



# UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

**Winter 2022**

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

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

<b>COURSE TITLE: Social Stratification</b>			
<b>Course Number</b>	SOCI 365		
<b>Pre/Co-Requisites</b>	SCOI 201		
<b>Instructor Name</b>	Dr. Josh Curtis	<b>Email</b>	Joshua.curtis@ucalgary.ca
<b>Instructor Email Policy</b>	Feel free to contact me over email at any time. Please put your course number and section in your email's subject line, and include a proper salutation, your full name, student ID, and a proper closing in the body of your email. I do not answer emails over the weekend. Please take that into account when emailing me questions pertaining to assignments or exams. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline first. Please do not use e-mail as a replacement for a meeting, if there is something you want to discuss. Questions about the course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with during my office hours.		
<b>Office Location</b>	SS 944	<b>Office Hours</b>	
<b>Telephone No.</b>	NA		
<b>Class Dates</b>	Lecture Tuesday and Thursday		
<b>Class Times</b>	2:00-3:15		
<b>Class Location</b>	ICT 121		

## Course Description

Broadly defined, social stratification is the ranking of individuals into the various social hierarchies of class, status and power. More specifically, it explores how achieved and ascribed characteristics are related to social class and related economic outcomes. In other words, the course is primarily about the causes and consequences of economic inequality, work, and labour. We will be concerned mostly with large scale societal patterns rather than the process by which individuals gain status in small groups. Although some of the material will be comparative and pertain to modern Democracies generally, emphasis will be on Canadian society.

## Course Format

This course will be taught in person, synchronously.

## Learning Resources

- Tepperman, Lorne, Josh Curtis, and Rachel La Touche. 2020. *Social Problems: A Canadian Perspective*, 5th edition. Oxford University Press.
- MCMullin, Julie and Josh Curtis. 2020. *Understanding Social Inequality: Intersections of Class, Age, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race in Canada*. Oxford University Press.
- Articles are available for download using the UofC library. It is your responsibility to download all required articles

Textbooks are available for purchase at the bookstore.

## Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

The course will have four requirements that will contribute to your final course grade:

### **2.1 First and second in-class tests (30% and 20% of the course grade respectively):**

These tests will take place in class. The test will cover all readings and lectures to this point. You will have 75 minutes to complete the test. Please arrive at class on time.

### **2.2 Final Exam (20% of course grade): Exam Period (TBD)**

This test will take place during the exam period. The test will cover all readings and lectures

### **2.3 Short Essay (30% of course grade): Due IN-CLASS**

You are required to write a short essay on one of the weekly topics shown in the course schedule below (there will be no substitutions). You should cite at least 15 sources from academic journals and/or books *outside of the required readings for the course*. Textbook citations do not count as part of the 15 sources. At least 10 of these sources should be dated 1995 or more recent. The paper should read much like a literature review for an academic paper appearing in a top-tier sociological journal such as the *American Sociological Review*. The paper must be *at least 6 pages but no more than 8 pages* in length (typed, double-spaced, 12-point font)—material past page 8 will not be evaluated.

**The short essay is due in-class (date TBD).** Your paper grade will be deducted **5 percent each day it is late. I will not accept electronic copies** of the paper—**You must hand in a hard copy.** I will not

give extensions except under very special circumstances. I suggest, therefore, that you plan to have the paper finished long before the deadline.

**Some words of advice on how to write a good paper:**

1. Make sure to start with a research question and set out to show the evidence both *for* and against *it*, coming to a conclusion at the end. Be sure to use published sociological research as your evidence.
2. Look at recent articles in the *American Sociological Review*, especially their literature reviews, for models on how to write a good paper. You will notice that papers with similar findings are grouped together. That is, you do not need to give a detailed summary of every paper you cite! You should also make sure to cite the most important works in the field, rather than simply the ones that you come across first. That is, a good paper will provide a description of the most important findings regarding a particular research topic. In other words, it gives an indication of how the field got to where it is.
3. The 15 **good** sources is the bare minimum. Your paper grade will be deducted 1 mark (i.e., 1/30 of the total grade) for each source less than the required 15.
4. Ensure that your writing is clear and straight to the point. If the same point can be made as clearly in 10 words as in 20 words, the 10-word version is always better.
5. Make sure to use proper grammar and spelling. I don't like wasting my time reading junk. You will receive a poor grade if the paper is not polished, so be sure to make several edits before submitting a final version.
6. Finally, **both the University of Calgary and I take plagiarism very seriously.**

**Exam 1: 30% February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Exam 2: 20% March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Exam 3: 20% (registrar scheduled)**

**Short Essay: 30% April 7<sup>th</sup>. Hard copy due in class.**

Our first two tests will be held on February 10<sup>th</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup> respectively. If tests are done on-line (i.e., we are still not teaching and testing in person) they will be entirely MQC in format. If we are teaching and testing on campus, they will be a combination of MQC and short answer. In both cases, students will have 75 minutes to complete their tests. This timed assessment will be available on D2L at the beginning of class on Thursday February 10<sup>th</sup> and will be available for 24 hours. When you access the assessment, you will have the length of the class 75 minutes to complete and submit it. This assessment will consist of multiple choice questions. If you experience an issue that affects your ability to complete the assessment, which can include (but is not limited to) issues with technology, caregiving responsibilities, or distractions within your test-taking environment, you will need to contact your instructor as soon as possible to arrange an alternate or (in the case of technical issues) extended time to write the assessment.

If we are still on line on March 10<sup>th</sup>, the exam details listed above will also apply to Exam 2 in March. More information will be available in D2L if the exams end up having to be administered online.

**Final Exam Information**

There will be a Registrar-scheduled final exam

## 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 class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructor as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, the instructor may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

**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/F21\\_deferral-of-term-work\\_weighting.pdf](https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/F21_deferral-of-term-work_weighting.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](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)) for approval by the Associate Dean.

## Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks 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 their own 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. 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 can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/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 screenshots 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/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy>

### 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/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy>

### 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/](http://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 Accommodation is available at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

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/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/) or email [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca).

### Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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.

Revised November 2021