



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Soci201.02

Introduction to Sociology

Fall 2017

Lecture: MWF 14:00 – 14:50, in ST140 (Science Theaters)

Tutorial: M 16:00 – 16:50, in ST139

Instructor: Dr. Annette Tézli

Office: SS950

Phone: 403-220-6513 (during office hours only)

Email: atezli@ucalgary.ca

Office hours: Mondays 10:00 – 11:30,

Thursdays 11:00 – 13:00; and by appointment

Teaching Assistants: TBA

Course Objectives

Sociology is the scientific study of human action and interaction. According to sociologists, our lives are closely intertwined with the societal context in which they take place. This course will introduce you to the discipline of sociology by exploring topics and issues you are probably already familiar with and have discussed before with friends, colleagues, or family. This course goes beyond popular understandings of those issues to understand how society works from a sociological perspective. This course will provide you with the tools to think sociologically and sharpen your “sociological imagination,” which will make you see your everyday world in a new light. Over the course of the semester, we will identify, analyze, explain, and critically discuss the *foundations of sociology* (sociological theories and research methods), the *foundations of society* (e.g. culture, socialization, social interaction, consumption, and deviance), the *dimensions of social inequalities* (e.g. social class, race and ethnicity, gender & sexuality, and disability), as well as major *social institutions* (e.g. families, the education system, and media).

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

- summarize, compare, and apply theoretical approaches to studying society.
- differentiate and compare methodological approaches commonly used by sociologists.
- describe the sociological imagination using examples from their own lives.
- critically reflect on the relationship between social structures and individual experiences/decisions using examples from their own lives.
- compare and contrast common-sense and sociological explanations of various social phenomena, current social events, and societal conflicts.
- critically debate dimensions of social inequality in Canadian society, making reference to their historical context and institutional embeddedness.
- read efficiently, take lecture notes effectively, and study for exams proficiently.

Please note: Topics discussed and material included in this course will be explicit at times (deviance, violence, sexuality, profanity, etc). You might find yourself reacting to that content with discomfort or distress, either because of personal experiences you had or because it conflicts with your personal convictions. While discomfort is part of any learning process, please do not hesitate to reach out to me should you need support/resources beyond what is provided on D2L.

Required Course Readings

(available through the UofC Bookstore or Bound and Copied)

Steckley, John. 2017. *Elements of Sociology: A Canadian Introduction*. 4th Ed. Don Mills: Oxford University Press.

*You can rent an e-copy of the textbook here:

<https://redshelf.com/book/596586/elements-of-sociology-596586-9780199019649-john-steckley>

*Please do **NOT** purchase earlier editions of either text. They will inadequately prepare you for the assessments.

*A copy of the textbook is available on reserve at the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL).

*For free study guides and practice quizzes go to:

<https://arc2.oup-arc.com/access/steckley-4e-student-resources>

Methods of Evaluation

Assignment Schedule and Outline

| | Date due | % of final grade | Material covered |
|---------------------------|------------|------------------|------------------|
| 10 Online reading quizzes | see D2L | 15 | weeks 3-13 |
| 5 Content applications | See D2L | 10 | weeks 3-13 |
| Midterm I | October 2 | 20 | weeks 1-3 |
| Midterm II | November 6 | 25 | weeks 4-7 |
| Final Exam | TBD | 30 | weeks 8-13 |

Please note that I do **NOT** offer extra-credit options for this course beyond what is listed below.

10 Online reading quizzes (15% total, 1.5% each)

Studies repeatedly show that students will not complete their readings unless there is some form of incentive attached. However, completing the assigned readings prior to class will greatly facilitate your learning of the material. Completing the assigned readings also allows you to process some of the material prior to class and then contribute meaningfully to group and class discussions. The purpose of the reading quizzes is to encourage you to do your assigned readings and thereby aid you with your class and exam preparation.

Quizzes will commence after the first week of class. Each quiz will be made available on D2L 1 week before the corresponding chapter is covered in class and must be completed before the beginning of the respective class. For example, the first graded quiz will cover textbook chapter 3 on culture assigned for week 3 (September 25-29). The quiz will be posted on September 18 at 14:50 and must be completed before class starts on September 25 (14:00). Each quiz has 15 questions and you will have 1 20-minute attempt to complete the quiz. Students with academic accommodations will receive extra time for the reading quizzes as indicated in their academic accommodation letters. If you do not complete a quiz without due cause (as outlined in the Assignments & Deferrals section below), you will receive an automatic grade of 0. More detailed information and a quiz schedule will be provided on D2L.

I am offering one bonus quiz at the beginning of the semester, which will count toward your overall reading quiz grade. Note that the total of all reading quizzes cannot exceed 100%.

5 Content applications (10% total, 2% each)

On occasion, you will be asked to provide your own examples of content discussed in class through D2L. Instructions will be provided on D2L and discussed in class. If you do not complete a quiz without due cause (as outlined in the Assignments & Deferrals section below), you will receive an automatic grade of 0.

2 Midterms (20% and 25%, respectively)

There will be 2 50-minute exams, which might include multiple-choice, true/false, short answer, and short essay questions. Questions will cover the assigned readings (irrespective of whether they were discussed in lecture), lecture material, in-class exercises, class discussions, and films. Please refer to the assignment schedule above for chapters covered in each exam.

Final Exam (30%)

The 2-hour final exam is composed of 100 multiple-choice questions. Questions cover the assigned readings (irrespective of whether they were discussed in lecture), lectures, in-class exercises, class discussions, and films. The final exam is not cumulative. Please refer to the assignment schedule above for chapters covered in the final exam.

Extra credit

To encourage you to develop and refine key academic skills, you can earn extra-credit for this course by completing *Success Seminars* offered by the *Student Success Centre*. Seminars focus on central skills such as time management, academic reading, effective note-taking, getting the most out of lectures, preparing for multiple choice exam, and more. For each seminar you complete, you will receive **1** percentage point bonus on your final grade (so, for example, 79+1=80%). You can take as many seminars as you wish; you will receive extra credit for up to **3** of them. In order to receive credit, documentation of completion will be required. It is your responsibility to select, book, attend, and provide documentation for workshops. Links to the Students Success Centre and this semester's seminar schedule are provided on D2L under CONTENT → CAMPUS RESOURCES.

Tutorials

No tutorials will be held in the first two weeks of classes. Attendance is not mandatory and tutorials are considered drop-in sessions.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

| Grade | Percent range | Grade Point Value | Description |
|--------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| A+ | 95 – 100% | 4.0 | Outstanding performance |
| A | 90 – 94.99% | 4.0 | Excellent-superior performance |
| A- | 85 – 89.99% | 3.7 | |
| B+ | 80 – 84.99% | 3.3 | |
| B | 75 – 79.99% | 3.0 | Good – clearly above average performance |
| B- | 70 – 74.99% | 2.7 | |
| C+ | 67 – 69.99% | 2.3 | |
| C | 63 – 66.99% | 2.0 | Satisfactory - basic understanding |
| C- | 59 – 62.99% | 1.7 | |
| D+ | 55 – 58.99% | 1.3 | |
| D | 50 – 54.99% | 1.0 | Minimal pass - marginal performance |
| F | <50% | 0 | unsatisfactory performance |

The grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections and to conform to departmental norms.

Emergency evacuations

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point by the Professional Faculties - Food Court.

Course Policies

Technology Use

Please note that the use of laptops, tablets, cell phones or other electronic devices is **NOT** permitted during lectures. I provided some helpful note-taking resources on D2L for those of you not used to taking notes by hand. Students who require the use of electronic devices for academic accommodation purposes are exempt from this policy, but must provide documentation from Student Accessibility Services to the instructor. Please make sure to mute your cell phone and refrain from using it during class.

Attendance and Participation

Regular attendance and reading the assigned material, an open mind, as well as your active and meaningful participation is required for this class to reach its fullest potential and to make it a rewarding experience for you and me. Lectures will build on, but not summarize the assigned reading. I expect you to have critically read the assigned texts prior to the session in which they will be discussed, that you are an active participant in class discussions and group exercises, and that your contributions are generally informed by the assigned reading material. I expect you to be on time so that other students in the class are not interrupted by your late arrival. During lectures, please make sure not to distract your fellow students in any way. If you miss a class, you will miss material relevant to your success in this course and it is your responsibility to obtain notes from one of your class mates. If you come late or need to leave class early, please sit somewhere you can settle down or leave without disrupting others.

Lecture Slides

PowerPoint slides for each lecture will be posted on D2L well in advance of the lecture during which they will be covered. I strongly recommend printing off the slides and bringing them to class to assist your note-taking. PowerPoint slides posted on D2L will provide a lecture outline, but not complete lecture content. It is your responsibility to complete each slide during lecture. Effective note-taking strategies are provided on D2L.

E-mail

Please send emails through D2L or from your ucalgary account. I will not answer any emails sent from personal email accounts. Please put your course number and section in your email's subject line. Also, it is courteous to include a proper salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in the body of your email. I will not answer emails violating the outlined email conventions. All other emails will be answered within one business day, but I do not answer emails over the weekend. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline and the D2L discussion board first. Please e-mail me for administrative purposes only, for example to set up an appointment. Questions about the course content and readings should be posed on D2L; concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with in person during my office hours.

Questions and Feedback

I created a discussion board on D2L for questions, feedback and class-related discussions. If you have any course-related substantive or administrative questions, feedback, comments or would like to further discuss a course-related topic, please post it on the discussion board on D2L. You can access the discussion board either through the link in the CONTENT tab OR through the COMMUNICATION tab → DISCUSSIONS. I will check the board frequently and respond in a timely manner. The board allows you to make posts anonymously, but please be reminded that I expect your contributions to be respectful and constructive.

Assignments and Deferrals

It is your responsibility to complete and submit all assignments outlined in this course outline. 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 on time. All requests for a deferral of an exam or assignment due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while you have 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, misreading of the syllabus, and scheduling conflicts with other classes or employment responsibilities** 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. There are absolutely NO EXCEPTIONS.

If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, I 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 I schedule a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department.

Deferred Final Exam Form:

Please note that requests to defer a Registrar-scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar’s Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-forms>.

Handing in papers outside of class, return of final papers, and release of final grades

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. Protection of Privacy: The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Ethics Research

Students are advised that any research involving 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, you must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing your plans with me, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Academic Misconduct

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct: (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html>).

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's main office. I will return written assignments individually during class, or during my office hours. If you are unable to pick up your assignment, you may provide me with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of your assignment.

Student Representation

The 2017-18 Students' Union VP Academic is Tina Miller (suvpaca@ucalgary.ca). For more information, and to contact other elected officials with the Student's Union, please visit this link: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/about/who-we-are/elected-officials/>. You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/contact>

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. You can also contact Campus Security from any of the "Help" phones located around Campus.

Academic Accommodation

The student accommodation policy can be found at:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Reappraisal of Grades and Academic Appeals

If you chose to contest a grade you received for an assignment, please refer to the UofC Calendar for more information (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>) and follow the procedures outlined therein.

Thrive Priority Support Network

Your academic success and personal well-being is important to me. Please feel free to contact me at any time you need academic or personal support and I will help you identify the appropriate resources. Please note that I am working closely with the Thrive Priority Support Network, which seeks to identify students who are facing academic challenges and provide appropriate support services early. This tool monitors this course's D2L gradebook for sudden changes in a student's academic performance and alerts academic development specialists, who will then reach out to the student to touch base. Engagement with the academic development specialist is entirely voluntary and all information is confidential. More information is provided here:
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/advising/thrive>.

Course Schedule

Subject to change. Changes will be announced and discussed in class.

| Week | Date | Topic | Reading |
|---|--|---|------------------------|
| 1. THE FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIOLOGY | | | |
| 1 | September 11-15 | 1.1. Introduction to Sociology | Chapter 1 |
| 2 | September 18-22 | 1.2. Theories and Approaches 1.3. Social Research Methods | Chapter 1 Chapter 2 |
| 2. SOCIAL LIFE | | | |
| 3 | September 25-29 | 2.1. Culture | Chapter 3 |
| 4 | October 2 October 4-6 | Midterm #1 2.2. Socialization | Chapter 4 |
| 5 | October 9 October 11-13 | THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS 2.3. Social Roles and Interaction | Chapter 5 |
| 6 | October 16-20 | 2.4. Consumption | D2L |
| 7 | October 23-27 | 2.5. Deviance | Chapter 6 |
| 3. SOCIAL DIFFERENCE | | | |
| 8 | October 30 - November 3 | 3.1. Social Inequality | Chapter 7 |
| 9 | November 6 November 8 November 10 | Midterm #2 3.2. Race and Ethnicity MID-TERM BREAK – NO CLASS | Chapter 8 |
| 10 | November 13 November 15-17 | MID-TERM BREAK – NO CLASS 3.2. Race and Ethnicity, cont. | |
| 11 | November 20-24 | 3.3. Gender | Chapter 9 |
| 4. SELECT SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS | | | |
| 12 | November 27- December 1 | 4.1. Family | Chapter 10 |
| 13 | December 4-8 | 4.2. Education | Chapter 12 |
| Final Exam Period: December 11-21 | | | |
| Please note travel arrangements are <u>NOT</u> a valid reason to miss the final exam. Please <u>DO NOT</u> make travel arrangements until you know your final exam schedule. | | | |