

Sociology 201: Introduction to Sociology

Dr. John Manzo

Office: 908 SS

Office Hours, Winter 2012: Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00-3:00

Office Phone: 403-220-6720

e-mail: jmanzo@ucalgary.ca

Teaching Assistants for Winter 2012:

[Jenny Kelly](#), [Marcus Plottel](#), [Nazario Robles](#), and [Sonja Schuetz](#)

Sociology is a broad discipline comprising an enormous variety of theories, methods, and studies that address human experience that is different from that addressed by other sciences. Sociology is unique in its consistent emphasis on a distinct level of reality—the social—to account for personal experience as well as the experience of groups of persons, from couples (at the “micro” level of sociological work) to nations and even the entire human race (at the “macro” level), acting in concert. Sociology also concerns, in the first place, the existence, definition, and the availability for study of this thing called “society,” and it is with this core theoretical issue that this course begins.

We will not be able to uncover the entire field of sociology in this course. My agenda is to expose as much as possible, and especially to apprise every student of the uniqueness of sociology as a discipline among the social sciences, and of the usefulness of sociology in understanding the place of social forces in determining and understanding individual, group-based, and collective behaviour.

Required Text:

Macdonis, J and L Gerber. 2011. Sociology. Seventh Canadian Edition. Toronto: Pearson Education Canada. **Do not purchase earlier editions!**

The powerpoint slides for all of my lectures is available on my webdisk and not on blackboard. The direct URL for the PPT directory:

https://webdisk.ucalgary.ca/~jmanzo/public_html/lectures/201/. The files are labelled in ways that should make it clear which files attach to which sections in the course outline, but I will try to clarify this where necessary.

Course Requirements:

There are four formal grade components, as follows:

1. **Two in-class tests** will respectively constitute 20% and 20% of your final grade. The tests will consist of 20 multiple choice items and are **not cumulative** with respect to topics covered. The tests will take place in class, in our regular lecture location. The first test will take place on **Wednesday, February 15** and the second on **Friday, March 30**. At least five days before the midterms and final exam, I post a **STUDY GUIDE** via Blackboard concerning topics to be covered. I will send notifications when this study guide is available.

2. A final exam, which **is cumulative** with respect to topics covered, will be given at a date to be scheduled during the exam period. The final exam will also be worth 40% of your semester grade and will comprise multiple choice and, possibly, essay components.

3. Tutorial work will constitute 20% of your final grade. Tutorial work will comprise four formal writing aspects, and each of the four written components will constitute 5% of your grade for a total of 20%. The details of assignments will be devised and organized by your TAs and they will announce them as early as possible.

I have made the difficult decision of not having the tutorials formally meet as per the published schedule, mostly because a recent increase to 45 students per section makes any pedagogical use of the tutorial space impossible. I have instead tasked each TA to devise a written assignment and, during the week prior to and the week following its due date, to be available to students either in the assigned classrooms themselves or, where that is impossible, to provide contact hours in their offices. As such you can, for each assignment, have your tutorial “slot” to discuss the assignment with the assigning TA (details of who this is and what he or she assigns will be clarified via blackboard), but this will be discretionary on your part.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

A+	96-100
A	90-95
A-	85-89
B+	80-84
B	74-79
B-	70-73
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52
F	0-49

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.

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.

MY Exam Policy: I do not allow deferred **first** tests; if you miss the first test, the weight of that test is simply applied to your second test. If you have missed the **SECOND TEST** for a legitimate reason, you will be able to write a “make up” test as close to the original exam as possible, or to have the test waived and the weight of the missed test be added to that of the final exam if Professor Manzo and the student agree to this option. The date and location of make-up tests 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.

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 online:

Deferred Final Exam Application:

http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM_0.pdf

Deferred Term Work Form:

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

You must submit these deferral forms to the Faculty of Arts Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre. Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term.

Instructors are not involved in such decisions. To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

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.

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 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.

Note on Course Outline:

You will note that I have organized this course to encompass seventeen topics, or modules. I have not assigned dates to these, because I can never be certain that I will cover all of a topic on a particular date, or if/when I may have to be absent. Generally, I will cover one topic per lecture, but instead of attaching a date to each, I simply refer to them as “sections.” All chapter references are to the text.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND LECTURE TOPICS. Please note that this schedule is subject to modification.

- 1: Introductory. No reading.
- 2: The Perspectives of Sociology; Foundational Theories. Reading: Chapters 1 and 4.
- 3: Methods of Sociological Inquiry. Reading: Chapter 2.
- 4: Everyday Life. Reading: Chapter 6.
- 5: Socialization. Reading: Chapter 5.
6. Aging and the Life Course. Reading: Chapter 15.
- 7: Gender and Sexuality. Reading: Chapters 8 and 13.
- 8: Groups, Organizations and Bureaucracy. Reading: Chapter 7
- 9: Marriage and Family. Reading: Chapter 18.
- 10: Conformity, Deviance, and Crime. Reading: Chapter 9.
- 11: Social Class and Social Inequality. Reading: Chapters 11.
- 12: Political Sociology, Collective Behaviors, and Social Movements. Reading: Chapters 17 and 23.
- 13: Religion. Reading: Chapter 19.
- 14: Health, Illness and Medicine. Reading: Chapter 21.
- 15: Race and Ethnicity. Reading: Chapter 14
- 16: International Inequality. Reading: Chapter 12.
- 17: Demography. Reading: Chapter 22.