

University of Calgary
Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Sociology
Sociology 365 – Social Stratification
Course Outline, Winter 2009

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Hours: TBA

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Office Hours: MWF 9-10:00am
or by appointment
Classroom: ICT 121

Introduction: At home and abroad, Canada is regarded as a relatively egalitarian nation. Compared to many countries in the world, Canada is a wealthy state with generous social programs to assist those who may slip through the cracks at times. This is not to say, however, that homelessness, persistent poverty and significant inequality are absent from the nation. What are the causes and effects of social stratification? In order to better understand social stratification, should attention be placed upon individual attributes or structural factors? How does inequality manifest itself in Canada and how should it be dealt with?

Text: In addition to Blackboard readings, we will explore the questions raised above using the following text: McMullin, J. (2004). *Understanding social inequality: Intersections of class, age, gender, ethnicity, and race in Canada*. Don Mills: Oxford University Press. A reading schedule may be found on the next page. Students will be expected to carefully consider each assigned chapter/reading before class and make use of slide show notes available on Blackboard. Please realize that these files do not represent an exhaustive set of notes and are not an alternative to attending class regularly.

Evaluation

There are three requirements to complete this course.

1. Mid-term I 30% (February 9)
2. Mid-Term II 30% (March 18)
3. Final exam 40% (TBA scheduled by the Registrar's Office)

All tests will be in multiple choice format. Examinations will be based upon lectures and assigned readings. Thus, it is imperative that you complete all assigned readings (before each class).

Grading Scheme

A+ > 90%	B+ 77%-79%	C+ 67%-69%	D+ 57%-59%
A 85%-90%	B 73%-76%	C 63%-66%	D 53%-56%
A- 80%-84%	B- 70%-72%	C- 60%-62%	F <53%

Reading Schedule

The reading schedule is offered to you as **a general guide**. It is expected that some topics and readings may deserve further treatment and consequently more class time.

Date	Topic	Chapter
January 12	Introduction to Course	1 (Introduction)
January 14	Social Class	2
January 16	Social Class	2
January 19	Social Class	2
January 21	Gender	3
January 23	Gender	3
January 26	Gender	3
January 28	Gender	3
January 30	Race/Ethnicity	4
February 2	Race/Ethnicity	4
February 4	Race/Ethnicity	4
February 6	Race/Ethnicity	4
February 9	Exam	None
February 11	Age	5
February 13	Age	5
February 23	Age	5
February 25	Agency and Structure	6
February 27	Agency and Structure	6
March 2	Agency and Structure	6
March 4	CAGE(s)	7
March 6	CAGE(s)	7
March 9	CAGE(s)	7
March 11	CAGE(s) and Families	8
March 13	CAGE(s) and Families	8
March 16	CAGE(s) and Families	8
March 18	Exam	None
March 20	CAGE(s) and Paid Work	9
March 23	CAGE(s) and Paid Work	9
March 25	CAGE(s) and Paid Work	9
March 27	CAGE(s) and Education	10
March 30	CAGE(s) and Education	10
April 1	CAGE(s) and Education	10
April 3	CAGE(s) and Health	11
April 6	CAGE(s) and Health	11
April 8	CAGE(s) and Health	11
April 13	CAGE(s) and the State	12
April 15	CAGE(s) and the State	12
April 17	CAGE(s) and the State	12
TBA	Final	

As this schedule is designed to be flexible, attendance at each class is very important in order to be aware of any potential changes. Also note that some of the films we will watch may depict violent and graphic behaviour.

Exam Policies: You must provide advanced 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 must arrange 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.