

Sociology 226  
Social Studies of Surveillance

Winter 2018  
Mon/Wed 2:00 to 3:20  
Tel 150

**Instructor:** Dr. Kevin D. Haggerty  
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Office Hrs: By appointment

**Teaching Assistant**  
Natasha Myette  
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Office Hrs.: Wednesdays from 3:30 - 4:30, at Tory 4 - 10.

### **About the Course**

This course is an introduction to the sociological study of surveillance. It will provide students with an appreciation for the different ways sociologists have approached the study of surveillance. A significant portion of the course is dedicated to outlining the nature and dynamics of surveillance in different organizational settings (the family, policing, security, work, etc.). At the end of the course students will be able to identify the main approaches to the study of surveillance and the strengths and limitations of these different theories.

This is **not** a course in ‘how to’ conduct surveillance, nor is it a form of conspiracy theory. Instead, it is a sustained academic analysis of surveillance, understood as one of the most important social phenomena of our day.

### **Special Needs**

Students with special educational requirements should contact the instructor or teaching assistant as soon as possible.

### **Required Readings**

There is no textbook for this course. Required and supplemental readings are available on the course website. There is a file on the course webpage called ‘Course Readings’ which lists the readings and when they should be done. The instructor may modify the required during the term.

### **Course Website**

A website has been set-up specifically for this course. You can access this using your normal CCID and password through the University of Alberta's E-learning portal: <https://eclass.srv.ualberta.ca/portal/>. There you will find assorted materials relevant to the course including links to both required and suggested readings, brief video clips and course grades. **See note below about using email in this system.**

### **Contacting the Instructor**

I am available through email, which is listed above. Please **DO NOT** use the email function that is contained within the course webpage system to contact me. That website uses a self-contained communication system. Messages sent from inside the system are not forwarded to our usual email addresses and as a result will never be read.

There are many students in this class. While we are happy to speak with you, experience has shown that there is also the real prospect that we will be overwhelmed with requests for assistance concerning matters that students probably could have figured out themselves with a bit of perseverance.

Before you contact me or the TA about course related matters I ask: 1) that you first consult the course outline for guidance, and 2) that you ask a fellow student, particularly if you are having difficulty accessing a reading or want to know what we are reading this week. If you have important matters to discuss the instructor is obviously happy to talk with you.

### **Evaluation**

25%	Mid-term exam
15%	Movie Review
25%	Essay Assignment
35%	Final exam

### **Mid-Term Exam**

The mid-term exam will be held during regular class time. Given the large number of students in the class this will be a multiple-choice exam. Students will be responsible for the readings and in-class material covered to that point in the term. The mid-term exam will be held in-class on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Sample Exam Questions**

Later in the term I will post on the course website some sample exam questions used in previous years.

### **Missed Midterm Exams**

Students with an unexcused absence from the midterm exam will receive a 0 for that exam; there will be no exceptions. For an excused exam due to illness or personal

emergency, the student must complete a statutory declaration form and have it signed by a Commissioner of Oaths. This is a legal document, a copy of which will remain on the student's permanent record. Any misrepresentation of facts on this form constitutes a violation of the *Code of Student Behaviour* and will be sanctioned accordingly with a possible F8 for the course or F8 plus suspension. It is your responsibility to provide the instructor with the statutory declaration.

Students granted an excused absence from a midterm exam will write the make-up immediately on March 7<sup>th</sup>. This will be a different exam than the one given in February, although it will cover the same material. It might also be a different format (short answer, essay, etc.).

### **Movie Review**

Students will write a 1,000 word review of a movie that contains a notable surveillance theme. The assignment will specify which movies they can write about (you can *only* write about one of the movies listed in the assignment). The assignment will be handed out on **February 26<sup>th</sup>** and is **due March 12<sup>th</sup> at the beginning of class.**

### **Response Paper**

Students will write an 1,800-word response paper the study and experience of surveillance. This assignment will be handed out on **March 12<sup>th</sup>**. Specific details will be provided on that date about the topic and formatting requirements. This assignment is due **March 26<sup>th</sup> at the beginning of class.**

### **Final Exam**

The date of the final exam is **Tentatively** scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 pm. The location will be posted later in the term. Students should confirm the date, time and location of the final exam on Bear Tracks later in the term. The final exam is cumulative, so you will be tested on material covered all year, although more emphasis will be placed on material covered since the midterm. The final exam will be multiple choice.

Students will be allowed to bring into the exam one 6x4 index card containing your own notes. You can write whatever they want on this sheet, on both sides and in however small handwriting you want. However, this sheet must be hand written (it **cannot** be photocopied). This should be your own notes and not cribbed or copied directly from someone else. If we find that students have brought identical notes into the exam then this will be reported to the Faculty of Arts for investigated as an instance of cheating. You will be required to hand-in your sheet with your exam.

### **Deferred Final Exam**

If you fail to write the **FINAL EXAM** you must formally apply to **your Faculty office within two working days** following the missed final exam, or as soon as you are able, having regard to the circumstances underlying the absence, in order to be considered for a deferred final examination. The decision to grant a deferred final exam is **not** the instructor's. Deferred examinations are intended to accommodate students who have experienced an incapacitating illness or severe domestic affliction; applications based on minor or inconsequential ailments will not be approved. **There is only one date for deferred final exams. Any student who is granted a deferred final exam will write the exam on June 30<sup>th</sup>.**

Deferred exams will not necessarily be of the same format as the original exam (i.e., they might be short answer, essay, multiple choice, or a combination of all three formats).

### **In Class participation**

Students are encouraged to participate in class discussions and exercises, and you will be expected to participate in some informal group work. However, there will be no grades assigned to these exercises.

### **Grading**

Final marks will be neither scaled nor put on a bell curve. Individual assignments will be given a percentage grade. The final percentage will be translated to the University of Alberta's 4 point system as follows:

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

**Note:** Grades will be posted online on the course website and will be listed by student number. In accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act* grades will not be given out over the telephone or e-mail. In the eventuality that there is a discrepancy between the communicated grades and the grade listed in the professor's grade book, the grade book will be taken as authoritative.

The instructor is willing to reconsider grades for all components of the course **if there is a sound basis for why the previous grading was in error**. Individuals who would like to have an assignment re-evaluated should outline **in writing** the reasons why they believe their assignment/exam deserves a better grade. Requests for a re-evaluation of a grade must be submitted to the teaching assistant *no more than ten days after the assignment was returned or grades were posted*. Requests for reevaluation will not be considered after that point. Any resubmitted assignments or exams will be completely re-evaluated, which means that there could be reduction in grade if it is determined that errors were made in the students favor in other sections of the paper/exam.

Facile arguments for an increased grade are not appreciated. Some examples include:

1. A statement such as, "I think my paper deserves a higher grade" without further logical support.
2. A question like "Why did I get a 'B' when you said my work was good?" A 'B' is defined as good in the University Calendar.
3. A request to change a grade because you need a higher GPA to get into medicine, law, business, honors, graduate school, and so on.
4. Demands by parents or guardians for an increase in grades.

### **Additional information that is now required on all course outlines:**

"Policy about course outlines can be found in Course Requirements, Evaluation Procedures and Grading of the University Calendar."

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

### **Academic Integrity**

"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 <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour that 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."

### **Learning and working environment**

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, 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, section 44 available at <http://gfcpolicymanual.ualberta.ca/> .

**Plagiarism and Cheating:**

For further information about Academic Integrity and to access the Academic Integrity Handbook for students, visit the Dean of Students website at: <https://www.deanofstudents.ualberta.ca/en/AcademicIntegrity.aspx>

**Recording Lectures:**

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, 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. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course 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).

**Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:**

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

**Policy for late assignments**

Late assignments will be docked a full 10% for each day they are late, *including each day of a weekend*. Hand-in late papers to the Sociology office (5<sup>th</sup> floor of Tory) during regular office hours. The administrative assistants in the office will date-stamp late papers. Papers that are more than 5 days late will not be marked and will receive a grade of 0.

**Student Accessibility Services:**

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If

you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately ( 1-800 SUB; Email [sasrec@ualberta.ca](mailto:sasrec@ualberta.ca); Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB [www.sds.ualberta.ca](http://www.sds.ualberta.ca) ).