

The University of Calgary
Department of Sociology
Sociology 201 (sec. 04)
Introduction to Sociology
Fall 2008

Instructor: Mark Durieux
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Internet: U of C Blackboard system (<http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca>)
Lecture: **Saturdays 13:00 - 17:00, ICT 114, 2008/9/13 - 2008/11/29**
Office hours: 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm prior to lectures, or by appointment.

Lecture Notes, Course Calendar, and Other Postings will be available through the University of Calgary Blackboard system. www.blackboard.ucalgary.ca

COURSE OVERVIEW

“Sociology,” according to Anthony Giddens, a prominent contemporary social theorist, “is the study of human social life, groups, and societies. It is a dazzling and compelling enterprise, having as its subject matter our own behaviour as social beings. The scope of sociology is extremely wide, ranging from the analysis of passing encounters between individuals in the street up to the investigation of global social processes.” In this course students will become familiar with the discipline of sociology (origins, methods, and theories) and will learn about many of the concepts that enable us to analyze social processes. Some of the topics we will study include culture, socialization, interaction, deviance, stratification, race and ethnicity, gender, family and religion.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Current undergraduate education generally tries to promote six learning outcomes that many believe are critical for workplace success and a life of continuous learning. These outcomes are Thinking Skills, Communication, Information Access and Retrieval, Ethical Reasoning, Group Effectiveness, and Computer Literacy.

Through learning about the foundations of sociology, you will be developing a new and hopefully exciting set of **thinking skills** with which to critique your social world and promote alternative – and badly needed – forms of worldly practice. The remaining outcomes will be more tangentially addressed and fostered through individual and group discussion and journal keeping.

COURSE TEXT

Macionis and Gerber (2008) Sociology. Sixth Canadian Edition. Toronto: Pearson Education Canada Inc.

Not all of the material covered in the text is discussed in class. Nor is all the material from the lectures outlined in the text. Please note: you are responsible for both the readings and the lectures. You are unlikely to succeed in this course if you ignore the book and only attend the lectures. Conversely, you should not simply read the text and miss the classes.

Note: Full PowerPoint lecture notes are posted in the appropriate location on the University of Calgary **Blackboard** system. *A couple of caveats, however.* While I will do everything I can to get my notes up at least one hour in advance, I cannot guarantee that this will always happen. Also, please remember that those notes are subject to revision after lecture.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Chapter Quizzes consist of a mix of about 5-10 multiple choice or true/false questions per chapter drawn directly from the associated **lectures, text materials, required internet resources or videos**. The quizzes in total account for 15% of your course grade. On-line practice quizzes are available to you through www.pearsoned.ca/macionis . These practice quizzes are

NOT for grades, they are designed to familiarize students with the course content and are entirely optional.

Team Paper – students will explore a contemporary social issue of their choice from a sociological perspective. Topic approval from the instructor is required. 20%

Leading Discussion – Groups of about 5-10 students lead sociological discussion on contemporary subjects of their choice for approximately 45 minutes. 10%

Examinations will include a variety of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short essay questions. Tests are designed to cover the readings, lecture, and other required materials. Dates are listed in the following table.

Activity	Worth	Deadlines
Chapter Quizzes	15%	See course calendar
Team Paper	20%	See course calendar
Leading Discussion	10%	Ongoing
Exam # 1	15%	October 4th, 2008
Exam #2	20%	November 1st, 2008
Final Exam	20%	December 6, 2008
ALL EXAMS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.		

GRADING SCHEME

A+ 95 – 100%

A 90-94

A- 85-89

B+ 80-84

B 75-79

B- 70-74

C+ 67-69

C 63-66

C- 60-62

D+ 57-59

D 53-56

D- 50-52

F 0-49

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

A semester schedule posted at <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca> under “course documents” provides a schedule for the daily progression of this course.

COURSE POLICIES

Exam Policies: You must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” exam as close to the original exam as possible. The date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

Ethics Research: Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Deferrals:

If at all possible you must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the

physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department.

Please note that requests to defer a final examination or to defer term work past the end of a term go through the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) and must be processed by the deadlines that are established in the U. of C. Calendar. You can find the forms you need at:

Deferred Final Exam Application:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Winter2008DEFERREDFINALEXAMINATIONS.pdf>

Deferred Term Work Form:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

You must submit these deferral forms to the Social Sciences Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre.

To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term. Instructors are not involved in such decisions.

Academic Misconduct: cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor’s office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor’s office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Safewalk: The University of Calgary provides a “safe walk” service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

Academic Accommodation

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, telephone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. **It is a student’s responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.**

Handing in Papers Outside of Class, Return of Final Papers, and Release of Final Grades

1. When students are unable to submit papers at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, (i.e., outside an instructor's office, the department office, etc.). Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will only be available for pick-up during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.