodge (408) 808-2321

## Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>.

The grade in this class is based on **two exams**, a **group project**, and a **term paper** (including a rough draft/peer edit session, as well as a final draft). The exams are a midterm and a final, which will be a combination of short answer/multiple choice questions as well as short essay questions. The group projects will involve compiling research on specific countries/topics and presenting that research to the class. A separate handout will be given explaining this assignment in detail. A handout regarding the specific tasks of the final paper, a 6-to-8-page term paper (ASA or APA format) due towards the end of the semester, will also be given (both will be posted to Canvas). There will also be an in-class peer editing session designed to help you improve your writing on the term paper assignment. Participation in class discussions and activities is also required for successful completion of the course. These assignments and activities are designed to help students meet the aforementioned learning objectives.

The [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf), *Course Syllabi* (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>) requires the following language to be included in the syllabus:

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

### Final Examination or Evaluation

[University Policy S06-4](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S06-4.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S06-4.pdf>) states: “There shall be an appropriate final examination or evaluation at the scheduled time in every course, unless specifically exempted by the college dean who has curricular responsibility for the course.”

[University policy S17-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf>) states: “Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.”

**NOTE** that [University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states: “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

### Grading Information

Exams:	50%
Term Paper Topic:	1%
Rough Draft, Peer Edit:	4%
Term Paper:	30%
Group Project:	15%

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>A plus</i>	<i>98 to 100%</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>92.1 to 97.9%</i>
<i>A minus</i>	<i>90 to 92%</i>
<i>B plus</i>	<i>88 to 89.9 %</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>82.1 to 87.9%</i>
<i>B minus</i>	<i>80 to 82%</i>
<i>C plus</i>	<i>78 to 79.9%</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>72.1 to 77.9%</i>
<i>C minus</i>	<i>70 to 72%</i>
<i>D plus</i>	<i>68 to 69.9%</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>62.1 to 67.9%</i>
<i>D minus</i>	<i>60 to 62%</i>

- [University Attendance and Participation Policy F15-12](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf>)
- [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>)

## Classroom Protocol

1. Late Assignments: Assignments such as term papers will lose credit for every class meeting that they are late. These assignments must be **turned in by hand during class, or by Canvas as specified** (not by email). **Papers over one week late will not be accepted** unless a prior arrangement has been made with me. If you foresee a problem with meeting a deadline, you need to speak with me about it **as soon as possible**. Waiting until the last minute is not a good idea. Late exams need to be taken as soon as possible, and I need to be informed of your absence should it occur on an exam date.

2. Academic Honesty: Cheating on exams or written assignments is not allowed and will not be tolerated. Most importantly, this includes plagiarism on the formal written assignments. Basically, plagiarism includes using the words and ideas of others without giving proper credit, as well as the outright copying of others' work. In cases of substantiated violations of the academic integrity policy (i.e., there is sufficient evidence that you have cheated on any assignment), **you will automatically fail the course**.

3. General conduct: Cell phones should not be used during class, and your phone's ringer should be turned off. Text messaging is also not permitted during class. Please show courtesy to your fellow students and your professor by refraining from cell phone use during class. If you are having an emergency for which you need your phone on, come and talk to me before class begins.

\* Also, there are times when we may discuss sensitive topics during class, or topics of controversy for which people may have extremely divergent views. Open discussion and debate is encouraged, but maintaining an atmosphere of mutual respect towards all that are in the class is of the utmost importance.

## University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9 (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/> Make sure to review these university policies and resources with students.

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

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “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.”
  - In order to get my permission for recording, a request must be submitted both verbally and in writing; it should specify whether the request is for the whole semester or on a class-by-class basis. There is no guarantee that such a request will be granted unless it is deemed necessary as an approved accommodation by the Accessible Education Center (AEC).
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “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.”

### **SJSU Peer Connections**

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit [Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

### **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 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>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to



scan this code.)

### **SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located in the Student Health Services 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>.

## **Sociology 116: Global Society Spring 2025 (02) Course Schedule**

This is a tentative schedule of all activities and assignments for the semester. It is subject to change with advance notice.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Jan 23	(Classes for the Spring semester begin on Thursday, January 23 <sup>rd</sup> )
2	Jan 27 Jan 29	Introduction to the course: What is Globalization? Core concepts, theories. Read Martell Introduction, ch. 1
3	Feb 3 Feb 5	Historical perspectives on globalization. Conquest, colonization. Read Martell, ch. 2
4	Feb 10 Feb 12	The post-World War 2 era; global economy. Read Martell, ch. 7; articles from Eitzen (Canvas).
5	Feb 17 Feb 19	World Systems; Free trade agreements. Globalization and culture. Read Martell, ch. 3
6	Feb 24 Feb 26	Globalization and culture continued. Read Martell, ch. 4; articles on Canvas
7	Mar 3 Mar 5	Currency devaluations, “3 <sup>rd</sup> world debt crisis” and Neoliberalism Read Martell, ch. 8; articles from Eitzen (Canvas) <b>Term Paper Topic forms due Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup></b>
8	Mar 10 Mar 12	The nation-state and globalization. Read Martell, ch. 9 <b>Begin Group Presentations (tentative)</b>
9	Mar 17 Mar 19	The nation-state and globalization cont’d Read articles (Canvas)
10	Mar 24 Mar 26	<b>Midterm: Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>Spring Break Mar 31 – Apr 4</b>
11	Apr 7 Apr 9	Population issues; global migration. Gender and family Read Martell, ch. 5; articles (Canvas)
12	Apr 14 Apr 16	Environment, food production Read articles (Canvas)
13	Apr 21 Apr 23	Environment, food production continued
14	Apr 28 Apr 30	Disease, Public health <b>Term Paper Rough Drafts Due Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup></b>
15	May 5 May 7	Indigenous peoples, human rights Read Martell, ch. 11; articles (Canvas) <b>Term Paper Final Drafts Due Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup></b>
16	May 12	Anti-Globalization movements; global futures. Read Martell, ch. 12 Wrap up final topics
		<i>The last day of classes for the spring semester is Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup></i>
Final Exam	May 20	<b>Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> 3:15 pm – 5:15 pm</b>