

Sociology 496SC

Sociology Experience

Spring 2012

Course Syllabus

moodle.csun.edu/soc496SC-18791-sp12

Professor Jerald Schutte

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This three-unit 496SC class meets Friday morning from 11:00-1:45 pm in SH391. It is intended to be a capstone experience in this major. The format will be largely discussion, including six assignments cumulating in a written report, designed to help you critically analyze your undergraduate experience in Sociology and to assess what that experience means in the job market. Class will meet the first week weeks of the semester and thereafter every other week. Chat based communication will be utilized during alternate weeks. Office hours will be held Fridays at 2:00 pm and Friday / Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. SH180 (x4049). There are no textbooks for this class but there is one reference book. It is The American Occupational Structure, by Blau and Duncan. In addition, each assignment will involve several web based references. Grades are based on seven “mini papers”. Plus-Minus grading will be used.

Week	Topic	Date
1	Introduction and orientation Take role, distribute material, discuss assignments, Collect information, orient communication	January 27th
2	Sociology Labor Market Assessment Assessment of Sociology as a job market; trends, sources of information and resources	February 3rd
3	No class meeting – Project One – Data Collection Access web sites, periodicals, books and data sources To compile a graph of sociology employment base	February 7nd
4	Assessing your Sociological Knowledge and Skills Discuss and develop techniques for identifying Personal inventory of classes skill sets and abilities	February 10th
5	No class meeting – Project Two – Data Collection Compile list of courses taken; content analyse for Skills; relate to job classes identified in #3 above	February 17th
6	Researching Career Paths Develop techniques for gathering information via Interviews, questionnaires and focus groups.	February 24th
7	No class meeting – Project Three – Data Collection Collate the information from your questionnaires and interviews and develop job search strategy	March 2nd
8	Collecting Your Thoughts and Preparing a Resume Discussion of the form and function of a resume. Review handouts of sample forms and their impact	March 9th

Week	Topic	Date
9	No class meeting - Project Four – Writing Exercise Writing project including a specimen resume for each job category. Posting online for discussion	March 16th
10	Applying for the job Collaboration on strategies for submitting resumes And booking interviews. Emphasis on access.	March 23th
11	No class meeting – Project Five – Making Contact Exercise in actual submission if resumes and contact With at least three organizations	March 30th
12	Going on the Interviews Discourse on best tips for interviewing; role playing With critical discussion following.	April 13th
13	No class meeting – Project Six – Doing Interviews Engage in three job interviews. Written assessment Of the process and personal prospects.	April 20th
14	Summing up the Experience and Assessing the Future Review and discussion of experiences; analysis of Principals / prospects for yours and discipline's future	April 27th
15	No class meeting – Project Seven final write-ups Time spent on formal report summarizing the Previous six assignments.	May 4th
16	Final Project Seven Reports Due in Class Project turned in to Professor in class	May 11th

Student Questionnaire - Sociology 498

Your Name: _____

Your Student ID number: _____

Your email address: _____

Your Age: _____

Your Ethnicity: _____

How many hours per week do you work: _____

One-way miles commute to CSUN: _____

Do you have access to a computer: _____

Have you ever used: Email: _____ Blogs: _____ Chat: _____

Your Year in School: _____

Number of Units: left to Graduate _____

Your Favorite Sociology Class:: _____

Why is it your favorite?: _____

Current employed as?: _____

Employment plans after graduation: _____
