

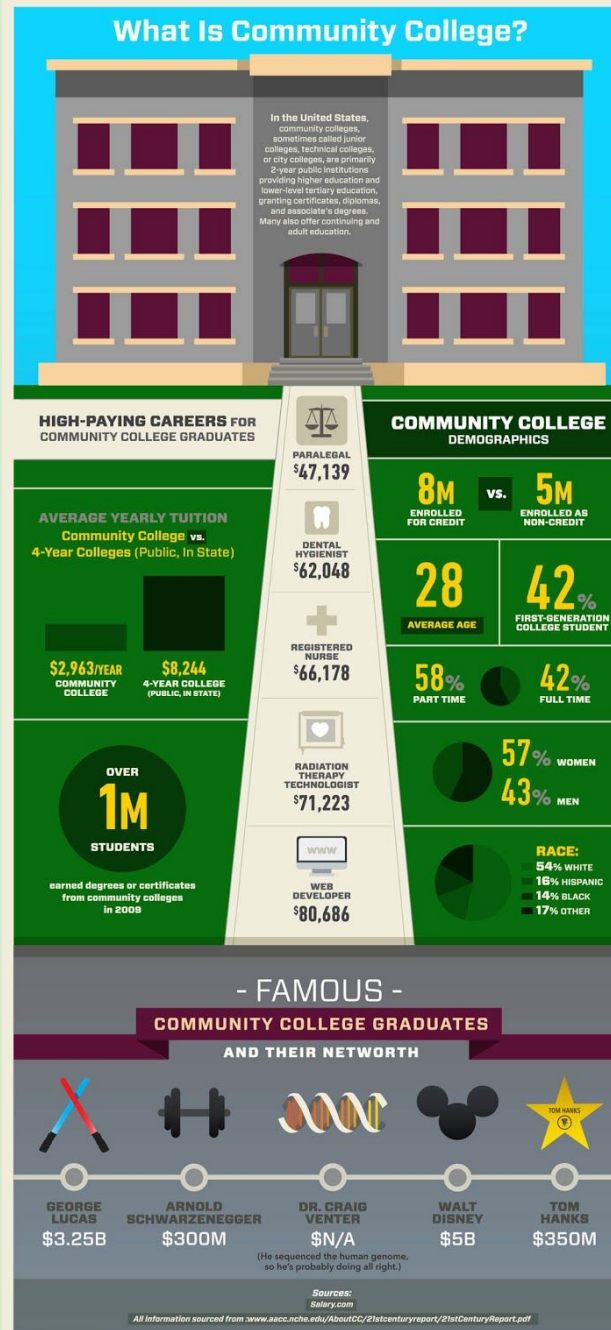
Microloans Defined

Microcredit is the extension of very small loans (**microloans**) to impoverished borrowers who typically lack collateral, steady employment and a verifiable credit history. It is designed not only to support entrepreneurship and alleviate poverty, but also in many cases to empower women and uplift entire communities by extension.

A Brief History of Modern Microcredit

The origins of microcredit in its current practical incarnation can be linked to several organizations founded in Bangladesh, especially the Grameen Bank. The Grameen Bank, which is generally considered the first modern microcredit institution, was founded in 1983 by Muhammad Yunus. He began the project in a small town called Jobra, using his own money to deliver small loans at low-interest rates to the rural poor.

Microcredit reached Latin America with the establishment of PRODEM in Bolivia in 1986. Microcredit quickly became a popular tool for economic development, with hundreds of institutions emerging throughout the third world. Microcredit organizations were initially created as alternatives to the "loan-sharks" known to take advantage of clients. Grameen Bank reports that repayment success rates are between 95 and 98 percent. Yunus was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006 for his work providing microcredit services to the poor.



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Microloan Program

SAN JOSE CITY COLLEGE SOCIOLOGY CLUB



FOR STUDENTS, FROM STUDENTS



Origins of the Microloan Program Here at SJCC

The Microloan Program here on campus is the brainchild of SJCC Sociology Club. The club was started in Fall of 2015 by two Sociology 11 classes as a class project. The idea for the Microloan Program came from two sources: Chapter 3 of our course textbook (poverty) where it talked about microloans and Dr. Yunus and a testimonial from an A+ student who had to miss his finals due to sudden financial hardships.

The Need for a Program

- It offers a way for students to help their fellows, while engaging in applied sociology.
- Sometimes small, sudden financial hardships lead students to drop out of college permanently.
- Other methods of money borrowing have very high interest rates.
- It would allow other colleges to develop a similar program using this template.



Some of the Qualifications to Receive a Microloan

- Be able to explain how your extenuating financial circumstance is impeding your education.
- Be at least 18 years of age or older.
- Current enrollment in at least 6 units at San Jose City College.
- Must be in at least 2nd semester.
- Have viable means of repayment.
- Have 3 character references.

Uses of Microloan

- Transportation (gas, public transit, etc.)
- Food Assistance (grocery gift card)
- Text books
- Other circumstances upon approval

Terms of Microloan

- \$25 minimum - \$250 maximum
- Loan pay back with 10% interest
- Late penalties will be assessed
- Approved by Sociology Club



Goals of the SJCC Sociology Club and Microloan Program

1. Help out our fellow students who are in need of extra financial support.
2. Create an environment on campus where students can come together, share ideas and work towards problem solving.
3. Effect change in our community through applied sociology and to take a look at systems that have ceased working.
4. Make innovations that make student's lives easier.
5. Leave an ongoing legacy at SJCC that students will benefit from.
6. Grow as students and human beings.

Contact Us

Email: sociologyclubsjcc@gmail.com
Updates: SJCC Sociology Club on Facebook
Advisor: Dr. Maile Del Buono
Current President: Jonathon Republicano
Meetings: Tuesday/Thursday @11:45 in B102

