

SOCIOLOGY 100: A5 (52130)
Introductory Sociology – Fall, 2015
Department of Sociology, University of Alberta

Tuesday & Thursday, 2:00 – 3:20 PM
Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex (ETLC) – E1 – 003

Course Outline ¹

Instructor: Dr. Harvey Krahn

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Office Hours: Wednesday, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, or by appointment (contact me by e-mail)

Course Content and Objectives:

This course is an introduction to the sociological analysis of the world in which we live, which shapes us and which we re-shape. Our primary focus will be on social structures, social institutions, social inequality, and social change. We will spend time reading about and discussing socialization, families, schools and workplaces, gender, race and ethnicity, deviance and conformity, health, religion, social movements, and other topics, using sociological theories and methods to inform us.

Course objectives include: (1) developing an understanding of how a “sociological imagination” employing sociological concepts, theories, and research methods can help us better understand the world in which we live; (2) improving students’ communication and critical thinking skills; and (3) enticing students to enroll in more advanced sociology courses.

NOTE: SOC100 is not to be taken by students with prior credit in SOC300.

Required Textbook:

Brym, Robert, Lance Roberts, Lisa Strohschein & John Lie. 2015. Sociology: Your Compass for a New World. (5th Canadian edition). Toronto: Nelson Education. [ISBN: 9780176721794]

NOTE: *This is a special edition (14 chapters) of a larger edition (also 2015) of the same textbook containing 22 chapters. Students are welcome to use the larger edition, although if purchased new it will cost more. The chapters will also be in a different order.*

Creating a Positive Learning Environment

Most importantly, treat others respectfully, as you want to be treated yourself. This includes:

- Focusing on what is being discussed in class, rather than discussing some other topic with the person sitting next to you
- Engaging in, rather than dominating, classroom discussions

¹ University policy about course outlines can be found in section 23.4(2) of the University of Alberta Calendar (GFC 29 SEP 2003)

- Being respectful of other students' opinions, even if you disagree
- Arriving on time for class, if at all possible, and remaining till the end
- Turning off (or silencing) your cell phones
- Turning off the wireless connection on your laptop computer

Not surprisingly, students who attend class regularly tend to get better grades. Completing assigned readings in advance of the classes in which they will be discussed is also helpful. The instructor will not be posting his teaching notes or Powerpoint slides on line, so taking notes in class is another way of improving one's grade. If you have to miss a lecture, arrange to get notes from another student who was present.

If you are having problems with this class, talk to the instructor sooner rather than later. If you fall too far behind in a course, you might be better to withdraw and take the course again, rather than get a *Fail* on your transcript. If you withdraw from the course by **October 2**, you will have 50% of your fee refunded. You can still withdraw up until **November 30**, but you will not receive a tuition refund.

Recording of Lectures

Audio or visual 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 part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used only for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent of the content author(s).

Students with Disabilities or Special Needs:

Students with a disability affecting mobility, vision, hearing, learning, or mental or physical health, and who might require accommodations to assist them in completing this course, should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS), 1-80 SUB, 780-492-3381 for assistance:
<http://www.ssds.ualberta.ca/>

Please contact your instructor within the first two weeks of this course to tell him about any accommodations recommended by SAS. Students registered with SAS who will be using accommodations in the classroom, or who will be writing exams through SAS, must provide a "Letter of Introduction" by September 14. Students who need accommodated exams must submit their "Exam Instructions and Authorization" (orange) form at least one week before each exam.

Examinations:

Your final grade for SOC100 will be based on three examinations. Each exam is non-cumulative (i.e., it is based only on the material covered in the previous third of the course), although general knowledge obtained earlier in the course will likely assist you in subsequent exams.

Mid-term Exam 1	30%	Sept. 29 (in class)
Mid-term Exam 2	35%	Oct. 29 (in class)
Final Exam (<i>tentative date & time</i>)	35%	Dec. 14 (9:00 – 11:00 AM; <i>location TBA</i>)

All examinations (term and final) will include multiple choice questions, some definition questions requiring several-sentence answers, and an essay question. Students will be provided with examples of each type of question, in class, one week in advance of each examination. Examination questions will be based on required readings, lectures, guest lectures, and any additional in-class activities (e.g., class discussions, audio or video presentations).

The date and time for the Final Exam are tentative. Students are responsible for confirming the Final Exam date, time and location on Beartracks.

Grading:

Using the percentage weights noted above for each of the two term examination and the final examination, final letter grades for this section of SOC100 will be assigned as follows:

	<u>Total Term Percentage</u>	<u>Final Letter Grade</u>	<u>4-Point Value</u>
Excellent	90 – 100	A+	4.0
	86 – 89	A	4.0
	82 – 85	A-	3.7
Good	78 – 81	B+	3.3
	74 – 77	B	3.0
	70 – 73	B-	2.7
Satisfactory	66 – 69	C+	2.3
	62 – 65	C	2.0
	58 – 61	C-	1.7
Poor	54 – 57	D+	1.3
Minimal Pass	50 – 53	D	1.0
Fail	0 – 49	F	0.0

NOTE: The “total term percentage” cutting points for each letter grade noted above will not be moved up. Some of them might be moved down, depending on the distributions of term examination and final examination percentages.

Absence from Exams:

“Excused absence for a missed exam is not automatic and is granted at the discretion of the instructor (in the case of term exams) or the student’s Faculty (in the case of final exams). Instructors and Faculties are not required to grant excused absences for unacceptable reasons that include, but are not limited to personal events such as vacations, weddings, or travel arrangements. *When a student is absent from a term or final exam without acceptable excuse, a final grade will be computed using a raw score of zero for the exam missed.* Any student who applies for or obtains an excused absence by making false statements will be liable under the Code of Student Behaviour. [University Calendar 23.5.6]

To request an excused absence from a mid-term exam, you must let the Instructor know within two working days of the exam date (or as soon as possible, given the circumstances). If the reason for the requested excused absence is illness, medical documentation is not required. However, students may choose to present a Medical Declaration Form for Students available at: <https://uofa.ualberta.ca/arts/-/media/arts/student-services/documents/medicaldeclarationformforstudents.pdf>

If the absence is for non-medical reasons, appropriate documentation can be requested by the Instructor (e.g., court attendance form for jury duty; death certificate for bereavement).

If a mid-term exam is missed, and a documented excuse is provided to the satisfaction of the instructor, a re-write will be allowed on the following set dates. If the rewrite is missed, the student will receive a grade of zero for this mid-term exam.

Mid-term Exam 1	Rewrite date: Saturday, October 3, 2015, 9:00 AM in Tory 6-7
Mid-term Exam 2	Rewrite date: Saturday, October 31, 2015, 9:00 AM in Tory 6-7

The Instructor cannot approve requests for a deferred final exam. Instead, students must report to their Faculty Office within two business days of missing the exam, or cancelling their exam during the exam period (or as soon as possible, given the circumstances). Deferred exams are intended to accommodate students who have experienced an incapacitating illness or severe domestic affliction; applications based on minor inconsequential ailments will not be approved. In Arts and Science, students must provide appropriate documentation or, in the case of illness, swear out a Statutory Declaration in support of their request. If approved by the student's Faculty, the the deferred final exam will be held on **Saturday, January 16, 2016** at 9:00 AM in Business 1-06.

University Policy on Academic Integrity and Misconduct:

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 (on-line at: <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/>) and avoid any behavior which could 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.

Schedule of Lectures and Assigned Readings:

<u><i>Date</i></u>	<u><i>Required Reading in Textbook</i></u>
September 1: Course outline; Introduction to Sociology	<i>Chapter 1</i>
September 3: Sociological Research Methods	<i>Chapter 2</i>
September 8 & 10: Socialization	<i>Chapter 3</i>

September 15 & 17: Families	<i>Chapter 4</i>
September 22 & 24: Education	<i>Chapter 5</i>
September 29: First mid-term Exam (in class)	
October 1 & 6: Work & Economy	<i>Chapter 6</i>
October 8 & 13: Social Stratification	<i>Chapter 7</i>
October 15 & 20: Race & Ethnicity	<i>Chapter 8</i>
October 22 & 27: Sexualities & Gender	<i>Chapter 9</i>
October 29: Second mid-term Exam (in class)	
November 3 & 5: Health & Medicine	<i>Chapter 10</i>
November 9 – 13: Fall Reading week – no classes	
November 17 & 19: Deviance and Crime	<i>Chapter 11</i>
November 24 & 26: Religion	<i>Chapter 12</i>
December 1 & 3: Collective Action and Social Movements	<i>Chapter 13</i>
December 14: Final Exam (2:00 – 4:00 PM)	
<i>The date and time for the Final Exam are tentative; location is yet to be determined; students are responsible for confirming date, time and location on Beartracks.</i>	