



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Winter 2021

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: Sociology of Education			
Course Number	SOC 301.8		
Pre-Requisite	Sociology 201		
Instructor Name	Scott McLean	Email	smclean@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	D2L is the primary platform for communication in this course. Questions regarding course content, assignments, and examinations should be posted to the appropriate location on D2L. Instructions will be provided as to what types of communication are appropriate for various locations on D2L. You are free to email me if you have questions or concerns that you do not wish to communicate publicly. Note that I will respond to emails as quickly as feasible and according to their urgency.		
TA Name	Jacey Magnussen	TA Email	jacey.magnussen@ucalgary.ca
Class Dates	See the schedule of examinations, below.		
Class Times	n/a		
Class Location	Online.		

Course Description

Calendar description: This course examines sociological research in the field of education. The focus is primarily upon primary / secondary schools and post-secondary institutions in Canada, but studies of other educational domains and countries are included. Attention is given both to the ways in which social structures influence educational practices and outcomes, and to the ways in which educational experiences influence individuals and society.

There are two teaching and learning strategies for this course, each of which contributes to the overall learning outcome of building students' knowledge about the sociology of education. First, students **read a textbook:** Scott Davies and Neil Guppy (2018) *The Schooled Society: An Introduction to the Sociology of Education*. Don Mills: Oxford University Press. The textbook provides a broad

overview of sociological theory and research relating to education in Canada. The textbook may be purchased through the University of Calgary bookstore in digital format or hard copy.

Second, students **listen to recorded lectures**, designed to complement information provided in the textbook and highlight exemplary studies undertaken in the sociology of education. Lectures will be posted to D2L prior to the start of each week in the schedule below.

Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

1. To become aware of the basic parameters of Canadians' lifelong engagement with education.
2. The learn about the history and ideology of education in Canada.
3. To understand classical and contemporary social theories of education.
4. To understand the relationships between education and various forms of inequality.
5. To understand the influence of schooling on students' subjectivities.
6. To become familiar with a range of contemporary issues in the sociology of education.

Course Format

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this course will be delivered without face-to-face instruction. All lectures will be recorded and made available to students via D2L. Questions pertaining to all aspects of the course should be asked through discussion forums established by the instructor on D2L. Exams will be written via D2L. See below for the dates of the six examinations for this course.

Learning Resources

The textbook, identified above, may be purchased through the University of Calgary bookstore in eBook or in hard copy format.

Learning Technologies and Requirements

There is a D2L site for this course, which contains all relevant class resources and materials. Given that this course is delivered remotely, you must have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system
- A current and updated web browser
- Webcam (built-in or external)
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone
- Current security, malware, antivirus and/or firewall software enabled
- Broadband (stable) internet connection

Note that most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker, and microphone.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Synopsis

Weekly themes	Chapters	Recorded lectures	Exams
1. Introduction	One	Course overview; Thinking sociologically.	
2. Education in Canada	Four	Ideology; Education across the lifespan in Canada.	
3. Education in Canada	Eight	History of Inuit schooling; Return on investment.	Exam 1
4. Social theory	Two	Grand theories of education and society.	
5. Social Theory	Three	Postmodernism and education.	Exam 2
6. Term break	n/a	n/a	
7. Inequality	Five	Early childhood to grad school. Gender and STEM	
8. Inequality	Six	Racism at school. The geography of inequality.	Exam 3
9. Inequality	Seven	Social class, capital, and habitus. Sexism.	
10. Subjectivity	Eleven	Producing individuality. Producing docility.	Exam 4
11. Subjectivity	Twelve	Performing heteronormativity. Private schools.	
12. Contemporary issues	Nine	High school shootings. Intersectionality.	Exam 5
13. Contemporary issues	Ten	University rankings. Sex education.	
14. Contemporary issues	Thirteen	Course wrap-up.	Exam 6

Week 1 (January 11 – 17): Introduction to the Sociology of Education

- Recorded Lectures:
 - Course overview
 - Thinking sociologically about education
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 1: The Context for the Schooled Society

Week 2 (January 18 – 24): Education in Canada

- Recorded lectures:
 - Education as an ideal and an ideology
 - Education across the lifespan in Canada
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 4: Education Revolutionized: The Growth of Modern Schooling

Week 3 (January 25 – 31): Education in Canada

- **Exam 1: To be written online through D2L on January 28, with time limit announced via D2L.**
- Recorded lectures:
 - History of Inuit schooling
 - Returns on investment to higher education in Canada
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 8: The Changing Organization of Schooling

Week 4 (February 1 – 7): Social Theory and Education

- Recorded lectures:
 - Grand theories of education and society

- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 2: Classical Sociological Approaches to Education

Week 5 (February 8 – 14): Social Theory and Education

- **Exam 2: To be written online through D2L on February 11, with time limit announced via D2L.**
- Recorded lectures:
 - Postmodernity, postmodernism, and education
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 3: Contemporary Sociological Approaches to Schooling

Week 6 (February 15 – 21): Term Break

- No readings or lectures for this week, due to term break (reading week).

Week 7 (February 22 – 28): Schooling and the Reproduction of Inequality

- Recorded lectures:
 - Inequality and education: from early childhood to graduate school
 - Gender and STEM
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 5: The Structural Transformation of Schooling: Accommodation, Competition, and Stratification

Week 8 (March 1 – 7): Schooling and the Reproduction of Inequality

- **Exam 3: To be written online through D2L on March 4, with time limit announced via D2L.**
- Recorded lectures:
 - Racism and racial conflict at school
 - The geography of inequality in the USA
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 6: Unequal Student Attainments: Class and Socio-economic Status

Week 9 (March 8 – 14): Schooling and the Reproduction of Inequality

- Recorded lectures:
 - Social class, capital, and habitus
 - Sexism in learning materials
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 7: Attainments by Gender, Race, Sexuality, and other Equity Categories

Week 10 (March 15 – 21): Schooling and the Reproduction of Subjectivities

- **Exam 4: To be written online through D2L on March 18, with time limit announced via D2L.**
- Recorded lectures:
 - Producing individuality

- Producing docility
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 11: Socialization: The Changing Influence of Schools on Students

Week 11 (March 22 – 28): Schooling and the Reproduction of Subjectivities

- Recorded lectures:
 - Performing heteronormativity
 - Producing class and gender at private schools
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 12: The Limits of Socialization: Competing Influences on Students

Week 12 (March 29 – April 4): Contemporary Issues in the Sociology of Education

- **Exam 5: To be written online through D2L on April 1, with time limit announced via D2L.**
- Recorded lectures:
 - High school shootings
 - Intersectionality and the social world of junior high school
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 9: Curriculum: The Content of Schooling

Week 13 (April 5 – 11): Contemporary Issues in the Sociology of Education

- Recorded lectures:
 - University rankings
 - Sex education
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 10: The Sociology of Teaching

Week 14 (April 12 – 15): Contemporary Issues in the Sociology of Education

- **Exam 6: To be written online through D2L on April 15, with time limit announced via D2L.**
- Recorded lectures:
 - Course wrap-up
- Reading from *The Schooled Society*:
 - Chapter 13: Future Directions for Canadian Education

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

Grades in this class will be based on the completion of the following requirements:

- Exam 1 (15%) to be written on January 28.
- Exam 2 (15%) to be written on February 11.
- Exam 3 (20%) to be written on March 4.
- Exam 4 (20%) to be written on March 18.
- Exam 5 (15%) to be written on April 1.
- Exam 6 (15%) to be written on April 15.

Notes for assessments

Exams for this course will be written during the 24-hour period indicated by the dates above (i.e., from 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. Exams will be written via the D2L platform. As such, students must have reliable access to the technologies listed above under “Learning Technologies and Requirements.” Students will be given 30 minutes to write each examination.

Scheduling: If you are not available to write the exams on the dates specified above, you must inform your instructor by email no later than noon on the date that falls two weeks prior to each examination. If you provide a compelling reason why you cannot write the exams on the dates specified, then alternative arrangements will be made.

Contingency plan in case of emergency: If you experience a disruption in your ability to complete an exam, then you are to email the instructor at your earliest convenience to explain the circumstances of the disruption and make alternative arrangements.

Final Exam Information

There is no registrar-scheduled final examination for 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 performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Absences and Deferrals

Students who miss an examination should inform their instructor as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, the instructor may decide that arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. **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 requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at:

<https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferral-of-term-work-2020.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

Grade Reappraisal

Within one week of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. All examinations must be written via D2L in accordance with instructions.
2. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
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 Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. 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.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of

textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed, or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Recording of Lectures

The audio or video recording of lectures and taking screengrabs of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are not permitted without explicit authorization. The non-authorized media recording of lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure. For more information click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Publicly sharing lectures notes and exam questions on 3rd party sites such as OneClass, StudyBlue, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc. is not permitted. If you wish to use these helpful studying tools, make sure you adjust your privacy settings accordingly. Any violations are subject to investigation under the UofC Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy. For more information, click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

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.html>

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.