



Faculty of Arts  
Department of Sociology  
Sociology Department Home Page: <http://www.soci.ucalgary.ca>

**SOCI421.19**  
**Youth, Cyber-risk and Governmentality**

<b>Winter 2019</b>	<b>Tu/Th, Jan 10-Apr 11, 2019, 2-3:15pm</b>	<b>Location: SH278</b>
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**Instructor:** Dr. Michael Adorjan  
**Office:** SS952, Social Sciences Tower, 9th floor, main campus  
**Email:** [madorjan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:madorjan@ucalgary.ca)  
**Phone:** 403-220-5982  
**Office Hours:** Office hours by appointment

### **Course Description**

The Internet has amplified processes of globalization, engendering both opportunities (i.e. for connection and communication, business and finance) as well as cyber-risks. Young 'netizens' who have grown up with the internet, while embracing information communications technology are also facing the challenges of navigating ever-morphing cyber-risks related to data privacy, surveillance and the various messages received from sectors of society (including parents, peers, police and government) regarding how to manage and 'self-responsibilize' themselves towards these risks. Drawing on micro-interactionist theories as well as theories of surveillance and neoliberal self-responsibilization, this course explores various facets and contemporary developments in Canada and internationally regarding youth and online risks.

### **Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course students will be expected to:

- Develop a sociological understanding of issues related to youth and cyber-risk, including privacy, addiction, cyberbullying and sexting
- Examine issues related to youth and cyber-risk through the application of sociological theories related to self and society as well as surveillance and neoliberal self-responsibilization
- Critically reflect on their own use of information communications technology and relate personal experiences to sociological themes examined in required readings

Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials

This course does not have a required textbook nor course pack, as it relies primarily on open access e-books. Some additional required material will be posted to D2L. Please see the lecture and reading schedule below.

### Methods of Evaluation

• Midterm 'video log'	30%	Thursday Feb 14th
• Term Paper proposal/outline	10%	Tuesday Feb 26th
• Term Paper	30%	Thursday Mar 14th
• Final take-home exam	30%	Thursday April 18th

### Late Submission Penalties

Applying for all course work, late assignments will be docked 10% per day for a maximum of 3 days, after which the assigned grade will be F. If personal family or medical reasons apply, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. The late penalty of 10% per day does not apply to the final take-home exam, which will be graded 0 (F) if received late.

### Assessment Components

Midterm 'video log'	30%	Thursday Feb 14th
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Rather than a written midterm, students will submit to their D2L dropbox folder a video log reflecting and applying theoretical knowledge in relation to course readings and key concepts, as well as personal experiences. Details will be posted to D2L and announced in class in the weeks leading up to the due date.

Term paper proposal/outline	10%	Tuesday Feb 26th
Term paper	30%	

While we examine a number of intersecting and interrelated issues regarding youth, technology and risk in this course, and draw from two particular theoretical frameworks (symbolic interactionism and governmentality), the term paper provides an opportunity to research a particular area of interest that may or may not be covered by the required course materials. The proposal is geared to encouraging students to have a detailed plan for the paper well in advance of the full paper's due date. Details for both the proposal and paper will be posted to D2L and announced in class in the weeks leading up to the due date.

Final take-home exam	30%	Thursday April 18th
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The final take-home examination will be made available on D2L on the final date of class, Thursday April 11th. The exam will be due in one week, and must be submitted in Microsoft Word .doc or .docx format to the D2L dropbox set up for the final exam. The exam MUST be received no later than 11:50pm on Thursday April 18th. There will not be late penalties applied: exams submitted past the due date will receive an F grade. Further details will be provided closer to the end of the course.

## 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-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.

## Schedule of Lecture Topics and Required Readings

While every effort will be made to adhere to the following schedule, changes may be required as the term progresses. Any announcements will be posted to D2L 'news' for the course.

- Jan 10 – Introductions
- Jan 15-17 – Theoretical inroads: Symbolic Interaction and Governmentality

No required readings, all content will be covered in lectures and posted lecture notes for these theories. For students interested in further reading, the reading by Kevin Haggerty *Tear Down the Walls: On Demolishing the Panopticon* in 'supplementary readings' on D2L may be useful for governmentality. Students may also find the chapter on symbolic interactionism useful in the textbook (not available for this course, but found in the TFDL) by Douglas Mann: *Understanding Society: A Survey of Modern Social Theory* (Second Edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- Jan 22-24 – Teens online: What and why

Sameer Hinduja and Justin Patchin. 2015. *Bullying beyond the Schoolyard: Preventing and responding to cyberbullying*. London: Corwin. Chapter 2 – "Teens Online Today: Where and Why." Pp. 23-43.

Michael Adorjan and Rose Ricciardelli. Forthcoming 2019. *Cyber-risk and Youth: Digital Citizenship, Privacy, and Surveillance*. Routledge: London. Chapter 3: Teens online: What and why. pp. 25-48

- Jan 29-Feb 7 – Cyberbullying and Relational Aggression

Michael Adorjan and Rose Ricciardelli. Forthcoming 2019. *Cyber-risk and Youth: Digital Citizenship, Privacy, and Surveillance*. Routledge: London. Relational aggression

Michael Adorjan and Rose Ricciardelli. Forthcoming 2019. *Cyber-risk and Youth: Digital Citizenship, Privacy, and Surveillance*. Routledge: London. Teens online: What and why

- Feb 12-14 – Midterm review and midterm
- Feb 18-22 – Reading Week
- Feb 26-Mar 14 – Surveillance and Privacy

Valerie Steeves. 2012. Hide and Seek: Surveillance of young people on the internet. Section 3.5c (page 352-360) in *Routledge Handbook of Surveillance Studies*, ed. by Kirstie Ball, Kevin Haggerty, and David Lyon. Routledge.

Adorjan and Ricciardelli. (Forthcoming 2019). A New Privacy Paradox. *Canadian Review of Sociology*.

Adorjan and Ricciardelli. (Forthcoming). Youth Responses to the Surveillance School. *Young*.

- Mar 19-28 – Digital Sexual Expression, Sexting and Risk

Ricciardelli and Adorjan. (Forthcoming). Gender, Sexting and the Teenaged Years. *Journal of Gender Studies*.

Karaian, Lara. 2014. "Policing 'sexting': Responsibilization, respectability and sexual subjectivity in child protection/crime prevention responses to teenagers' digital sexual expression." *Theoretical Criminology* 18(3): 282-299.

Apr 2-4

- Apr 9-11 – Take-home exam and course review

### **Emergency Evacuations**

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at Education Hall, Food Court. Please check these assembly point locations for all of your classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

### **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 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.

### **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.

### **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>

### **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. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/n-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://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred\\_termwork15\\_0.pdf](https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/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).

### **Student Representation**

The 2018-19 Students' Union VP Academic is Jessica Revington ([suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the "Help" phones located around Campus.

### **Academic Accommodation**

The student accommodation policy can be found at:

<https://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 [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

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

**Student Resources**

[SU Wellness Centre](#)

[Campus Mental Health Strategy](#)