# Course Syllabus





## **CRD-157: Politics & Community Development**

CRN: 52148

Tuesdays/Thursdays 10 am - 11:50 am

Wellman 202

Fall 2023

#### **Professor**

Dr. Clare Cannon; Email: <a href="mailto:ccannon@ucdavis.edu">cebcannon@ucdavis.edu</a> (mailto:ccannon@utulane.edu)

website: <a href="https://clarecannon.ucdavis.edu">https://clarecannon.ucdavis.edu</a>)

Office hours: Tuesdays 2-3 pm PST & by appointment by Zoom or In-person in Hart 2311; use this <u>link</u> (https://calendly.com/cebcannon/student-meetings) to reserve a time.

### **Teaching Assistants**

Alex Volzer; email: <a href="mailto:avolzer@ucdavis.edu">avolzer@ucdavis.edu</a>;)

**Office hours:** TBD, appointment; Zoom Personal Meeting Room:

<u>https://ucdavis.zoom.us/j/8830710529</u> <u>⇒ (https://ucdavis.zoom.us/j/8830710529)</u>

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A guiding question throughout the semester for this course will be: In what ways can study of interlocking social, political, economic, and environmental forces bolster our understandings of issues of injustice and inequalities?

To answer this question and ones like it, we will analyze key relationships among political, economic, sociocultural and environmental forces shaping the form and function of local communities in the U.S. and globally. To this end, we will carefully examine theories of the state, the community and social change and accompanying methodologies to more fully understand social contexts and structures in which we are embedded. This course covers an extensive array of theories and practices within sociology, political economy, environmental studies, and social and political theory more broadly.

Bolstering our understanding, we will engage case studies of community development through local and global perspectives.

As we move through foundational thinkers, Marx, Weber, Durkheim and contemporary work in the field (e.g. Foster, Freudenburg, and Bullard), we will investigate key concepts, such as what constitutes environment-social interactions, what is sustainability, how are social inequalities created and sustained across regional differences. Furthermore, we will seek connections between political, sociocultural, economic, and environmental forces and other critical concerns across race, class, gender, and resulting inequalities. To achieve this understanding, we will look at the political, economic, ecological, and social justice aspects of environment-society interactions across case studies of community development. This course provides students with the conceptual tools for work in politics and community development and to make connections across this field to other critical forms of knowledge production.

#### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1. Gain insights into community development and social-environmental interactions.
- Assessed through participation and discussion leadership.
- apply knowledge and skills of major theoretical frameworks and key issues in community development.
- · Assessed through quizzes and exam.
- 3. Increase familiarity with theoretical and empirical insights from sociology, environmental studies, and development literatures that inform nature-society interactions. Improve understanding of basic scientific principles, methods, and analysis.
- Assessed through in-class activities in which students bring relevant sources to share and advance their understanding of key issues in community development.
- 4. Generate an ability to understand complex and overlapping worldwide systems, including natural and human systems.
- Assessed through students experiential collaborative learning, specifically through in-class participation, in-class activities, and leading group discussions.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- 1. To generate a critical awareness of issues of political, sociocultural, economic, and environmental forces and how they relate to community development processes at the micro, mezzo, and macro level of analyses.
- 2. To build skills in synthesizing information, theoretical frameworks, and diverse array of methods in creative and beneficial ways.
- 3. To expand an understanding of macro-social theories and how they relate to social and environmental dynamics, problems, and solutions.
- 4. To develop an awareness of global systems, how they are constructed, affect human and environmental systems, operate with differential consequences, and have implications for their field

of study.

#### PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course addresses the following program outcomes (see for more details <u>CRD Majors</u> (<a href="https://www.ucdavis.edu/majors/community-and-regional-development/">https://www.ucdavis.edu/majors/community-and-regional-development/</a>)

- 1. Students will be able to utilize social scientific methods and apply them collaboratively to the study of human behavior, organizational processes, and institutional processes.
- 2. Students will be able to analyze complex problems that transcend borders using interdisciplinary theories and concepts of the social sciences.
- 3. Students will develop a diverse and critical awareness, which they can apply to texts in order to develop skills of critical consumption of knowledge.
- 4. Students will develop awareness of global systems, which they can apply to real world problems on a global scale.

GE Credits: ACGH, DD, SS, WE

#### **GRADING & EVALUATION**

Attendance & Participation through Journal Reflections (50 points; 20%): Participation has a variety of dimensions, contributing meaningfully to class conversation, listening respectfully to others, and not distracting others with computer use or other behavior. It is important that you come to class and participate. In case of emergencies (such as health, family, etc.) please notify the instructor ahead of time. After three unexcused absences, every resulting class missed will correspond with a drop in letter grade. Class participation is vital to developing your understanding of these complex ideas. This participation is assessed through weekly 1-paragraph reflection journals. These reflection journals are due each week through the Canvas portal and are worth 5 points each. These reflection journals are an opportunity for you to make connections with the course material and your own interests as well as let the instructional team know how the course is going. Full points will be awarded for submitting the paragraph.

<u>Critical Conversations: An "in-class" Activity (100 points; 40%)</u> Students will bring at least one outside, relevant resource, such as a newspaper article (e.g. from The Guardian, Nola.com, The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, etc.), media clip (e.g. from NPR, podcasts, Youtube, etc.), and/or academic article to each class starting in Week 1 through Week 10.

- Students will turn in a total of 10 "in-class" activities.
- We will take time in class to break into small groups and read/watch/listen this additional resource and discuss it. Please be prepared to discuss the following questions:
  - Where does your resource come from?
  - Why did you choose this resource?
  - Identify multiple perspectives pertaining to the problem
  - Analyze these multiple perspectives
  - Integrate multiple perspectives through group work

- Demonstrate knowledge of issues and systems influencing the problem
- Evaluate differing interpretations of the problem using theories and methods learned in the course
- Due the following Saturday, please prepare a 2-page, double-spaced report of your analyses, about your source, the conversation based on the above questions, how it relates to the theme of the week and the course as a whole. This will be submitted through the Canvas portal each week's module.
- This assignment provides you with opportunities to make connections across the themes and topics we address in class with real world events and processes of interest to you.
- By sharing our resources, we will be able to extend one another's understanding of environmentalsocial interactions, politics, and community development.
- Your work will be assessed using the rubric on our Canvas site. Please review before the assignment is submitted.

<u>Weekly Quizzes (100 points; 40%):</u> There are ten quizzes in this course, each worth 10 points. You may take the quiz as many times as you want to. You will need to score a 8/10 on the quiz before proceeding to the next module.

<u>Final Exam (50 points; )</u> There is one final exam for this course. It will cover material throughout the course and may be comprised of weekly quiz questions. The final exam is December 14, 2023 at 8 am.

**Grading.** Grades are determined on a traditional academic scale.

**Required class materials.** Note: All reading course materials will be available through our course canvas site or available for download using the University's library website including selected chapters from Gould, Kenneth and Tammy Lewis. 2014. *Twenty Lessons in Environmental Sociology*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. New York: Oxford University Press.

A note on media: I use short and longer films in the course materials. I intend to use closed captioning for these media when available. [If I forget, please remind me.]

#### **GENERAL COURSE POLICIES**

**Use of telephones is strictly forbidden in class.** You may use your laptop computers to take notes and look at articles <u>only</u>. If the use of laptop computers becomes distracting, then they will no longer be allowed in class. See this article on the perils of multitasking.

Ophir, E., Nass, C., & Wagner, A. D. (2009). Cognitive control in media multitaskers. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 106(37), 15583-15587.

**Email responses.** I will do my best to respond to your emails within 48 hours of receiving them. However, make sure that if an issue does arise that you let me know as soon as you can so that we may

plan accordingly. When emailing the TA or Instructor, please include the course number (CRD157) in the subject line.

**Community expectations.** This class is a community of learning and will function best when we all agree and abide by principles of reciprocity, fairness, compassion, and collaboration. The following are some good guidelines on how to support one another in the classroom.

<u>Pro-active approach to micro-aggressions:</u> Microagressions are a form of systemic everyday symbolic violence, such as daily, intentional or unintentional, verbal, behavioral, and environmental indignities. They can be layered assaults that include insults or judgements related to race, ethnicity, citizenship, gender sexual orientation, age, type of college (4-year vs. transfer student), immigration status, language, disability, socioeconomic status, and religion. Microagressions found in classrooms and other educational settings can have a psychological, academic, and physical toll on those who experience them. To foster safe learning environment for all those in this learning community, please:

- Intentional: Be intentional about creating space where all feel safe, supported, and encouraged to ask questions and participate.
- Respect: be respectful of classmates, professor, guests throughout all class activities.
- Nonjudgemental approach: disagreement without putting other people down
- Openness: avoid assuming and assigning intentions, beliefs, or motives to others.
- Assumptions: Do not assume that all are familiar with U.S. or others cultures; do not make
  assumption about gender, race, ethnic background, religion, etc. when presenting material, asking for
  opinions, or making a commentary
- Resourcefulness: Always feel free to seek assistance or advice from on-campus resources (a non-exhaustive resource list prepared by CEE is attached)

Information on microagressions (https://cee.ucdavis.edu/resources/jitt/microaggressions-and-microaffirmations-series) adapted from UCD Center for Educational Effectiveness. For more information on implicit bias see <a href="Project Implicit">Project Implicit</a> (https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit) (Harvard University). If you ever want or need to discuss the occurrence of microagressions in class please contact the instruction team so that they can respond appropriately to ensure a safe learning environment for all.

#### **UNIVERSITY POLICIES & RESOURCES**

Americans with Disabilities Act for Students with Special Needs Statement. Any students with disabilities or other special needs, who need special accommodations in this course, are invited to share these concerns or requests with the instructor and contact UC Davis Student Disability Center for disability access: <a href="https://sdc.ucdavis.edu/">https://sdc.ucdavis.edu/</a> (<a href="https://sdc.ucdavis.edu/">https://sdc.ucdavis.edu/</a>). Students who have, or suspect they may have, a disability should seek services through Disability Services. Students must be registered with Disability Services and receive written authorization to obtain disability-related accommodations.

**Code of Academic Conduct.** The Code of Academic Conduct applies to all undergraduate students, full-time, and part-time, at UC Davis. UC Davis expects and requires behavior compatible with its high

standards of scholarship. By accepting admission to the university, a student accepts its regulations (i.e., Code of Academic Conduct (http://sja.ucdavis.edu/files/cac.pdf).): and acknowledges the right of the university to take disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion, for conduct judged unsatisfactory or disruptive. Please note all students must acknowledge their classroom responsibilities by going to <a href="https://participate.ucdavis.edu/">https://participate.ucdavis.edu/</a> (https://participate.ucdavis.edu/) no later than the quarter add deadline.

**Plagiarism.** With all the materials that you use, be sure to cite the source. Note that plagiarism includes the direct lifting of text and re-stating of arguments without citation from texts in any language, not just English. If you use a website, include the URL and the date you accessed it. Cutting and pasting from a website that is not acknowledged is plagiarism. Students caught plagiarizing will be referred to Student Judicial Affairs and receive a "zero" for the assignment. For additional information on what constitutes plagiarism, go to: http://sja.ucdavis.edu/files/plagiarism.pdf.

**Title IX.** Title IX prohibits gender discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you have experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence, you can receive confidential support and advocacy from the Center for Advocacy, Resources, and Education (CARE) at ucdcare@ucdavis.edu or 530.752.3299. In addition, Student Health and Counseling Services (SHCS) provides confidential counseling to all students and can be reached 24/7 at 530.752.2349. You can also report sexual violence or sexual harassment directly to the University's Title IX Coordinator at wjdelmendo@ucdavis.edu or 530.752.9466. Reports to law enforcement can be made to the UCD Police Department at 530.752.2677. More information on UC Davis sexual violence prevention and response resources can be found at http://sexualviolence.ucdavis.edu/.

**Mandatory Reporting.** Faculty and TAs are required under the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment to inform the Title IX Coordinator should they become aware that you or any other student has experienced sexual violence or sexual harassment. There are other confidential and anonymous resources for you if you do not want your experience to be mandatorily reported. Please see Resources for UC Davis students on our Canvas course site.

**Land Acknowledgement.** We should take a moment to acknowledge the land on which we are gathered. For thousands of years, this land has been the home of Patwin people. Today, there are three federally recognized Patwin tribes: Cachil DeHe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community, Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation, and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.

The Patwin people have remained committed to the stewardship of this land over many centuries. It has been cherished and protected, as elders have instructed the young through generations. We are honored and grateful to be here today on their traditional lands. For more information, see <a href="https://diversity.ucdavis.edu/land-acknowledgement-statement">https://diversity.ucdavis.edu/land-acknowledgement-statement</a>).

**Statement on Diversity, Equity, & Justice.** Diversity is a necessary and important aspect of social and biophysical life. Diversity is multi-dimensional and occurs across a spectrum of different social locations (i.e., race/ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, documentation status, disability, etc.), cultures,

experiences, learning styles, and knowledges. Together we must create a safe, inclusive, and equitable learning community for all our members. Doing so advances our own knowledge and expresses our care and respect for one another. Through an active engagement with course materials and with your own experiences and perspectives, we will learn more about how diversity increases our own awareness and knowledge around major course themes. Creating this learning community of care is an important strategy in implementing our <a href="https://doi.org/10.2007/JCC

(<a href="https://diversity.ucdavis.edu/principles-community">https://diversity.ucdavis.edu/principles-community</a>). To this end, we endeavor to make course materials and inclusive to all students. suggestions to increase access and inclusion of course materials and activities are encouraged and appreciated. We work for equity and justice in our teaching and research.

### Resources for UC Davis Students.

(https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/479517/files/9553376/download?wrap=1) (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/479517/files/9553376/download?download\_frd=1) This list is prepared by the Center for Educational Effectiveness.

Wellness statement. Academic life can be overwhelming at times, but know that you are not alone if you're feeling stressed. For many of us, systems of oppression such as racism, sexism, heterosexism or cissexism, document status, may cause additional stress. Please remember to practice self-care and reach out for support if and when you need it. You can also visit <a href="Virtual UC Davis">Virtual UC Davis</a> (<a href="https://studentaffairs.ucdavis.edu/virtual-ucdavis">https://studentaffairs.ucdavis.edu/virtual-ucdavis</a>) to find resources related to health and well-being, academics, basic needs (food and housing) and more

# Course Summary:

Date	Details Due
Tue Sep 6, 2022	Quiz 1 due by 8:30am (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106960)
Tue Oct 4, 2022	Quiz 2 due by 8:30am (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106961)
	Quiz 2 due by 10:30am (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106941)
Thu Oct 6, 2022	Carbon Footprint (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106942)
Tue Oct 25, 2022	Extra Credit: FEEDBACK (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106928)

Date	Details Due
Mon Oct 31, 2022	Final Exam due by 10:30am (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106956)
	ONLINE Final Exam (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106939)
Sat Jun 17, 2023	Week 2: Reflection Journal due by 11:59pm (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106964)
Sat Sep 30, 2023	Week 1: Reflection Paragraph (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106963)
Sat Oct 7, 2023	Week 1 Quiz (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106931)
	Critical Conversations 1 (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106943)
	Week 2: Reflection Paragraph (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106992)
Sat Oct 14, 2023	Week 3 Quiz (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106934)
	Critical Conversations 2  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106945)
	Week 3: Reflection Paragraph  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106965)
Sat Oct 21, 2023	Week 4 Quiz (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106929)
	Critical Conversations 3  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106946)
	Week 4: Reflection Paragraph (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106966)
Sat Oct 28, 2023	

Date	Details	Due
	Critical Conversations 4 due by (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106947)	11:59pm
	₩eek 5: Reflection Paragraph due by (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106967)	11:59pm
Sat Nov 4, 2023	Week 6 Quiz due by <a href="https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106932">https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106932</a>	11:59pm
	Critical Conversations 5  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106948)	11:59pm
	Week 6: Reflection Paragraph  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106968)	11:59pm
Sat Nov 11, 2023	Week 7 Quiz  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106933)	11:59pm
	Critical Conversations 6  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106949)	11:59pm
	Week 7: Reflection Paragraph  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106969)	11:59pm
Sat Nov 18, 2023	Week 8 Quiz due by      (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106937)	11:59pm
	Critical Conversations 7 (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106950)	11:59pm
		11:59pm
Sat Nov 25, 2023		11:59pm
	☐ Critical Conversations 8  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106951)  ☐ Critical Conversations 8  [https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106951]  ☐ Critical Conversations 8  ☐ Critical	
	₩eek 9: Reflection Paragraph (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106971)	

Date	Details Due
	Week 10 Quiz (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106936)
Sat Dec 2, 2023	Critical Conversations 9 (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106952)
	Week 10: Reflection Paragraph (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106972)
Sat Dec 9, 2023	Week 11 Quiz (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106940)
	Critical Conversations 10 (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106944)
	Week 11: Reflection Paragraph (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106962)
	Energy (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106953)
	External Lecture for Extra  Credit  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106954)
	Final Attendance and  Participation Grade  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106955)
	Group Discussion Leader (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106957)
	Group led Discussion:  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106958)
	Necessary for Canvas to  calculate extra credit points  (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106959)
	Peer Assignment (https://canvas.ucdavis.edu/courses/812870/assignments/1106938)