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

Department of Sociology **capayne@ucsd.edu**

Winter 2025

**Tu/Th 2-3:20 pm PST**

**Tuesdays: In-Person** **Instruction** **in** **Podemos 1A20**

**Thursdays:** **Synchronous Online Instruction**

**Thursday Synchronous Zoom Link**: [**https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/94203686763**](https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/94203686763)

**Exceptions:**

***In-Person* Thursday January 9th (Week 1) & Thursday March 13th (Week 10)**

**Professor Payne’s Weekly Online Office Hours**: **Fridays** **10 am – 12 pm PST**

**Professor Payne’s Office Hours Link**: [**https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/94203686763**](https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/94203686763)

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# **SOCI 148 – *Political Sociology***

What does it mean to talk about politics? What does ‘the political’ designate? What is the relationship between ‘the political’ sphere and individual people, collective groups, and other social institutions? How, and on what basis, is political authority organized? Who makes political decisions? On what basis are political beliefs, behaviors, and systems critiqued, challenged, or radically reconfigured? How do different forms of political organization, decision making, and values serve to cultivate or curtail the attainment of justice, equality, and freedom? These are central questions that a critical sociological approach to the political aims to address and which we will be investigating across our ten weeks together.

This course approaches political ideas and practices in light of central sociological concepts including class, race, and gender. The course takes an explicitly critical approach in the sense of not taking concepts, ideas, or practices – political or otherwise – for granted. Our aim will be to explore the social and historical roots of political theories and practices in order that we may all contribute to more informed reflection and practice as political actors in 2025 and beyond.

# **Student Learning Objectives**

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

* Develop and deploy a critical sociological perspective; more specifically, understand and apply major critical sociological concepts – including class, race, and gender - as they relate to the knowledge and practice of politics broadly conceived;
* Reflect upon the strengths and weaknesses of different political structures and philosophies of political organization, particularly as these different structures relate to the enhancement or diminishment of individual and collective rights and responsibilities;
* Recognize and reflect upon various principles of political authority and decision-making;
* Critically consider the interdependent relationships between politics and economics; investigate the significance of the concept ‘political-economy’;
* Evaluate the role of politics in relation to questions of individual and collective autonomy and integrity; investigate the significance of the concept of ‘biopolitics;’
* Identify and communicate interesting aspects of, or illuminating relations between, theoretical concepts and empirical applications;
* Critique key political concepts and claims, evaluating their capabilities and limitations;
* Write short and long essays with organized, well-supported arguments;
* Identify potential interventions or transformations aimed at addressing issues of human freedom, equity, justice, and well-being.

# **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 or by appointment.

# **Office Hours**

Professor Payne’s Weekly Online Office Hours: **Fridays** **10 am - 12 pm PST**

Office Hours Link: [**https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/94203686763**](https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/94203686763)

# **Readings and Lecture Notes**

Weekly course readings and weekly lecture notes are housed in associated weekly folder 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**)
* Thursday 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

# **Coursework & Grading**

The final course grade for SOCI 148 is calculated out of **1000 points**.

Details of each graded component will be covered in lecture.

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.**

**Tuesday of Weeks 2-4; 6-8**

1. **In-Class Midterm 1 (300 points)**

Consists of **one essay covering Weeks 1-4.**

**Tuesday February 4th**

1. **In-Class Midterm 2 (300 points)**

Consists of **key concept explanations w/ examples covering Weeks 1-8.**

**Tuesday March 4th**

1. **In-Class Final Exam (250 points)**

Consists of Two Parts:

**One essay covering weeks 5-10**

**One comprehensive essay, analyzing materials across the quarter.**

**Thursday March 20th 3-6 pm PST**

# **Assignment Policies**

* **No Make-Up Reading Quizzes – Two Lowest Scores Dropped.**
* **No Unauthorized Make-Ups for In-Class Midterms.\*\***
* **No Make-Up/Reschedules of Final Exam.**
* **No Retakes/Resubmissions of Graded Work.**
* **No Work Accepted Past Last Day of Regular Class – Fri. March 14th.**
* **Excepting Clerical Errors, No Grade Adjustments Made After Final Exam Due Date – Thursday March 20th.**

**\*\* 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 148 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)**

**Complete Readings Prior Lecture**

**Page numbers Refer to Pages In Readings** – *not* the page numbers across tops of pdfs.

**Full Bibliography Available at Bottom of Syllabus**

**Week One**

***Power – What Is It? Who Has It? Why? To What Ends? Or, What is the Matter Politically?***

* **Tues. – Parenti –** *Black Shirts & Reds* **Chapter 1:** *Rational Fascism* **pp. 1-22**

**Tourish - *It is Time to Use the F Word About Trump: Fascism, Populism and the Rebirth of History***

* **Thurs. (In-Class Thursday January 9th)**

**Plato** – *Republic*: **Books II, IV**

**Week Two**

***Organization of Governance or, The Roles of Ruling and the Rules of Roles\***

**Reading Quiz #1 Tuesday January 14th (Plato)**

* **Tues. - Plato** – *Republic*: **Books VI-VIII**
* **Thurs. (Synchronous Zoom Lectures Begin) - Locke –** *Second Treatise of Government*: **Books I-V, IX**

**Week Three**

***Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité or, Emancipation of Some as “All”***

**Reading Quiz #2 Tuesday January 21st (Locke)**

* **Tues. & Thurs. – Locke –** *Second Treatise of Government*: **Books XI-XIII, XVIII-XIX**

***Declaration of Independence***

**Week Four**

***Civil and Political Spheres or, Why Political-Economy is One Word***

**Reading Quiz #3 Tuesday January 28th (Marx)**

* **Tues. & Thurs. – Marx** – “On the Jewish Question” **pp. 26-46**

**Center for American Progress**

*Frequently Asked Questions About Project 2025*

*Project 2025 Would Destroy the U.S. System of Checks and Balances and Create an Imperial Presidency*

**Week Five**

***Midterm #1 – Essay***

* **In-Class Midterm #1: Tuesday February 4th**
* **Thurs. – Davis** – *Women, Race, & Class*

**Chapter 5:** *The Meaning of Emancipation According to Black Women*

**Chapter 7:** *Woman Suffrage at the Turn of the Century: The Rising Influence of Racism*

**Week Six**

***Intersectionality or, Why “Identity Politics” is Redundant, Not Reductive***

**Reading Quiz #4 Tuesday February 11th (Davis/Duggan)**

* **Tues. – Duggan** *- The Twilight of Equality?*

**Introduction & Chapter 1 –** *Downsizing Democracy*: **pp. IX-21**

* **Thurs. – Cooper** – *Family Values*

**Chapter 2** – *The Moral Crisis of Inflation: Neoliberalism, Neoconservatism, and the Demise of the Family Wage:* **pp. 46-63**

**Week Seven**

***Democratic Unfreedom, or The Refusal of False Choices as Realism***

**Reading Quiz #5 Tuesday February 18th (Cooper)**

* **Tues. Cooper cont.**
* **Thurs. – Marcuse** – *One-Dimensional Man*

**Chapter 1 –** ‘The New Forms of Social Control’ **pp. 3-20**

**Optional Documentary**

***Herbert’s Hippopotamus: Marcuse and Revolution in Paradise*** (1996)

Director: Paul Alexander Juutilainen

**Week Eight**

***Biopolitics, or Producing Matter that Matters***

**Reading Quiz #6 Tuesday February 25th (Marcuse; Foucault)**

* **Tues & Thurs.** - **Foucault** – *Society Must Be Defended* **Part 11: pp. 239-263**

**Week Nine**

***Midterm #2 – Key Concepts***

* **In-Class Midterm #2: Tuesday March 4th**
* **Thurs. – Marx -** “The Realm of Necessity and the Realm of Freedom” **Pp. 957-959**

**Week Ten**

***What Could Be? Or, It Isn’t Just ‘The Way It Is’***

* **Tues. & Thurs (In-Class Thursday March 13th)**

**Brown –** *In the Ruins of Neoliberalism*

**Ch. 5 -** “No Future for White Men: Nihilism, Fatalism, and Ressentiment” **pp. 161-188**

**In-Class Final Exam: Thursday March 20th 3-6 pm PST**



# **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)

**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)

**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)

**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.

**SOCI 148 Course Readings Bibliography (By Week)**

* **Parenti**, Michael – *Blackshirts & Reds: Rational Fascism and the Overthrow of Communism* (1997) City Lights Books.
* **Tourish**, Dennis (2024) - “It is Time to Use the F word About Trump: Fascism, Populism and the Rebirth of History” in Leadership Vol. 20(1). Pp. 9-32.
* **Plato** – *Republic* (2004 [375 BCE]) trans. C.D.C. Reeve. Hackett Publishing.
* **Locke**, John – *Second Treatise of Government* (1980[1690]) Hackett Publishing.
* **Marx**, Karl – “On the Jewish Question” in *The* *Marx-Engels Reader* (1978[1843/1844]) W.W. Norton & Company.
* **Davis**, Angela Y. – *Women, Race, & Class* (1981[1983]) Vintage Books.
* **Duggan**, Lisa – *The Twilight of Equality? Neoliberalism, Cultural Politics, and the Attack on Democracy.* (2003) Beacon Publishing.
* **Cooper,** Melinda – *Family Values: Between Neoliberalism and the New Social Conservatism*. (2017) Zone Books.
* **Marcuse**, Herbert – *One-Dimensional Man: Studies in the Ideology of Advanced Industrial Society*. (1964) Beacon Press.
* **Foucault**, Michel – *Society Must Be Defended: Lectures at the Collège de France*, 1975-1976 (2003[1976]) Trans. David Macey. Picador Books.
* **Marx**, Karl. “The Realm of Necessity and the Realm of Freedom” in *Capital Volume III* 1991 [1894] Penguin Books.
* **Brown**, Wendy – *In the Ruins of Neoliberalism: The Rise of Antidemocratic Politics in the West*. (2019). Columbia University of Press.