



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Soci201 L01

Introduction to Sociology

Spring 2018

Lecture: TR 9:00 – 11:45 AM, in SB103 (Science B)

Tutorial: TR 3:00 – 3:50 PM, in ICT102

Instructor: Dr. Annette Tézli

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Office hours: TR 12:00 – 1:00 PM; and by appointment

Department website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

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, and sexuality), as well as major *social institutions* (e.g. families, the education system, and health & medicine).

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	Topics covered (assigned readings & lectures)
10 Online reading quizzes	see D2L	10	
In-class participation	each class	5	
Midterm I (3PM, ICT102)	May 24	15	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1
Midterm II (3PM, ICT102)	June 5	20	2.2, 2.3, 2.4
Midterm III (3PM, ICT102)	June 14	20	2.5, 3.1, 3.2
Final Exam (SB103)	TBD	30	3.3, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3

Please note that I do **NOT** offer extra-credit options for this course beyond what is listed below. Extra-credit opportunities will be provided only to the class as a whole, not on an individual basis.

10 Online reading quizzes (10% total)

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 regularly and thereby aid you with your class and exam preparation.

I will make 2 ungraded practices quizzes available during the first week of classes. The first graded quiz will cover textbook Chapter 3 on Culture assigned for Tuesday, May 22. The quiz will be posted on May 15 after lecture (11:45 AM) and must be completed before class starts on May 22 (9:00 AM). You have 1 week to complete each quiz. Each quiz has 15 questions and you will have 1 15-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. There will be 11 graded quizzes, but only 10 will count toward your total quiz grade. At the end of the semester, your lowest grade will be dropped automatically. If you do not complete a quiz without due cause (as outlined below), you will receive an automatic grade of 0. More information and a quiz schedule are provided on D2L.

In addition, I am offering one bonus quiz at the beginning of the semester which will count toward your overall reading quiz grade. Instructions will be provided in class and on D2L. Note that the total of all reading quizzes cannot exceed 100%.

In-class participation (5%)

Regular attendance, 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. In large classes, participation can be intimidating and meaningful discussion of course material might be undermined by a number of different factors. To share ideas and to stimulate and facilitate discussion, we will be using Top Hat this semester. You can register your free Top Hat account here: <https://app.tophat.com/register>. Once you signed up, you can find the course here: <https://app-ca.tophat.com/e/556620>. You can use your laptop, tablet, smartphone or mobile phone to submit answers (course code 556620).

Your Top Hat participation mark will depend on your level of engagement. For each question asked through Top Hat, you will receive 1 point for your answer. Your participation grade will be determined according to the following formula: your Top Hat mark/.95. In other words, you have to answer 95% of the questions in order to receive 100% for participation. Please note that your Top Hat grade cannot exceed 100%. We will practice the use of Top Hat during the first week of classes and graded exercises will commence on May 22.

3 Midterms (15, 20, and 20%, respectively)

There will be 3 45-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, films, and guest lectures. Please refer to the assignment schedule above for material covered in each exam.

Final exam (30%)

The 90-minute final exam is composed of 75 multiple-choice questions. Questions cover the assigned readings (irrespective of whether they were discussed in lecture), lectures, in-class exercises, class discussions, films, and guest lectures. Please refer to the assignment schedule above for material covered in the final exam.

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 ICT Food Court (lecture) or Social Science Food Court (tutorial).

Course Policies

Technology Use

Please note that the use of laptops, tablets, cell phones or other electronic devices is permitted during lectures only for class-related purposes (Top Hat). Laptop users will be asked to use only certain sections of the room to limit possible distraction of other students. The laptop section will be identified on the first day of class.

Recording of Lectures

Note that the audio or video recording of lectures and taking pictures of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are not permitted without explicit authorization. To do so without the instructor's authorization constitutes academic misconduct, according to the University of Calgary Calendar. For more information, see: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5-1.html>.

Attendance, Participation, and Classroom Etiquette

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. 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. I suggest printing off the slides and bringing them to class to assist your note-taking. I strongly recommend taking notes by hand rather than electronically. 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. I tend to not check or answer emails on weekends. 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, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues must be discussed in person during my office hours.

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. Please note that the re-evaluation of course work can lead to the grade being raised, lowered, or it might remain the same.

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.

Date	Topic	Reading
1. THE FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIOLOGY		
Tuesday, May 15	1.1. Introduction to Sociology	Ch. 1
Thursday, May 17	1.2. Theories and Approaches 1.3. Social Research Methods	Ch. 1 Ch. 2
2. SOCIAL LIFE		
Tuesday, May 22	2.1. Culture	Ch. 3
Thursday, May 24	2.2. Socialization Midterm #1 (3:00PM, ICT102)	Ch. 4
Tuesday, May 29	2.3. Social Roles and Interaction	Ch. 5
Thursday, May 31	2.4. Consumption	D2L
3. SOCIAL DIFFERENCE		
Tuesday, June 5	2.5. Deviance Midterm #2 (3:00PM, ICT102)	Ch. 6, Ch. 14 (pp. 410-21)
Thursday, June 7	3.1. Social Inequality	Ch. 7, Ch. 14 (pp. 424-27)
Tuesday, June 12	3.2. Race and Ethnicity	Ch. 8, Ch. 14 (pp. 421-24)
Thursday, June 14	3.3. Gender Midterm #3 (3:00PM, ICT102)	Ch. 9
4. SELECT SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS		
Tuesday, June 19	4.1. Families	Ch. 10
Thursday, June 21	4.2. Education	Ch. 12
Tuesday, June 26	4.3. Health and Medicine	Ch. 13
Final Exam Period: June 28-30		
<p>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 exam schedule.</p>		