

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

**SOCIOLOGY 201-03: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
WINTER 2009**

Note: This is a working version, subject to change.

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| Instructor: Roland Simon | Teaching assistants: |
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Please use email for administrative concerns only. Substantive issues should be addressed in person, either in class, tutorial, or during office hours. The course email address (soci201@gmail.com) is the **ONLY** email address to be used. Emails to the instructor's and TA's personal addresses will be ignored.

This course will introduce students to the basics of sociology, including the theories and methods used, and the topics covered. Sociology, very basically, is the study of human interaction in any number of settings, and from a variety of perspectives. The tie that binds the different perspectives—some large scale (macro), some small scale (micro), and others in-between—is a concern with *the social*, the idea that whatever we do as human beings is inherently interconnected with other people. There are far too many topics and perspectives to possibly cover in one semester, but we will do a general overview of the field and some of the most prominent subjects.

Each student is assigned to a tutorial section as well as the lecture. The tutorials are designed to give a more in-depth look at some of the topics we cover. With the smaller class sizes, they are a perfect chance to ask questions and get clarification on lecture and textbook material. Tutorials will also be used for developing and explaining the writing assignment. You are responsible for all material covered in the tutorials.

Required textbook:

Macionis, J. and L. Gerber. 2008. Sociology, Sixth Canadian Edition. Toronto: Pearson Education Canada.

You are responsible for reading all material in the textbook. We will not have time to cover every topic in the book in class, but all material in the book is testable.

Evaluation:

Midterm 1: 25%. Thursday, February 12, 2009. This exam will cover the first topics, including what is sociology, sociological theories and perspectives, and the beginning of the sociological research methods.

Midterm 2: 25%. Thursday, March 19, 2009. This exam will cover substantive topics from the first midterm up to this point.

Writing assignment: 15%. Thursday, March 26, 2009. More details will follow, but this will be a maximum 5-page paper in which you examine an everyday activity from a sociological perspective.

Final exam: 35%. Registrar scheduled. Primarily covers material from the second midterm to the end of the semester, but there will be coverage of material from throughout the course.

Notes:

1. Late papers will be penalized 10% per day. Papers must be turned in at the beginning of class on DATE to avoid late penalties. Under no circumstances should papers be turned in to the Sociology department office. They will not be accepted there. Nor should papers be shoved under office doors, they must be given directly to the instructor or TA.
2. A student seeking reappraisal of graded exams or lab exercises must submit, in writing, a detailed explanation of why the student feels the grade was inappropriate within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is handed back. Consistent with Faculty of Social Sciences regulations, the entire exam or assignment will be remarked and the mark may be raised, lowered or remain the same.

Grade breakdown:

| Letter Grade | % Range |
|---------------------|----------------|
| A+ | 96 and above |
| A | 90-95 |
| A- | 85-89 |
| B+ | 80-84 |
| B | 76-79 |
| B- | 72-75 |
| C+ | 67-71 |
| C | 63-66 |
| C- | 59-62 |
| D+ | 54-58 |
| D | 50-53 |
| F | 49 and less |

Course Topics

Note: Because it is hard to predict how much time we will spend on each topic, I just provide here the topics and associated readings, in the order we will cover them. This is subject to change.

Topic 1: What is sociology?

Chapters 1 and 4

Topic 2: How do sociologists research?

Chapter 2

Topic 3: Everyday life

Chapter 6

Topic 4: Socialization

Chapter 5

Topic 5: Stratification

Chapters 10 and 11

Topic 6: Deviance

Chapter 9

Topic 7: Gender

Chapter 13

Topic 8: Marriage and Family

Chapter 18

Topic 9: Sex and Sexuality

Chapter 8

Topic 10: Health and Medicine

Chapter 21

Topic 11: Education

Chapter 20

Topic 12: Religion

Chapter 19

Topic 13: Race and Ethnicity

Chapter 14

Topic 14: Population, Urbanization, and Environment

Chapter 22

Important Information

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 Sociology Department.

Please note that requests to defer a final examination or to defer term work past the end of a term go through the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) and must be processed by the deadlines that are established in the U. of C. Calendar. You can find the forms you need at:

Deferred Final Exam Application:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Winter2008DEFERREDFINALEXAMINATIONS.pdf>

Deferred Term Work Form:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

You must submit these deferral forms to the Social Sciences Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre.

To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term. Instructors are not involved in such decisions.

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 offenses. 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, telephone 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.**