

Topics in Canadian Social Structure (Social Inequality in Canada).			
Course Number	SOCi 405		
Pre/Co-Requisites	SOCi 313, 315, 331, and 333		
Instructor Name	Dr. Josh Curtis	Email	Joshua.curtis@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	Feel free to contact me over email at any time. Please put your course number and section in your email's subject line, and include a proper salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in the body of your email. I do not answer emails over the weekend. Please take that into account when emailing me questions pertaining to assignments or exams. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline first. Please do not use e-mail as a replacement for a meeting, if there is something you want to discuss. Questions about the course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with during my office hours.		
Office Location	SS 944	Office Hours	Th. 12:30-1:30 or by appt
Telephone No.	NA		
Class Dates	Lecture Tuesday and Thursday		
Class Times	11:00-12:15		
Class Location	SA 119		

Course Description

This macro-level examination of Canadian social structure including a socio-developmental analysis of selected Canadian institutions such as bilingualism, regionalism, multiculturalism, multinational corporations, ethnic and racial, gender, age, and social class stratification. Critical examination of sociological models for the study of Canadian society will be discussed.

Course Format

This course will be taught in person, synchronously.

Learning Resources – Required texts

McMullin, Julie and Josh Curtis. 2017. *Understanding social Inequality; Intersections of Class, Age, gender, Ethnicity, and Race in Canada*. Third Edition. Oxford University Press: Toronto.

Selected weekly journal articles (for download via our library journal archives).

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

The course will have four requirements that will contribute to your final course grade:

2.1 Weekly Seminar Participation (20%) & Weekly Position Papers (20%).

2.2 Class presentation (20% or 2x 10%, depending on enrollment).

2.3 Research Paper Proposal (10%). Due Thursday, March 2nd, 2023.

2.4 Final paper (30% of course grade): Due Thursday, April 6th, 2023.

Weekly Seminar Participation (20%)

This course will be most successful if everyone participates in class, and thus I will not go easy on participation grades—if you don't participate regularly, you will receive a poor grade. **While attendance is not mandatory, if you do not attend class and participate in class discussion, your grade will suffer as a result.** Moreover, I will be looking for valuable contributions. Opinion alone is not good enough. I expect you to draw on evidence from the required readings to support your arguments. I will also be looking for students to “think outside of the box” and give good logical arguments based on personal experience and previous education. Finally, I will be expecting you to intelligently and critically challenge the seminar leaders. Again, these challenges should be based on solid arguments and empirical evidence, when possible.

Position papers (20%):

You are required to write **positions papers** on the required journal article readings (not all weeks will have required readings, however—for example, during Week 1 in our course introduction, which will be more administrative and will set the up expectations for the course). The position papers are worth a total of 20% of your final grade. Each paper will be graded out of a possible 5 points and the average of all submitted position papers will be used to calculate your score out of a possible 20%.

The position papers are due at the beginning of the class in our dropbox folder and each one will that deals with the corresponding journal article readings. Late position papers will not be accepted. Moreover, if I think not enough effort has gone into a paper, you will receive a grade of 0 for that particular week. I will be very strict on this.

Position papers should not simply summarize the week's readings. Instead, they should point out the essential findings of the required readings, draw connections with other issues and theoretical approaches (either discussed in the course earlier or in other courses you have taken in the past), and raise problems or questions that are meant to stimulate seminar discussion. You should be

critical! Each paper should be no less than 1 page and no more than 2 pages in length (typed, double-spaced, 12-point font). Although you are required to submit the position paper electronically at the start of the class, you might find it useful to have a copy for yourself to consult during the seminar discussion.

In-class Presentation(s) (20%)

Each week one student (or perhaps two depending on enrollment) will make an in-class presentation about that week's readings, raise critical questions, and set forth topics for discussion. Plan for roughly 30-45 minutes as the length for your presentation, and be ready to facilitate discussion after the presentation. Your presentation is worth thirty percent of your final mark. I will mark your presentation primarily on your ability to critically engage with the readings (and your classmates' reactions) and set the stage for a quality discussion. **During Week 1, on Thursday January 12th**, I will give an example of how you might structure your in-class presentations (though following my approach is not required).

Research Proposal (10%)

The research proposal **will be due before class (submitted electronically via Dropbox on D2L) on Thursday, March 2nd, 2023**. This assignment is as much about ensuring that you start thinking about your research project early than it is about formal assessment. Your proposal will be no less than two double spaced pages and it will outline:

- 1) Your proposed research topic
- 2) A brief literature review
- 3) Some preliminary research questions that might help structure your paper

Final paper (30% of course grade): Due Thursday, April 6th, 2023.

The essay is due online April 6th, 2023. Your paper grade will be deducted 5 percent each day it is late. I will not accept electronic copies of the paper. I will not give extensions except under very special circumstances. I suggest, therefore, that you plan to have the paper finished long before the deadline. Some words of advice on how to write a good paper:

1. Make sure to start with a research question and set out to show the evidence both for and against it, coming to a conclusion at the end. Be sure to use published sociological research as your evidence.
2. Look at recent articles in the American Sociological Review, especially their literature reviews, for models on how to write a good paper. You will notice that papers with similar findings are grouped together. That is, you do not need to give a detailed summary of every paper you cite! You should also make sure to cite the most important works in the field, rather than simply the ones that you come across first. That is, a good paper will provide a description of the most important findings regarding a particular research topic. In other words, it gives an indication of how the field got to where it is.
3. The 15 good sources is the bare minimum. Your paper grade will be deducted 1 mark (i.e., 1/30 of the total grade) for each source less than the required 15.
4. Ensure that your writing is clear and straight to the point. If the same point can be made as clearly in 10 words as in 20 words, the 10-word version is always better.
5. Make sure to use proper grammar and spelling. I don't like wasting my time reading junk. You will receive a poor grade if the paper is not polished, so be sure to make several edits before submitting a final version.

6. Finally, both the University of Calgary and I take plagiarism very seriously.

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+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Absence From a Mid-term Examination

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of that email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor.

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at: https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/P22_deferral-of-term-work_lapseGrade.pdf

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

Deferral of a Final Examination

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred

final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Reappraisal of Grades:

For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Academic Misconduct:

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, Procedure and Academic Integrity, please visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Recording of Lectures:

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

Academic Accommodations:

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. 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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

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 Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subject research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. 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.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>

Copyright Legislation:

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. 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.

Evacuation Assembly Points

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points> and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Important Dates:

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Tower.

Important Contact Information

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)

Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives

Phone: 403-220-6551

Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: askgsa@ucalgary.ca

URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Campus Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student 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 supports 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 the following resources:

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

Student Wellness Services:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

Campus Mental Health Strategy website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.