

SOC150: Introduction to Sociology
@ CSUN w/ Ellis Godard
www.csun.edu/~egodard/150

Extra Credit Opportunity #4: Surveys

If you choose to complete this assignment, you will need to read the attached letter of invitation, complete the survey at the end, and answer questions about it below.

1. **Read the attached letter**, and let either myself or Dr. Carter know if you have any questions or concerns.
2. **Complete the survey**, for which you'll find the link in the letter. Be sure to take your time, not only to carefully and honestly answer the questions, but so that you can think critically about them for the writing portion that follows.
3. Once you have completed the survey, you will get a link to a new, *separate* survey where you will be able to **enter your name for extra credit**.
4. **Write a summary and critique** of the survey instrument, addressing the following issues and labeling each one clearly so I can find them ("a", "b", etc.):
 - a. What is the topic of the survey, and what sorts of things does it measure?
 - b. What measurements about that topic are *not* included, and what can you say about them? For example, are they not appropriate for surveys, are they ethically problematic, or are they simply not included? What answers would you expect those measures to generate?
 - c. What other, demographic questions are measured, to help the researcher explore and understand differences among the respondents in terms of their answers to the questions above?
 - d. What demographic measures are *not* included that you think might be related to the topic and therefore would have been worth exploring?
 - e. What differences, across those demographic measures, do *you expect* the researcher will find in the measures about the topic?
 - f. Do you have any methodological concerns about the survey (such as those raised in readings and lecture, which might include reliability, validity, clarity of measures, and response rates) – or, if not, in what ways do you think that the survey instrument effectively addresses those concerns?
 - g. Do you have any broader sociological concerns about the survey design?
5. Submit your summary and critique, of not more than two pages (typed, double-spaced, 11-point font, 1" margins, no kerning or other weird tricks), via the TurnItIn link available on Moodle. Submissions will NOT be accepted late.

Up to 2% will be added to your grade, inclusive of

- a. up to 1% for the amount of *effort* in considerations about the survey;
- b. up to 1% for the degree of sociological *acumen* incorporate in your critique.

Looking for Volunteers to Participate in Identity Study!

Greetings! I am a sociology professor at California State University, Northridge. I would like to invite you to participate in a study I am conducting about identity processes. Participating in the study involves completing an online survey that asks questions about the way people view themselves and others, and how they may have changed as a person over time. By participating in the study you will be helping to further knowledge about how identities operate to influence behavior and emotions. Your participation will earn extra credit toward your final course grade in your sociology class.

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. You must be at least 18 years of age or older to participate. The survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes of your time. The survey is anonymous, and no information will be collected that can directly link the data back to you as a study participant. This study involves no more than minimal risk. There are no known harms or discomforts associated with this study beyond those encountered in normal daily life.

Please follow the link below to participate in the study and complete the survey. By selecting the link you agree that you have read this email and understand the purpose and risks of the study.

If you have concerns or complaints about the research study, research team, or questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact me or Research and Sponsored Projects, 18111 Nordhoff Street, California State University, Northridge, Northridge, CA 91330-8232, or phone 818-677-2901. You also may contact CSUN's Student Counseling Services at (818) 677-2366 if you need additional assistance.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5KHP88X>

Thank you for your assistance in the study!

Michael J. Carter, Ph.D.
Department of Sociology
18111 Nordhoff St.
Northridge, CA 91330-8318
818-677-5904
michael.carter@csun.edu