Course Description
Why do members of society behave the way that they do? Are we simply creatures of rational choice? Do our biological and psychological compositions largely dictate our actions? How does society affect our behaviour? What is sociology and how does it aid us in explaining...
human behaviour? We will explore these questions through our readings and congenial class discussions. As I expect students to be active producers rather than passive consumers of idea, there will be considerable class time to analyze and discuss these issues. Upon successful completion of Introduction to Sociology, students will be able to think critically about social issues and events, demonstrate familiarity with key concepts in the discipline, and display a practical ability to apply major theoretical perspectives to social processes.

**Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes**

Students in Introduction to Sociology should concentrate on how to:

1. Outline the five general sociological perspectives (functionalism, conflict theory, symbolic interactionism, feminisms, and post-structuralism), and apply them to social interactions and structures.

2. Differentiate between micro-level, macro-level, and global-level sociological approaches.

3. Explain the epistemological bases of different types of sociological knowledge and the basic methods used to generate knowledge.

4. Outline the most prominent explanations on how socialization and culture form our social selves.

5. Explain how social stratification, “race” and ethnicity, and sex and gender affect social opportunities.

6. Differentiate how the classic sociological thinkers approached religion in society.

7. Briefly outline the main sociological explanations influencing involvement in crime and deviance.

8. Identify the main ways in which urbanization, population, and the environment are changing our social world.

9. Assess the possibilities for inducing positive social change.

**Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources**

The following texts are required reading in this course:


Please note that the books above can be accessed online or rented from the Bookstore for a reduced price.

Other than the texts identified above, there are no other materials to be purchased or used in this class.

Students will be asked to consider news items on D2L from time to time. No other electronic resources will be used.
Schedule of Lectures and Readings
See “Schedule of readings” on D2L.

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights
There are several opportunities for students to capture their grades. Exam dates are listed in the “Schedule of readings”. Students will have two mid-term examinations in true-false and multiple choice format. The mid-term examinations are both worth 30%, and they are not cumulative. Mid-term examinations will be held in our regular lecture theatre. All lecture and reading material is subject to evaluation. Therefore, it is important that students attend all classes and examine every reading in order to meet the demands of this course. Given departmental resources, there will be no deferred mid-term examinations. The percentage of the missed mid-term will be equally divided to the other examinations (i.e. 50/50).

Final Exam Information
The final examination is worth 40% of the final grade and will be in true-false and multiple choice format. It is not cumulative.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percent range</th>
<th>Grade Point Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>96 - 100%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Outstanding performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 - 95.99%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Excellent performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>85 - 89.99%</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>Approaching excellent performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>80 - 84.99%</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Exceeding good performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>75 - 79.99%</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Good performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>70 - 74.99%</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Approaching good performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67 - 69.99%</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Exceeding satisfactory performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>63 - 66.99%</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Satisfactory performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>59 - 62.99%</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Approaching satisfactory performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>55 - 58.99%</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50 - 54.99%</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;50%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Failure. Did not meet course requirements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Passing Grades
In order to pass the course, students must obtain 50% or more overall as per the grading scale.

Grade Reappraisal
Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one’s mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

Technology Use
Electronic devices are common in classrooms. While they can be very effective in assisting students in the learning process, they can also be very distracting if not used properly. Students are encouraged to reflect on how their use of electronic devices affects their learning and how it affects others around them.

Inclusivity
We live in a diverse social world. Although diversity is often considered visible, that is often not the case. We frequently do not know what challenges others face because all aspects of their lives are simply not visible. Some students may live with a physical disability that is not always apparent, manage a learning disability, face anxiety and depression, or deal with internalized homophobia or transphobia. While it is impossible to know everyone’s wants and needs, it is possible and important to generate an atmosphere of mutual respect and support. Student Accessibility Services provides examination accommodation for those who need it. In class, students should feel free to make the instructor aware of their preferred form of reference, and ideas on how to create a more effective and welcoming learning environment for everyone.

Handing in Papers, Assignments
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 can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.
Research Ethics
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 Faculty 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.

Copyright Legislation
All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the Copyright Act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property
Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

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.html

Absences and Deferrals
Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html

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 can be found at: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It’s available at: https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/1/deferred_termwork15_0.pdf

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).
Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at: 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.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/).

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit: https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here: https://www.su.ucalgary.ca.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary’s Emergency Management website: https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children’s Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit http://
Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.