

Syllabus
UCI Human Complex Systems SocSci 180ABC
Human Social Complexity

Lecture/Lab: SST122 Videoconference facility in SST 122 or a larger classroom for special presentations. The course meets F-W-S for 1.33 credits per quarter.

Every third Friday, 1:30-2:50.

Instructors: Duran Bell (dbell@uci.edu), Douglas White (drwhite@uci.edu)

Office: SSPA 4171, 4169.

Short Description: Human Sciences and Complexity Videoconference participation, focusing on Human Social Complexity.

This course involves students in the Four-Campus Video-Colloquia in Human Complexity, a student/faculty intercampus videoconference that meets every third Friday over the academic year. The format is interactive: First, in terms of live question and answer with the speaker and discussants. Second, students read background papers to the speaker presentations, and do a two-part written report on one of the speakers. Part one is presented to the class before the talk. The other is a more in-depth synopsis of the talk and the problems raised for the study of human social complexity, and it is due for distribution to other students and on-campus participants within three months of the talk or the end of the year.

The on-campus participants include UCI faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates. The faculty mentor provides feedback and grading on the written report, but commentary may be requested from other participants, on-campus or off. The participating campuses are UCLA, UCI, UCR, and UCSD. The participating departments include all of those in the School of Social Sciences, as well as departments from other fields, such as Computer Science.

Topics include Agent Based Modeling, Social Simulation, Historical Dynamics, Archaeological models, Modeling Cognition, Complexity and the Brain, Market Systems, Social Networks and Network Dynamics, Technological Innovation, Complexity Science, Artificial Life, Generative Art, Emergent Phenomena, World Systems, Globalization, Modeling Migration, Ethnographic and Organizational Complexity, Term Policy Analysis, Industrial Districts, Social Norms and the Market, Political Parties and Complexity, and other topics.

Content does not repeat so the course may be taken multiple times. Videoconference presentations from past speakers are available as streaming video on demands, along with on-line PowerPoints.