

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO—VALENCIA
SYLLABUS FOR INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (FALL 2023—ONLINE 16-WEEK)
SOCI 1110 SECTION 502 (3-CREDIT) / CRN 63800



Professor: Dr. Julia Wai-Yin So via Canvas (the best way to reach me)
Office drop-in hours: T/R: 1:00 – 1:30 PM @A-142-F (Office # 505-925-8567)
Zoom drop-in hours: T/R: 3:00 – 3:30 PM ([Zoom link](#))
Emergency contact: 505-925-8600 during regular office hours (MDT)

Table of Contents	
Course description	2
Required Materials	2
Learning Outcomes	2
Attendance Policy	3
Late Assignment	3
Code of Conduct	4
Grading Scheme	5
Course Schedule	6
Campus Resources	8
Free passes	11

Hi and Hello

I am your instructor for this course--Julia Wai-Yin So. Please call me Dr. So, although I am the kind of doctor that has no patients. I am of Chinese ancestry and my Chinese name is 蘇惠賢. The first character 蘇 (So) is my family name. It means mint as well as to revive.

The next two characters 惠賢 (Wai-Yin) are my first name which means intelligent and virtuous. Julia is my baptismal name. It means youthful. Do you know the meaning of your name?

A native of Hong Kong, I came to the U.S. in 1980. I first lived in Connecticut for two years and later in Texas for 26 years before moving to NM in 2008. Prior to migrating to the U.S., I had also lived in Japan and Ecuador for 6 and 2 years respectively.

When I was a community college student, I took an intro course in psychology and one in sociology. Fascinated with sociology, I moved on to earn my BA (graduated *summa cum laude*) and MA in sociology. My doctoral degree is in Political Economy and Public Policy which is a multi-disciplinary degree in political science, economics, and sociology. My dissertation compares the academic performance of four racial/ethnic groups of high school students with respect to their labor force participation.

Today, my primary interest remains in the academic performance of students, though focuses on college students. This passion drives my teaching philosophy which is to help students learn and cultivate a habit of critical thinking--an essential skill that helps you survive and thrive in today's society. In general, learning is about expanding our worldview and enriching our perspectives, not to mention improving the community we live in. It is an intellectual process that involves reading, writing, observing, discussing, and thinking critically. To reap the most benefits out of this course, I encourage you to reflect on your understanding of the course material as we examine the social world around us while applying the knowledge gained to your daily lives.

My role as your instructor is to facilitate your learning. As we learn together, I welcome you to share your experience with one another. How much you learn in this course depends on the amount of work you put into it; and hopefully, you will have fun while doing it. Enjoy the ride and not to worry too much about the grade. It is only one indicator of your course performance. It does not define who you are!

A statement of respect

I would like to express my commitment to be respectful to everyone in this class and to embrace equity, diversity, and inclusivity including gender and gender-identity, sexuality, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, and national origins. I would also like to ask everyone to do the same. Some topics that we will be discussing can be sensitive or embarrassing, and even emotional, especially when we are reminded of our own experiences. I would like to gently remind everyone that what is said in this course remains in the context of this class and is solely for the purpose of academic discourse and fostering a more inclusive learning environment. Thank you!

What is this course about?

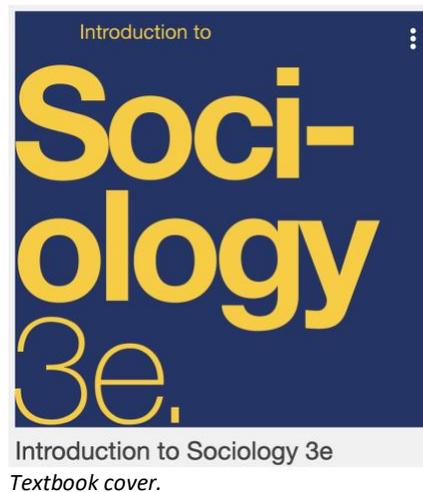
Reading and writing are needed in this **college course**. Designed to introduce you, the student, to the basic **concepts and theories of sociology**, as well as the **methods utilized in social research**, this course addresses how sociological concepts and theories can be utilized to analyze and interpret our social world and describes how profoundly **society and groups influence us**. Your taken-for-granted or common-sense understandings of society, social institutions, and social issues will be challenged. Special attention will be given to the intimate **connections between personal lives and the larger structural features of social life**. The implications of social inequalities, such as race/ethnicity, gender, social class, and intersectionality will also be discussed.

What are the required textbook & materials?

1. [Introduction to Sociology \(3rd ed\)](#). OpenStax College. 2021. This is an open-source textbook (i.e. it is free). The digital version is ISBN-13: 978-1-951693-36-7. Please scan the QR code or click at the book cover and the browser will take you to the publisher's website where you can download the textbook. If you prefer to purchase a paper version, you may order a copy at the same website.



Figure 1- Scan the QR Code to download the textbook



Textbook cover.

2. A [valid UNM email address](#) is required.
3. Individual personal account to access (a) [Films on Demand](#) from UNM-Valencia Library (login ID is Valencia1 and password is library) and (b) [Kanopy](#) (please contact Valencia Library @ 505-925-8990 to set up an individual account).
4. If you prefer keeping records of any hard copy for this course, please keep a one-inch 3-ring binder & one pack of 4-tab dividers to organize the syllabus, your notes, handouts, and assignments by 3 units.
5. If you prefer keeping electronic files of all the course materials, please create an e-folder for this course and three sub-folders with one sub-folder for each unit.
6. As an online course, all learning activities and assignment submissions will occur in Canvas. Please be sure you have **internet access** with **adequate Wifi-band**, so you can complete this course successfully.

What will I be learning?

At the end of the semester, when you do your part as a student, you will be able to:

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES ON CONTENT	COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES ON ESSENTIAL SKILLS ¹
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define sociological perspectives and the contributions that sociological knowledge can bring to the social sciences (CLO1) 2. Understand the sociological imagination and explain the relationships between social structures, social forces and individuals (CLO2) 3. Demonstrate the ability to apply the perspectives of symbolic interactionist theory, conflict theory, and structural-functionalist theory to qualitative and/or quantitative data (CLO3) 4. Understand and explain intersectionality and the connections between race, class, gender, disability, sexual identity and other forms of structural inequality (CLO4) <p>*Please be sure to download the three course maps for this course from the Resource Folder. They will help you to connect the learning materials with the learning outcomes of each module and unit.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Demonstrate clarity when you express yourself: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Clear verbal communication with peers & instructor. · Clear written communication in discussion boards & reflection learning journals. – Demonstrate your competence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Read & analyze reading assignment. · Evaluate & present arguments. II. Critical Thinking – demonstrate your competence in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem setting – identify a problem. • Evidence acquisition – collect data to describe the problem and to propose solutions to solving the problem. • Evidence evaluation – evaluate the data collected to substantiate your argument for a problem and your proposal to solve the problem. • Making an argument & drawing conclusion. III. Personal & Social Responsibility – demonstrate your competence in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intercultural understanding and competence • Explain & work with issues pertaining to human activities. • Ethical reasoning on human problems. • Teamwork & collaboration skills. • Civic knowledge, discourse & engagement.

A table showing the learning outcomes of the course

How should I behave in class?

Students are reminded to not engage in any behaviors that “affect adversely the University’s educational function...or...interfere with the rights of others to pursue their education, to

conduct their University duties and responsibilities or to participate in University activities” per [UNM policy](#).

¹ The three areas of essential skills are required by the Higher Education Department in New Mexico.

Mutual respect is highly encouraged and expected between students as well as between you and me, your professor.

In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty are considered “responsible employees” by UNM. This designation requires me to report to the Title IX Coordinator at the

Office of Equal Opportunity (oeo.unm.edu) at the UNM-Albuquerque Campus any gender discrimination disclosed to me. This includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct or sexual violence made to another student or a faculty member. Read more information on the [campus policy regarding sexual misconduct](#).

Academic Honesty includes being honest “in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done by you or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students” and **Plagiarism**—an academic theft. It is when you copy an idea or any text that is more than six words from any source, including the Internet or your friends, without citing the source. To avoid plagiarism, be sure to enclose whatever you copy in quotation marks and **cite the source**. According to UNM policy, any student suspected of academic dishonesty will be subject to the investigative and [disciplinary process of UNM](#).

I take academic honesty very seriously. When you behave otherwise, you will be dropped from the course and a report will be submitted to the Instruction Dean. The same report will be kept in the student’s academic file.



Why should I do my work?

Participating in class discussions and/or turning in assignments on time will help your understanding of course materials and thus ensure your success in this course. If you are on financial aid, passing this course will help you keep your future eligibility for financial aid. Submitting your completed assignments on time and participating in all the learning activities will definitely help.

Late Assignment

All assignments are due on Saturday at 11:59 PM. They have an automatic 24-hour extension. This means you have until 11:59 PM on Sunday to submit them with no penalty.

Where can I get IT help?

If you encounter IT related issues, please contact Valencia’s IT at 505-925-8911. You may visit the [Student Online Learning Resources](#) for additional information. For specific questions relating to *Canvas*, please call UNM-Albuquerque Campus at 505-277-5757 or visit [UNM Canvas](#).

What do we expect of each other?

This is a college course—it requires both reading writing, and critical thinking. If you dislike reading and/or writing, this is your opportunity to cultivate such habits. This course is also your opportunity to acquire the habit of being a critical thinker. Each week, you are required to read between 30 and 50 pages of reading assignments.

- Make an appointment with me in advance to reduce your waiting time at the student/Zoom drop-in hours.

YOU CAN EXPECT ME TO ...

- not accept work that is not typed.
- return all assignments in two weeks.

COMMUNICATION WITH ME

- The best way to reach me is via the email tool in Canvas. I will respond within one business day.



To excel in this class, I highly encourage you to follow the course schedule and do the work.

How is my work graded? A Roadmap to your Course Success

What suggestions would you give to future students to help them succeed in this course?

Keep up with the work. Dr. SD is not kidding when she says you'll pass if you show up and do your work!!

TO EXCEL IN THIS CLASS, I HIGHLY RECOMMEND YOU...

spend a minimum of nine hours per week on learning activities pertaining to this course. These activities include (1) completing the Team Learning Activities Sheet (Team LAS) with your assigned team,

(2) participating in the Course Discussions, and (3) submitting three journals. **I am unable to read hand-written assignments, please submit all works in typed format.**

3 Journals (individual learning)	300 (37%)
3 Discussions + self-introduction (team learning)	160 (20%)
<u>7 Team Learning Activities Sheet (individual + team learning)</u>	<u>350 (43%)</u>
Total	810 (100%)

The total earned grade will be weighted to a maximum of 100 points.

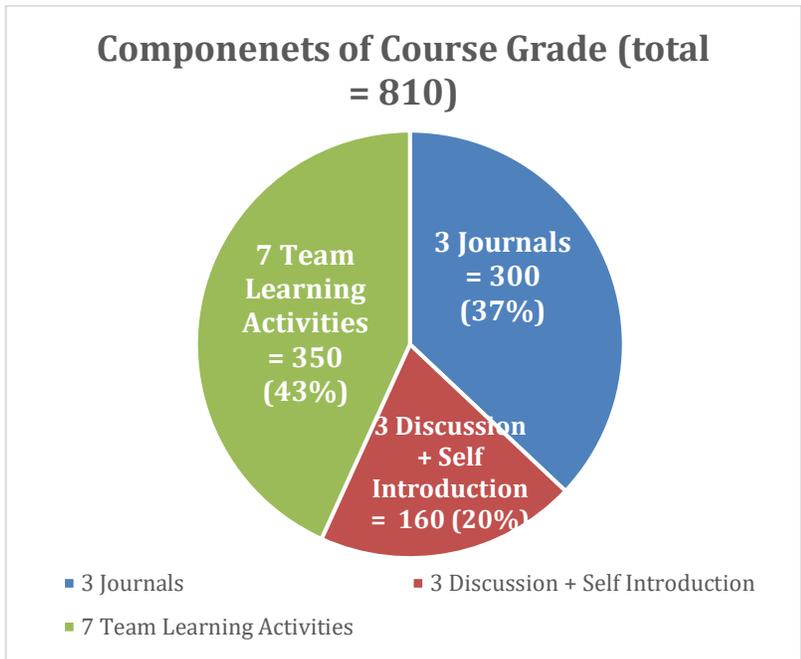


Figure 2: A pie chart showing the components of course grade.

*According to [the policy of Sociology Department](#), the passing grade of required sociology courses is a “C.” Students must complete all course requirements to earn credit for the course. Those who fail to complete the requirements will be assigned an “F”. To protect students’ privacy, grades will only be given out face to face. The final letter grade will be posted on LoboWeb. It is based on the following:

99 - 100	A+
90 – 98.9	A
87 – 89.9	B+
80 – 86.9	B
77 – 79.9	C+
<u>72 – 76.9</u>	<u>C*</u>
67 – 71.9	D+
60 – 66.9	D
Less than 60	F



Please note that any grade less than a 72 is a failing grade.

7 Team Learning Activities Sheet (Team LAS)--350 points

You will complete the assignment independently and discuss the answers with your assigned team to agree on the answers to the assignment. Team members will take turns typing the answers and submitting the assignments. You do not receive any credits for the Team LAS if you do not participate in the team discussion. if you submit your individual answers, you will receive half the credit of the TLAS submitted by your Team. Each Team LAS is worth 50 points. **The lowest grade of the first 7 Team LAS will be dropped. Team LAS 8 is mandatory.**

3 REFLECTION LEARNING JOURNALS (300 POINTS)

Instead of exams, three Reflection Learning Journals are required for this course—one for each unit. Each journal is worth 100 points. All journals require at least 1,000 words (about 4 pages with 12-point

font double-spacing) and address the questions on the assignment sheet. A grading matrix is provided for each journal.

3 DISCUSSION FORUMS: (160 POINTS)

We have a total of three Discussion Fora—one for each unit. Your participation in each Forum will earn you a maximum of 50 points. The topics on each forum are from the readings and/or videos assigned for the unit. For each posting, you earn a maximum of 30 points when you write at least 500 words responding to the questions I post (called the initial posting) and 20 points when you respond to two peers' posting—10 points for each 20-sentence response (called the response postings). All Discussion Fora are open at the beginning of each unit. A grading matrix is provided for each forum. Last but not least, before Friday 9/8/23 at 11:59 PM, please be sure to post a self-introduction to the entire class by 9/1/2023 at 11:59 PM and respond to two of your peers. The self-introduction posting is worth 10 points.

To learn about UNM's policy on netiquette, please click [Guidelines for group discussions](#):



Figure 3: Discuss Group

If UNM closes on the day of final exam because of inclement weather or other reasons, your final course grade will be calculated based on all work assessed up to that point during this semester. It includes the grades from: (1) 7 Team LAS, (2) 3 reflection learning journals, and (3) 3 discussion fora.

Course Schedule of Learning Activities

Unit I (Module 1 – 3): The Study of Society, Culture, Social Structure & Socialization

Wk	Date	Module	Ch	Topics/Assignments
1	8/21 (M)	1	1 2.1	First day of virtual class Log on to Canvas to find out your Team's name and its members Exchange contacts with your Team members and arrange a meeting date with all the Team members to work on all the Team LAS Bookmark the link to or download the open-sourced textbook. Download Team LAS 1 and begin working on it individually Download the Student Intake Form and complete the form
	8/26-8/27 (Sa – Su)			Complete & submit the Student Intake Form Schedule a 1:1 10-minute meet and greet with me before Census Day via Zoom
2	8/28 (M)			Begin completing Team LAS 1 with your team
	9/2 - 9/3 (Sa – Su)			Submit Team LAS 1– due by 11:59 PM Last day to submit Student In-take Form (5 pts extra credit toward Journal 1 when submit on time)
3	9/4 (M)		3	Labor Day – campus closed

	9/5 (Tu)	2	5.1 5.2	Culture Download Team LAS 2 and begin working on it individually
	9/8 (F)			Census Day – last day to drop without “W” grade
4	9/11(M)			Watch “Food Inc.” and participate in Discussion 1 Begin completing Team LAS 2 with your team
	9/16-9/17 (Sa – Su)			Submit Team LAS 2 in Canvas – due by 11:59 PM
5	9/18 (M)	3	4 6	Social Structure & Socialization Download Team LAS 3 and begin working on it individually
6	9/23 - 9/24 (Sa - Su)			Discussion 1 – due by 11:59 PM
	9/25 (M)			Begin completing Team LAS 3 with your team
	9/30-10/1 (Sa – Su)			Submit Team LAS 3 – due by 11:59 PM

Unit II (Module 4 – 6): Socialization & Social Institution

Wk	Date	Module	Ch	Topics/Assignments
7	10/2 (M)	4	5	Socialization Download Team LAS 4 and begin working on it individually
	10/7 – 10/8 (Sa – Su)			Submit Reflection Journal 1 – due by 11:59 PM
8	10/9 (M)			Begin completing Team LAS 4 with your team Watch “Raising Cain” and participate in Discussion 2
	10/12 & 10/13 (Th – Fri) UNM Fall Break (No class)			
	10/14–10/15 (Sa – Su)			Submit Team LAS 4 – due by 11:59 PM
9	10/16 (M)	5	14	Institution of Family Download Team LAS 5 and begin working on it individually
10	10/21- 10/22 (Sa - Su)			Discussion 2 – due by 11:59 PM
	10/23 (M)			Begin completing Team LAS 5 with your team
	10/28-10/29 (Sa - Su)			Submit Team LAS 5 – due by 11:59 PM
11	10/30 (M)	6	16 18.3	Institution of Education & Institution of Work Download Team LAS 6 and begin working on it individually
12	11/6 (M)			Begin completing Team LAS 6 with your team
	11/10 (F) Last day to withdraw <u>without</u> Dean’s permission on LoboWeb			
	11/11-11/12 (Sa - Su)			Submit Team LAS 6 – due by 11:59 PM

Unit III (Module 7 & 8): Social Inequality

Wk	Date	Module	Ch	Topics/Assignments
13	11/13 (M)	7	9	Social Stratification Download Team LAS 7 and begin working on it individually
	11/18-11/19 (Sa - Su)			Submit Reflection Journal 2 – due by 11:59 PM
14	11/20 (M)			Complete Team LAS 7 with your team Watch “Health and Inequality” and participate in Discussion 3
11/23 & 11/24 Thanksgiving Holiday				
15	11/25-11/26 (Sa - Su)	8		Submit Team LAS 7 – due by 11:59 PM
	11/27 (M)		11 12	Racial/Ethnic & Gender Inequality Download Team LAS 8 and begin working on it individually
16	12/2-12/3 (Sa - Su)			Discussion 3 – due by 11:59 PM
	12/4 (M)			Complete Team LAS 8 with your team
12/7 (R) -- Last day to withdraw <u>with</u> Dean’s permission form				
	12/9 -12/10 (Sa - Su)			Submit Team LAS 8 – due by 11:59 PM
	12/13 (W)			Submit Reflection Journal 3 - due by 11:59 PM

***Your Success in this Course Depends on YOU!
Your Success in Life Also Depends on YOU!***

Where can I get help?
(Info accessed from UNM-Valencia website on 8/20/2023)

VETERAN SUPPORT SERVICES: If you are a veteran, I strongly encourage you to **identify yourself to me**, especially if you seek awareness for or need accommodations. For additional assistance, please contact Joseph Burgess at 505-925-8568 or jburgess@unm.edu

SUPPORT SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DIFFERENT NEEDS: In accordance with [University Policy 2310](#) and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if you are a **student with documented physical or learning disability**, please contact me as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. If you have special need and require accommodation in the classroom or other academic settings, it is **your** responsibility to contact the [Office of Equal Access Services](#) at 505-925-8840.



Universal Design for Learning Principles (UDL)
To create a more inclusive learning environment, I try my best to employ Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles, which emphasize the use of multiple means of representation, expression and engagement during lesson development in order to effectively reach the widest possible number of students from the outset, rather than through individual "retrofits" of instruction and assessment.

Accommodation for Spiritual Tradition and/or Faith-based Observance

Please notify me of your obligations to spiritual tradition or faith affiliation. Reasonable accommodation for such observances, upon request in advance, will be considered.

Citizenship and/or Immigration Status: I

welcome all students in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status. I respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. As for all students in the class, family emergency-related absences are generally excused with reasonable notice to me, as noted in the attendance guidelines above. UNM has made a [core commitment](#) to the success of *all* our students, including members of our undocumented community.

Safe Zone Areas

Located throughout the campus, these Safe Zone areas offer a safe space for LGBTQI students to share a conversation. You are always welcome in my office.



I am an Ally of NM Dream Team



GENDER NEUTRAL RESTROOMS

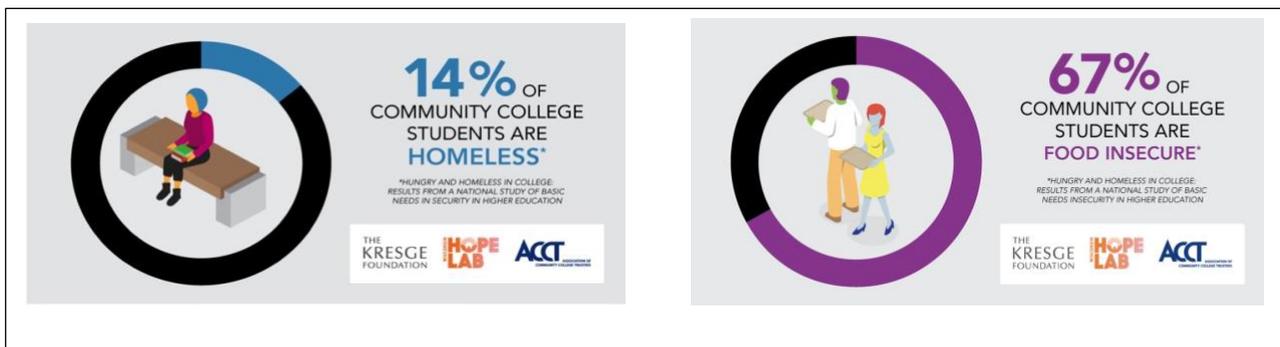
They are three: two are inside the Writing Center and the third one is next to the elevator between the Nursing Education Center and Student Community Center.



Door sign of a gender neutral restroom

Food and Housing Insecurity

If you have difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day or securing a safe and/or a stable place to live, please **contact PASOS Resource Center at PASOS@UNM.EDU or 505-925-8546** for support. Furthermore, if you feel comfortable letting me know of your situation, not only will I respect your privacy, but will also share any resources that I know of.



Course/Campus Resources:

Course/Campus Resources:

- [Campus Police](#): (505) 925-8570
- [Equal Access Services](#): (505) 925-840
- [Career Services](#): (505) 925-8840
- Veteran Support Services: 505-925-8568
- [Technology Support](#): (505) 925-8911
- [Testing Center](#): (505) 925-8560
- [The Learning Commons](#): tutor@unm.edu
- [Valencia Library](#): (text – 505-916-1647)
- Veteran Support Services: Joseph Burgess at 505-925-8568
- [The Wellness Center](#): (505) 925-8830
- [The Writing Center](#): (505) 925-8548
- Download LoboGuardian & be safe: <https://loboguardian.unm.edu/>
- Stressed? Call Agora Crisis Center at 505-277-3013 or 855-505-4505

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