



## COLLEGE of SOCIAL AND APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES

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COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
**WINTER 2024**

### **SOC\*4430: Alternative Social Possibilities**

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#### **Course Description**

This course centers the following question: how do we dream new and better worlds into existence? The primary objective of the course is to get students to not only use sociology to explore, analyze, and make sense of the social world as is but to develop and practice research that might enable alternatives. With consideration of the colonial, elitist, and patriarchal roots of modern western society, the course offers a survey of social justice issues, movements, and practices to demonstrate how sociologists can draw from these currents to further promote liberation, equity, and positive change. As such, students of this course will increase their awareness and appreciation of structural oppression, intersectionality, and resistance, while also being given a chance to apply this knowledge to the real world in practical and relevant ways.

As a seminar, the learning environment will focus on dialogue, active learning, and creativity. Students are expected to participate in a range of classroom activities and should be prepared to develop alternative social possibilities within the classroom. This is not a lecture-based class.

#### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the complex relationship between sociology and social justice
2. Appreciate the value of social justice practices within sociology
3. Engage in sociology as a world-making practice for alternative social possibilities
4. Apply sociology to educate or support the public on contemporary social issues
5. Improve presentation, communication, leadership, and pedagogical skills
6. Improve critical and creative thinking skills within and beyond academia
7. Engage in effective collaboration and group work skills

#### **Evaluation**

Course Engagement (20%)

Seminar Facilitation (30%)

Public Sociology Project (35%)

Public Sociology Presentation (15%)