

Sociology (SOCL) 303 – Lecture 01
Sociology of Gender Relations
Fall 2011
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 1100 – 1215

Instructor: Dr. Fiona Nelson
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Office Hours: Tuesdays 1400-1600
Or by appointment

Additional Information:

Course materials, grades, and a discussion board will be available on Blackboard. Go to: <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login>

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to social scientific approaches to questions around human sex and gender. We will examine how these dimensions of individual and social life are constructed and lived across a variety of settings. Our focus will be primarily Canadian/North American but with a sensitivity to larger global connections and contexts.

Objectives of the Course:

Students should come out of the course with:

- an understanding of the differences between sex and gender;
- an understanding of “the cultural gender equation” – the ways in which sex and gender are understood to inform and construct each other – and alternative critical perspectives on this “equation”;
- an understanding of some of the political dimensions of gender;
- an understanding of how gender plays out in work, education, media, families and relationships;
- knowledge of various Sociological and Feminist perspectives on gender;
- an appreciation of the diversity of perspectives and experiences of the members of this class. Gender is a dimension at the very heart of one’s sense of self. This can make it a very challenging, although highly rewarding, topic to critically analyze. It is imperative that we treat each other with respect, responding in a scholarly manner to ideas and arguments.

Computer and Internet Use:

Computers/tablets are to be used for note-taking only. All other devices should be turned off and put away. Please bear in mind that using your computer/tablet/phone to surf the net, shop, email, check Facebook, update your tweets, etc. is very distracting to your classmates. It is also a waste of your tuition fees for this course.

Textbook:

Kimmel, Michael S. and Jacqueline Holler. 2011. *The Gendered Society: Canadian Edition*. Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press.

Course Requirements and Grading:

Two Critical Film Reflection Assignments (20% each)	40%
Midterm Exam	25%
Registrar-scheduled Final Exam	35%

ABOUT THE TWO CRITICAL FILM REFLECTION ASSIGNMENTS

- When: Weeks of October 11 & 13 and November 15 & 17
- Worth: 20% each (40% in total)
- What: On the Tuesday of the week (October 11 and November 15), we will view and discuss a film related to the topics we have been covering. On the Thursday (October 13 and November 17), you will have the class time to write an essay about the film, in answer to a question or set of questions that will be provided. While the primary focus will be the film, it should be considered and discussed within the context of the course material. Thus, everything (readings, lectures, films) covered to the time of the assignment will be relevant.

ABOUT THE MIDTERM EXAM:

- When: Thursday, October 27
- Worth: 25%
- What: The midterm exam will have multiple-choice, true/false and short answer questions. You will have the complete class period for the exam. No books, notes or computers/electronic devices are permissible. Be sure to bring both a pencil (with eraser) and a pen to the exam. The exam will cover all material to date, including assigned readings, lectures, class discussions and films.

ABOUT THE FINAL EXAM:

- When: Date to be announced by the registrar's office
Exam will be two hours in duration
- Worth: 35%
- What: Like the midterm exam, the final exam will have multiple-choice, true/false and short answer questions. No books, notes or computers/electronic devices are permissible. Be sure to bring both a pencil (with eraser) and a pen to the exam. Please also bring photo ID to the exam. Although the exam will favour material covered since the midterm, it will be comprehensive. The exam will thus cover all materials from the beginning of the semester, including assigned readings, lectures, class discussions and films.

**** All course components must be completed for a passing grade to be attainable**

Grading System

The following grading system will be used:

	Grading Scale
A+	95-100
A	90-94.99
A -	85-89.99
B+	80-84.99
B	75-79.99
B-	70-74.99
C+	67-69.99
C	63-66.99
C-	59-62.99
D+	54-58.99
D	50-53.99
F	0-49.99

Deferrals:

If at all possible you must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or submit 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 Department of Sociology.

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 about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at:

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

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 <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.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).

Submitting work, getting it back, and the 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. Under no circumstances may papers/assignments be placed on or under the professor’s door. Papers will not be accepted in the Sociology Department office.
2. The midterm exam and the critical film assignments will be returned in class. The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve their work from a public place (i.e. outside an instructor’s office, the department office etc.) If you are absent the day something is returned, you should retrieve it from the professor during office hours. Final exams will not be returned to students.
3. Final grades are not posted publicly. They are available only online.

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.**

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.

"SAFEWALK" Program

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.

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-subject research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

No human-subject research will be required in this class

Emergency evacuations:

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point at the Social Sciences Food Court. Secondary assembly point (if the first is inaccessible) is the Professional Faculties Food Court.

Students' Union:

Students' Union contacts can be found at:

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Schedule of Topics and Readings

The following are the dates by which indicated readings should be completed. We might spend a slightly longer or shorter time on a topic, depending on the duration and content of class discussions. The reading schedule, however, should be adhered to.

<i>Week One:</i>	<i>Introductions</i>	
Tuesday, September 13		No Reading Assigned
Thursday, September 15		No Reading Assigned
<i>Week Two:</i>	<i>Cultural Gender Equation</i>	
Tuesday, September 20		Chapter 1
Thursday, September 22		Chapter 2
<i>Week Three:</i>	<i>Cultural Gender Equation</i>	
Tuesday, September 27		Chapter 3
Thursday, September 29		Chapter 4
<i>Week Four:</i>	<i>Gendered Bodies</i>	
Tuesday, October 4		Chapter 11
Thursday, October 6		No Reading Assigned
<i>Week Five:</i>	<i>Critical Film Reflection</i>	
Tuesday, October 11		No Reading Assigned
Thursday, October 13		Assignment - No Reading
<i>Week Six:</i>	<i>Sociological and Feminist Perspectives</i>	
Tuesday, October 18		Chapter 5
Thursday, October 20		No Reading Assigned
<i>Week Seven:</i>	<i>First-half Wrap and Midterm Exam</i>	
Tuesday, October 25		No Reading Assigned
Thursday, October 27		Midterm Exam - No Reading
<i>Week Eight:</i>	<i>The Gendered Media</i>	
Tuesday, November 1		Chapter 9
Thursday, November 3		No Reading Assigned
<i>Week Nine:</i>	<i>The Gendered Media</i>	
Tuesday, November 8		No Reading Assigned
Thursday, November 10		Reading Day – No Class
<i>Week Ten:</i>	<i>Critical Film Reflection</i>	
Tuesday, November 15		No Reading Assigned
Thursday, November 17		Assignment – No Reading

Week Eleven:

Tuesday, November 22
Thursday, November 24

Gender and Relationships

Chapter 6
Chapter 10

Week Twelve:

Tuesday, November 29
Thursday, December 1

Gendered Education and Work

Chapter 7
Chapter 8

Week Thirteen:

Tuesday, December 6
Thursday, December 8

Gender and Violence

Chapter 12
Epilogue