

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
Introductory Sociology
SOC 100 – A4
Fall 2015

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Office Hours: Monday 1200 to 1300 hrs.
Lecture Time: MWF 1100 to 1150 hrs.
Lecture Room: TEL 150

Course description

This course consists of an analysis of the nature of society, the interrelationships of its component groups, and the processes by which society persists and changes. Society is analyzed in terms of its structure and culture, interrelationships between various institutions (e.g. family, religion, school, government) and the process whereby an individual is socialized into society.

Course objectives

- ✓ understand the ways that sociologists look at and analyze the social world
- ✓ know the basic terminology and explanatory models developed by sociologists
- ✓ recognize the differences between the various theoretical perspectives
- ✓ learn about the central topics investigated by sociologists
- ✓ consider the role and value sociological knowledge has in understanding social and political life
- ✓ consider the relevance of sociological knowledge for one's own life

Teaching format

The course will consist of lectures, class discussions, and video(s), all of which constitute potential exam material.

Discussion is strongly encouraged, especially questions arising from the textbook and/or videos. Given the paucity of time; however, it is not possible to thoroughly discuss all the material found in the text. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student to attend classes, read and study the textbook, and take notes.

Classroom policies

- ✓ students are expected to be in class on time and stay until the end of the lecture
- ✓ respectful behavior is expected at all times
- ✓ students are encouraged to ask questions and offer comments during lectures
- ✓ students are not permitted to engage in casual conversations with other students during class-time
- ✓ **THE INSTRUCTOR WILL NOT PROVIDE LECTURE MATERIALS OR NOTES TO ANY STUDENT,** either for the purposes of supplementing personal notes or for those who miss classes; nor will that information be on reserve in the Library or on the Internet. If a student misses a lecture, they should seek to copy lecture notes from their classmates. If a student misses the showing of any audio/visual material, it is the responsibility of the student to arrange to view that material by going to the library or renting the video from local rental stores.

Required textbook

Symboluk, D. and T. Bereska. (2016). *Sociology in Action: A Canadian Perspective* (Second Edition). Toronto: Nelson Education Ltd. (ISBN-13: 978-0-17-653204-8)

Grade Evaluation

There will be two midterms and a final exam in this course. All the exams assume you have knowledge of readings, lectures and videos presented in class.

Important Dates

Midterm 1	<i>October 2, 2015</i>	30 %
Midterm 2	<i>November 2, 2015</i>	35 %
Final Exam:	<i>TBA</i>	35 %*

* WARNING: Students must verify this date on Bear Tracks.

Format of Exams

All exams may consist of some combination of true/false, multiple choice and short-answer questions. True/false and multiple choice questions will account for approximately 60 - 70% of the exam grade, while the short answer questions will account for approximately 30 - 40% of the grade.

Each of the midterms will be 1 hour in duration. The final exam is 2 hours in duration and is not cumulative.

Grade Criterion

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Grade Points</u>
A+	95-100	4.0
A	90-94	4.0
A-	85-89	3.7
B+	80-84	3.3
B	76-79	3.0
B-	72-75	2.7
C+	68-71	2.3
C	64-67	2.0
C-	60-63	1.7
D+	55-59	1.3
D	50-54	1.0
F	0 -49	0

Lecture Schedule & Assigned Readings

Note: This is a tentative outline; and it may change in response to the needs and pace of the course. Changes will be announced in class throughout the term. It is the students responsible to make themselves aware of those changes.

DATE	TOPIC	READING
Sep 2	Intro	
<u>Section I</u>		
Sep 4, 9, 11, 14	Lens of Sociology	Chapter 1
Sep 16, 18, 21	Research Methods	Chapter 2

Sep 22, 23	Religion & Science	Chapter 10
Sep 25, 28, 30	Mass Media	Chapter 6
Oct 2	1st Midterm	
 <u>Section II</u>		
Oct 5, 7, 9, 14, 16	Culture & Socialization	Chapter 3 & 4
Oct 12	Thanksgiving Holiday	
Oct 19, 21, 23, 26	Sex, Gender & Sexualities	Chapter 7
Oct 28, 30	Social Control, Deviance & Crime	Chapter 11
Nov 2	2nd Midterm	
 <u>Section III</u>		
Nov 4, 6, 16, 18	Social Inequality	Chapter 5
Nov 9, 11, 13	Reading Week/Remembrance Day	
Nov 20, 23, 25, 27	Globalization	Chapter 15
Nov 30, Dec 2, 4	Environmental Sociology	Chapter 14
Dec 7	extended office hours	
TBA	Final Exam	

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. Regarding absences from **term exams** that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections §23.3 of the University Calendar. If you miss a mid-term exam, notify your instructor by email within two working days, or as soon as you are able to, in regards to the circumstance underlying the absence.

Approval for an excused absence is AT THE DISCRETION of the instructor (See §23.3(1)). Excused absences are not automatic, and, in the case of term work and midterm exams, are at the discretion of the instructor, who may request supporting documentation. For a medical illness, students may provide:

- *University of Alberta Medical Statement* signed by a doctor (this cannot be required, but must be accepted in lieu of other documents)
- *A Medical Declaration Form for Students* (for Faculty of Arts students)
- *A Statutory Declaration* (for students in Faculties other than Arts, to be obtained from their home faculty of the Office of the Registrar).

For all other cases, such as domestic afflictions or religious convictions, the student should submit appropriate documentation to the situation. This could include the following:

- For a death in the family – a copy of the death certificate
- For a religious conflict – a letter from the church or pastor
- For a car accident – a copy of the accident report

- For other serious afflictions – consult with Instructor or Department about appropriate documents

Students will not be permitted to rewrite or do ‘make up’ exams for missed mid-term exams. If a student misses a mid-term due to an excused absence, the same grade earned on the final exam mark will then also be used as the missed mid-term mark in the calculation of the final grade. Lack of notice and/or suitable documentation will result in a grade of zero for the missed exam.

The Instructor cannot grant a deferral for a missed final exam. If you miss the final exam for any reason, the student must get approval to write a deferred exam from their respective Faculty. Application for a deferred exam must be made within two working days from the missed exam date, or as soon as the student is able to, in regards to the circumstance underlying the absence. If a student is approved by their Faculty to write a deferred final exam, that exam must be written on **16 January, 2016 at 0900 hrs in BUS 1 - 6.**

A deferred final examination will not be approved if a student (a) has not been in regular attendance where attendance and/or participation are required, and/or, (b) excluding the final exam, has completed less than half of the assigned work, as stated in §23.3(2)c of the Calendar.

Academic Integrity

Policy about course outlines can be found in §23.4(2) of the University Calendar.

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).” In this course, the instructor WILL NOT PERMIT or give consent to any audio or visual recordings of the lectures.

Plagiarism and Cheating

All students should consult the Office of Student Judicial Affairs website (<http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en.aspx>) regarding the definitions of plagiarism and its consequences when detected. A copy of “Notice to Instructors regarding Plagiarism and Cheating (Cheatsheet)” is also available at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/StudentAppeals?dontCheatsheet.aspx>.

Learning and Working Environment

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all student, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not

tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy, you may contact the student ombudservice: <http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/>). Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures can be found in the GFC Policy Manual.