

**The University of Calgary**  
**Faculty of Arts**  
**Department of Sociology**  
**Soci 201- 20: Introduction to Sociology**  
**Spring 2012**  
**Course Outline**

Lecture: TR 9:00 am - 11:50 am  
Room: ST 127

Tutorial: TR 1:00 pm- 1:50 pm  
Room: Scurfield Hall SH 157

Instructor: Monetta Bailey  
Office: SS952  
Email: [mmbailey@ucalgary.ca](mailto:mmbailey@ucalgary.ca)  
Phone: 403-220-5982  
Office Hours: R 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Teaching Assistant: Kenneth Blades  
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Office Hours: T 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

### **Course Objectives**

What drives human behavior? To what extent is human action determined by social versus biological feature? What influences how people act? These are some of the questions that the discipline of sociology addresses. As a discipline, sociology comprises various theories and methods that investigate why human beings behave the way they do in various situations. At the heart of sociology is the study of how humans interact with each other and with the institutions in society. This course will introduce you to some of the theories that attempt to explain human interaction as well as the ways we can systematically study these interactions. You will gain an understanding of the foundations of society, such as culture, socialization, and social norms. You will be exposed to ideas about what influences human behavior in areas such as social interactions, social groups and social organizations. You will learn about some of the key institutions in society which sociologists often attempt to explain such as the family and religion. You will also be introduced to areas of stratification in our society based on variables such as social class, race and ethnicity, and gender. Finally, we will engage in discussions about what drives social change.

### **Required Reading**

Brym, R. J. (Ed). (2011). *New society* (6th ed.). Toronto: Nelson.

### **Course Requirements**

This course offers a great deal as we are all participants in society and we all engage in various forms of social interaction. As such, I encourage you to approach the readings with an open mind and a willingness to learn. Students are expected to come to lectures and tutorials prepared to participate in class discussion in order to gain the most value from the course. As this is a condensed course, regular attendance is crucial since we will be covering (approximately) one unit per class. I will make my PowerPoint slides available on Blackboard, however I do not distribute my notes. You are encouraged to acquaint yourselves with other students should you require class notes.

You are expected to have an understanding of the material covered in the textbook as well the material covered in the class lectures, including videos. Exams will cover all material covered in class and in tutorial.

There are 4 components to this course for evaluation:

	Date	% of final grade
Midterm #1	May 24	30%
Midterm # 2	June 7	30%
Tutorials	TBA	10%
Finals exam	TBA	30%

1. Midterm exams: There are two midterm exams scheduled for this class. Each exam will be worth 30% of your final grade and will be written in regular class time.
  2. Tutorials: You will be asked to do various assignments in your tutorials by your TA. Some of these assignments will be graded. Please note that like the lectures, tutorials are a requirement and you are expected to attend regularly. They will be designed to be fun and interesting applications of the material you learn in lectures. Tutorial assignments will be designed and graded by your TA. The tutorial work is worth 10% of your final grade.
  3. Final exam: The final exam is scheduled by the registrar. It is worth 30% of the final grade.
- \*Students are expected to complete all course components in order to receive a final grade.

### **Grading Scale**

Letter grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

- A+ 95-100
- A 90-94
- A- 85-89
- B+ 80-84
- B 75-79
- B- 70-74
- C+ 67-69
- C 63-66
- C- 59-62
- D+ 54-58
- D 50-53
- F 0-49

### **Contact information**

You may contact the instructor and TA via email or Blackboard, however please be aware that we will only discuss course related questions and information during office hours. You may use email for administrative purposes and not in lieu of office hours. I will also use Blackboard to communicate with the class such as posting the course outline, test information, and course announcements.

## **Class protocol**

Your cooperation in maintaining a positive learning environment is appreciated; please be respectful of other students' time and contributions to the class. Cell phones and the use of other electronic devices to communicate is not permitted during class time. You may use laptop for note-taking only. The use of these devices for communication purposes may be distracting to your fellow students.

## **Tentative Course Schedule**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
May 1	Introduction: What is Sociology?	Chapter 1
May 15	Sociological Theory	Chapter 1
May 17	Culture	Chapter 2
May 22	Socialization	Chapter 3
May 24	Midterm/ Social Stratification	Chapter 6
May 29	Gender Inequality	Chapter 7
May 31	Race and Ethnicity	Chapter 8
June 5	Deviance	Chapter 14
June 7	Midterm/ Religion	Chapter 13
June 12	Family	Chapter 10
June 14	Politics and Social Movements	Chapter 18
June 19	Social Research Methods	Chapter 20
June 21	Review	No reading

\*Changes to the syllabus, if needed, will be discussed in class.

## **Other administrative information:**

### **Emergency evacuations**

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point. For lectures in the Science Theatres, this is in the Social Sciences Food Court (the foyer). For other rooms in Social Science, this is the Professional Faculties Food Court.

### **Deferrals**

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 or essay on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has 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 and misreading of the syllabus 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.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor 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 the instructor schedules a "make up" test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Department of Sociology.

### **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:

[http://ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM\\_0.pdf](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM_0.pdf)

### **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:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.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).

### **Ethics Research**

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 Departmental 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**

Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offences. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

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 main office. Written assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor's office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

### **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**

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, phone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.

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

1. When students are unable to submit papers in class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant. Papers will not be accepted in the main Sociology Department office.

2. Final papers will not be returned through the main Sociology Department office. The Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place (i.e. outside an instructor's office, the department office etc.) Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will be available for pick-up only during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or at the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are available only online.