

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY**

**SOCIOLOGY 201-03: AN INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY  
COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2010**

Instructor: Dr. Linda Henderson  
Office: SS 903  
Phone: 220-6501  
Office Hours: by appointment

Classroom: ICT 102  
Classtime: Tues & Thurs  
3:30 pm to 4:15 pm  
Tutorials: See below

Teaching Assistants: Ali Kamal, Michal Kofman

**VERY IMPORTANT NOTE: Lap top computers may only be used in this class with special permission of the instructor. Cell phones and all other electronic devices MUST be turned off and stowed during class. Class attendance is essential for success in this class.**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Sociologists, like other social scientists, are interested in the scientific study of human behaviour. This course provides an introduction to the sociological perspective and is organized around five broad questions: (1) What is “sociology”?; (2) What kinds of explanations of social behaviour make the most sense to sociologists?; (3) What do sociologists do?; (4) What are some of the substantive topics studied by sociologists?; and (5) What can you do with sociological insight? We will explore these questions in a variety of ways including lectures, class and tutorial discussions, course readings, written assignments, guest speakers, field trips and multi-media experiences!

**REQUIRED COURSE RESOURCES**

1. Course Readings - Available in a booklet from the University Book Store
2. GRIFFIN, John Howard. 1996. *Black Like Me*. New York: Signet Books.

**(Important note:** Students are expected to integrate the appropriate content from the readings into the overall structure of the material presented in class lectures)

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*Find out more about the U of C Students' Union at [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)  
Find out more about the U of C Career Services at [www.ucalgary.ca/careers](http://www.ucalgary.ca/careers)*

**Campus SAFEWALK - call 220-5333**

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

### **A. WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY? (*Readings: #1, #2*)**

- What is Science? Knowledge and Evaluating Knowledge Claims
- What is Social Science?
- The Sociological Perspective

### **B. SOCIAL THEORY - EXPLANATIONS FOR HUMAN BEHAVIOUR THAT MAKE SENSE TO SOCIOLOGISTS (*Reading: #3*)**

- What is a theory?
- Types of theory
- Ideas of early thinkers
- Major theoretical schools

### **C. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY - HOW DO SOCIOLOGISTS DO RESEARCH? (*Readings: #4, #5, #6*)**

- The Research Process
- Research Issues
- Research Methods

### **D. SOCIOLOGICAL SUBSTANTIVE INTERESTS - WHAT DO SOCIOLOGISTS STUDY? (A TASTE FROM THE SMORGASBORD)**

#### **1. Main Dishes (*Reading: #7*)**

##### **a) Social Processes**

- History of human societies
- Socialization

##### **b) Social "Problems"/Issues (*Readings: #8, #9*)**

- Stratification/Structural Inequality (class, gender, race/ethnicity)
- Crime and Deviance

##### **c) Social Institutions (*Readings: #10 to #14*)**

- Family
- Religion
- Work/Economic
- Education
- Politics and Government
- Mass Media

## **COURSE SCHEDULE CONTINUED**

### 2. A Few Side Dishes (Readings: #15, #16)

- Sport
- The Body
- Emotions
- Medical Sociology

### E. WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? FURTHER SOCIOLOGICAL “PURSUITS”

- Other Sociology Courses
- A Degree in Sociology and The Co-op Program
- Getting a job with a Sociology Degree

**Please NOTE:** There are no class lectures on:

Tuesday and Thursday, February 16, 18, 2010 (Reading Week)

## **STUDENT EVALUATION**

Midterm #1, in class, Thurs, February 4, 2010	20%
Midterm #2, in class, Thurs, March 11, 2010	20%
Tutorial Activities	15%
Written Assignment (due Thurs April 1, 2010)	15%
* <b>Final Exam</b> , Registrar Scheduled	<u>30%</u>
total	100%

\* **Please NOTE:** The final exam could be on any day from April 19 - 29, 2010.

University of Calgary regulations (as outlined in the University of Calgary Calendar) concerning both plagiarism and missed exams or assignments will apply. You must provide **advance** notice to your instructor if you are unable to take an exam.

## **WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT**

The purpose of the written assignment is to give you the opportunity to develop your sociological imaginations and critical thinking skills by utilizing the theoretical and substantive ideas presented in class to conduct a sociological analysis of John Howard Griffin’s *Black Like Me*. More details about this short, structured written assignment will be given out in class on March 11, 2010 (at the second midterm). It will be due Thursday, **April 1, 2010**.

## **TUTORIAL ACTIVITIES - Important!!!!!!!**

All students have been scheduled to attend one of six weekly tutorial sessions. These tutorials are a critically important part of our class and will involve a number of activities to encourage you to develop practical and critical thinking skills that will be useful not only in our class, but in other courses and in the “real world” as well. The tutorial activities are worth 15% of your overall grade. More details about these activities will be given in the tutorial sessions. PLEASE BEGIN TO ATTEND TUTORIALS THE WEEK OF JANUARY 18 to 22, 2010. Students MUST attend the tutorial in which they are officially registered.

Tut 19 Tuesday at 5:00-5:50 pm	ST 027
Tut 20 Thursday at 5:00-5:50 pm	SA 145
Tut 21 Tuesday at 12:30-1:20 pm	EDC 284
Tut 22 Thursday at 12:30-1:20 pm	EDC 284
Tut 23 Tuesday at 11:00-11:50 am	ST 131
Tut 24 Thursday at 11:00-11:50 am	A 167

*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 the instructor’s office, from the department office, etc. Term assignments must be returned to the students individually, during class, or during the instructor’s office hours; if students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignments.*

**Please note:** Students with disabilities who require academic accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, phone 220-8237) and provide documentation to the course instructor no later than 14 days after the first day of class.

## **LETTER GRADE ASSIGNMENT**

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>% Range</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>% Range</u>
A	90 or higher	C	63-66
A-	85-89	C-	59-62
B+	80-84	D+	54-58
B	76-79	D	50-53
B-	72-75	F	49 or less
C+	67-71		

Students who achieve overall numerical grades of 95% or higher will have A+ recorded on their official transcripts. Please note that grades in this course are NOT negotiable.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Please see the next page for Department of Sociology Mandatory Information for Course Outlines

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY MANDATORY INFORMATION FOR COURSE OUTLINES

**Exam Policies:** You must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination 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. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” exam as close to the original exam as possible. The date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

**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:** cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. 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. Term 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.**

### **Handing in Papers Outside of Class, Return of Final Papers and Release of Final Grades**

1. When students are unable to submit papers at class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant rather than at the Sociology Department main office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of 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 only be available for pick-up during the instructor’s office hours at the end of this term or the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.