



# UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS  
Department of Sociology  
Department of Sociology Website: <http://www.soci.ucalgary.ca>

## Sociology 201 Introduction to Sociology

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|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| • Spring 2019 | • Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00-11:45am | • CHC 119 |
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Instructor: Syed Hammad Ali  
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Office Hours: Tuesday: 1-3:00 pm & Thursday: 1-3:00 pm

### Course Description

This course will introduce basic concepts in the field of sociology. By surveying these concepts, this course will offer a more systematic understanding of how social life and institutions shape groups and individuals; and at the same time, how society evolves as a result of actions taken by groups and individuals. This interplay between social institutions, group actions, and individual actions lies at the heart of sociology. By understanding the dynamics and forces of this interplay, students will acquire what C. Wright Mills calls the "sociological imagination": the ability to connect people's experiences with larger social structures. In other words, students will become more perceptive of how personal experiences are shaped by historical-conditioned and contemporary social forces. After introducing both classical and contemporary sociological theories, the course will introduce key substantive areas of sociology research, e.g., social inequality, race and ethnicity, religion, to students. As a result, this course will enable students to develop critical thinking about social structures, individual actions, group actions and provide them a deeper understanding of sociological theories and methods.

### Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

1. Explain different sociological theories.
2. Describing sociology as a multi-perspective social science in which there are multiple paradigms, e.g., interpretive, positivist, and critical paradigms

3. Explore differences between positivist and interpretive approaches and various research methods
4. Explain how symbols and language are significant cultural components
5. Understand theoretical perspectives on society and sociological concept of reality
6. Learning about agents of socialization
7. Describe different levels of analysis in sociology: micro-level analysis, macro-level analysis, and global-level analysis
8. Explain the difference between race and ethnicity and identify different forms/types of discriminations
9. Explain how major sociological perspectives view religion
10. Discussion on what is meant by gender identity and sexual inequality in various societies.

### Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials

Steckley, John. 2017. *Elements of Sociology: A Canadian Introduction*. 4th Ed. Don Mills: Oxford University Press.

Please do **NOT** purchase earlier editions of the text. It will inadequately prepare you for the assessments.

For free study guides and practice quizzes go to: <https://arc2.oup-arc.com/access/steckley-4e-student-resources>

### Evaluation & Final Exam Information

Mid-Term Examination I	30%	May 21
Mid-Term Examination II	20%	May 30
Final Examination	50%	Scheduled by Registrar TBA

The first mid-term examination will take place on May 21 at 9:15 am in our regular lecture theatre. The second mid-term examination will take place on May 30 at 9:15 am in our regular lecture theatre. The final examination will be announced by the Registrar's Office. Examinations are not cumulative. Examinations will be in multiple-choice and true-false format. It is important that students attend all classes and examine every reading in order to meet the demands of this 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.

## 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 of the return of each examination grade, students seeking reappraisal may submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of the mark. The instructor will reconsider the assigned grade and book a time to meet with the student. A re-assessed grade may be increased, decreased, or remain the same.

## Technology Use

Electronic devices are common in Canadian 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.

## Email

Electronic mail is a convenient way for students to communicate with professors. If not used properly, however, email use can become problematic. Before sending an email, please attempt to obtain

information from the course outline. Please email me for administrative purposes only, for example, to set up an appointment. Please do not use email as a substitute for an office visit. Questions regarding course content, student challenges, grades, or other personal issues should be dealt with in person during my office hours. Please put your course number and section in your email's subject line, and include your full name, student ID. I do not answer emails over the weekend. All emails violating customary email conventions will be ignored. All other emails will be answered within three business days.

### Emergency Evacuations

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at **Professional Faculties – Food Court**

### 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. 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://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 2019-20 Students' Union VP Academic is Kevin Dang [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@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: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://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](#)