

**Department of Sociology
University of Calgary**

**SOCI 331.03
Classical Sociological Theory
Fall 2016**

Instructor: Dr. Liza McCoy
Office: SS 934
Email: mcco@ucalgary.ca
Phone: 403-220-6856
Office hours: Wednesdays 11:00-1:00 pm; and by appointment

Course Description

This is a core course for students majoring in Sociology. It has several objectives:

- 1) to provide you with an introduction to the intellectual and social history of Sociology. (How and when did it become possible to study “society” in a systematic way? What topics were important to early social theorists and sociologists? How did these topics emerge from the social, political and economic contexts of the time?);
- 2) to acquaint you with the key ideas of some of the most influential social theorists of the period 1830-1930 and their contributions to modern Sociology;
- 3) to provide you with practical experience in reading, critically comparing and writing about original works of social theory and analysis;
- 4) to acquaint you with some of the ways contemporary sociologists use classical theory to examine contemporary issues and practices;
- 5) to provide you with an opportunity to consider contemporary issues and practices (e.g., gender, racialization, consumer society, social media, inequality) through the lens of classical theory, thereby evaluating the continuing relevance of the theory – while also building your skills as a critical sociologist.

Course Readings

Course pack available in the University of Calgary Book Store.
An additional five articles. You’ll find the links to these readings on the List of Readings in the courses D2L site.

Learning Activities and Assessment

Short writing assignment: This is 2-page (approx.) piece of writing due October 3, on a topic that will be given in class on September 26. This assignment will give you a chance to practise writing with and about theory.

Essay: This is a 4-5 page essay due November 21. In this essay you will use classical theory to critically consider a contemporary situation. The topic will be assigned in October and essay guidelines will be given at that time.

Exams: There is one midterm exam (October 24) and a registrar-controlled final exam (date to be determined). Exams will cover material from lectures and readings; they will include fixed choice, short answer and essay questions. Parts of the final exam will be cumulative.

Grading

Short writing assignment	10 %
Midterm exam	25 %
Essay	25 %
Final exam	40 %
Total	100 %

Please be aware that **you must achieve a final grade of C- or higher in order to proceed to SOCI 333**. This is University policy for courses that will count as a pre-requisite.

Your final letter grade will be determined according to the following schedule:

95-100	A+	90-94	A
85-89	A-	80-84	B+
75-79	B	70-74	B-
67-69	C+	63-66	C
60-62	C-	55-59	D+
50-54	D	0-49	F

Instructor's Policies (Please read!)

1. **Technology use:** Laptop computers and tablets are permitted for the purpose of making notes or doing course-related work. If you are using your device for non-course related purposes in a way that is distracting to me or to other students, you will be asked to restrict your use to course-related work.

2. **Recording lectures:** Please ask my permission in writing (email is fine) before making any visual or audio recordings of class proceedings. Permission to record will only be granted for personal use, which includes sharing with other students currently enrolled in SOCI 331.03. Images or recordings must be deleted before December 31, 2016. They must not be shared with anyone outside the class.

3. **Email:** I will answer email within 24 hours during the school week (usually much quicker); I do not usually respond to email over the weekend, unless it is an urgent matter. Please check the course outline and the D2L site before emailing me with questions about due dates, requirements, or test formats. The information you are seeking may already have been provided to you. If you have questions about course content or want to discuss your participation in the course, let's talk face to face: in class, after class, or in my office.

4. **Posting lecture slides:** Some slide material will be posted in D2L before the start of class so that you can use it as a basis for taking notes. There will be information given in class that is not on the slides, as well as extensive discussions of the readings, and not all classes will involve slides, so it will be very important for you to obtain class notes for any days you miss. *I highly recommend that you set up a note-sharing arrangement with one or more of your classmates.*

5. **Plagiarism:** In accordance with University policy, I report all cases of plagiarism. Plagiarized work gets an automatic grade of 0. The easy way to avoid this: *Don't download material from the Internet. Write your essays in your own words and properly cite all quoted material.*

6. **Missed exams:** If you must miss a mid-term exam for University-approved reasons, I will schedule a make-up exam for you, to be written as soon as possible during the Sociology Department's designated schedule for make-up exams.

7. **Grade reappraisal:** If you would like an exam or assignment to be reappraised, or if you have questions about your grade, contact me within two weeks of the return of the exam or assignment. I may ask you to put your request in writing for clarity and so I have a record.

8. **Rounding up final grades:** My decisions about whether to round up any final grades falling on the cusp between letter grades will take into consideration your overall performance in the course. I am most likely to round a grade up when (a) the grade is more than halfway to the grade above *and* (b) the letter grade for the final exam is higher than the cumulative final grade for the course.

Department and University Policy Information (*I don't write this part*)

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

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 Faculty 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

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-2-1.html>

Deferrals

When possible, *please provide advance notice if you are unable to write an exam or complete/turn-in assignments 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 health issue rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements, misreading the syllabus, and scheduling conflicts with other classes or employment 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:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-forms>

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

https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/deferred_termwork15_0.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).

Student Representation

The 2016-17 Students' Union VP Academic is Alicia Lunz (suvpaca@ucalgary.ca). The Faculty of Arts has four SU representatives who may be contacted at any of the following email addresses: arts1@ucalgary.ca, arts2@ucalgary.ca, arts3@ucalgary.ca, and arts4@ucalgary.ca. You may also wish to contact the Student Ombudsperson for help with a variety of University-related matters: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds/role>

Emergency Evacuations

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point in the Social Science Building Food Court. Please check these assembly point locations for all of your classes at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

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 needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services (MC 293, phone 403-220-8237) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf. Please provide academic accommodation letters to the instructor as early in the semester as possible and no later than two weeks after the course begins.