

**LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY**  
**Introduction to Sociology**  
**Sociology 1100 YD**

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**UC0038**

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**Office Hours: Tues. 1:00-2:00pm**

**Sociology Department Website: <http://sociology.lakeheadu.ca>**

**Fall/Winter 2009/10**

**Tues. & Thurs. 4:00-5:30pm**

**ATAC-2001**

**Course Description**

In this course of study we will address 3 main questions: what is sociology? how do societies work? how is sociology personally relevant? Through readings, lectures and audiovisual materials, we will consider sociology's unique perspective on social behaviour, its major theoretical paradigms, and its basic research methodologies. We will examine a number of core concepts such as culture, socialization, groups/organizations, social interaction, inequality, deviance, race, gender, power/authority and globalization. Furthermore, we will consider how these core concepts are applied to the study of important social institutions such as education, criminal justice, family, medicine, politics and religion.

**Textbooks**

You are required to read material from the following 2 books (available at the Lakehead University Bookstore):

Brown, David K. 2004. *Social Blueprints: Conceptual Foundations of Sociology*. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Tepperman, Lorne, and Harley Dickinson (eds). 2007. *Reading Sociology: Canadian Perspectives*. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

**Grading Scheme**

**Class Participation**

You should make every effort to attend all classes. You should ensure that you have read your required reading material before class and that you are prepared to discuss it. Class participation is weighted at a maximum of 15% of your final grade.

Examinations

There are 4 examinations scheduled throughout the course of study. The Fall and Winter midterm exams will be held in our classroom during regular class times. Both exams will be comprised of multiple-choice questions. The Mid-year and Final exams will be held in the Gym (Saunders Fieldhouse) at times T.B.A. These 2 exams will be 3 hours in duration and may be comprised of multiple-choice, short answer and essay questions. All exams will be based on class material (lectures, videos, activities) and all required readings. See the Course Schedule for Fall and Winter midterm exam dates. See the Grading Scheme for exam weights.

\*Lakehead University has a very strict policy regarding the failure to write formally-scheduled examinations. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself thoroughly with this policy, especially in the matter of required documentation. Knowing your obligations in this area may help you avoid serious academic penalty.

Research Project

You are required to prepare and submit a research project worth 20% of your final grade. The project will require you to demonstrate an ability to apply the basic steps of the research process to a systematic analysis of some aspect of the mass media of your choosing (e.g., newspapers, magazines, TV, radio, film, internet, etc.). Instruction on the research process will be provided in class and links to helpful sites will be posted on our Course Website. Your finished project will be approximately 1,800-2,000 words in length. Further details will be posted on our Course Website. See the Course Schedule for the research project deadline. Hardcopy required... no electronic submissions. Late submissions will be penalized 5% per weekday.

\*Your assignment must reflect ASA (American Sociological Association) format requirements. An abbreviated version of the ASA style guide is available at the following site:  
<http://www.calstatela.edu/library/bi/rsalina/asa.styleguide.html>

\*Plagiarism is a serious offense! It is your responsibility to know what constitutes plagiarism, and to familiarize yourself thoroughly with Lakehead's official policy on academic dishonesty. See the L.U. calendar at "IX Academic Dishonesty". Also, see the following site for helpful info on plagiarism: <http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/plagiar.html>

Grading Weights

Fall Term Class Participation.....	7.5%
Fall Midterm Exam.....	10%
Mid-year Exam.....	20%
Winter Term Class Participation.....	7.5%
Winter Midterm Exam.....	10%
Research Project.....	20%
Final Exam.....	25%

**First Term Course Schedule**

- Sept.10-20: The Sociological Imagination: Private Troubles and Public Issues  
Brown, pp.1-11  
Tepperman, pp.24-26, "Short-Changed: Media Representations of Squeegeeing and Panhandling"  
Video clip: *Falling Down* (7 min.)
- Sept.21-27: Sociological Thinking vs. Individualism: I Think, Therefore, We Are  
Brown, pp.11-22  
Tepperman, pp.187-90, "Canada's Most Notorious Bad Mother: The Newspaper Coverage of the Jordan Heikamp Inquest"  
Video: *The Voice Box Choir* (8 min.)
- Sept.28-Oct.4: Personal Identities as Webs of Group Affiliations  
Brown, pp.22-30  
Tepperman, pp.31-33, "Tattooing and Civilizing Processes: Body Modification as Self-Control"  
Video: *Shredded* (7 min.)
- Oct.5-11: The Contested Terrain of Sociological Knowledge  
Brown, pp.30-43  
Tepperman, pp.7-10, "Reading Reflexively"  
Video: *Java Jive* (22 min.)
- Oct.13-18: Rational Choice Theory: Behaviour as Cost/Benefit Analysis  
Brown, pp.45-59  
Tepperman, pp.123-25, "University Restructuring and the Female Liberal Arts Undergraduate Student: Does She Get 'Value for the Money' at Corporate U?"
- Oct.19-25: Structural Functionalism: Society as Machine  
Brown, pp.59-64  
Tepperman, pp.71-74, "Gender, Crime, and Community: An Analysis of Youth Crime in Canada"  
Video: *The Sterilization of Leilani Muir* (23 min.)
- Oct.27: \*\*Fall Midterm Exam  
-based on all readings and classroom material covered up to exam date
- Oct.:29 Feminism and Gender Inequality  
Brown: no reading  
Tepperman: no reading  
Video: *The Gods of our Fathers* (23 min.)

- Nov.2-8: Symbolic Interactionism: Behaviour as Reality Negotiation  
Brown, pp.64-75  
Tepperman, pp.47-51, "On the Assimilation of Racial Stereotypes among Black Canadian Young Offenders"  
Video: *The African-American Wallet Exchange* (7 min.)
- Nov.9-15: Social Conflict Theory: Karl Marx and Social Class Struggle  
Brown, pp.75-84  
Tepperman, pp.205-08, "Dispersion and Polarization of Income among Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Canadians"  
Video: *The Evolution of Society: A History of Social Classes* (27 min.)
- Nov.16-22: Social Conflict Theory: Max Weber, Class, Status and Party  
Brown, pp.84-95  
Tepperman, pp.238-43, "Poverty, Social Exclusion, and Racialized Girls and Young Women"  
Video: *Lessons* (12 min.)
- Nov.23-Dec.2: Culture, Social Structure and Social Interaction  
Brown, pp.97-112  
Tepperman, pp.200-03, "Women's Inequality in the Workplace as Framed News Discourse: Refracting from Gender Ideology"
- T.B.A.: \*\*Mid-year Exam: 3 hour exam held in the Gym (Saunders Fieldhouse)

### **Second Term Course Schedule**

- Jan.4-10: Culture and Social Power  
Brown, pp.112-27  
Tepperman, pp.14-16, "Moral Panic and the Nasty Girl"  
Re-visit Brown, pp.47-48, Kristen Luker's research on teen pregnancy  
Video: *Manufacturing Consent: Noam Chomsky and the Media* (19 min.)
- Jan.11-17: Cultural Production, Distribution and Interpretation  
Brown, pp.127-41  
Tepperman, pp.28-30, "Politicizing Aboriginal Cultural Tourism: The Discourse of Primitivism in the Tourist Encounter"  
Video: *Truth Merchants* (21 min.)
- Jan.18-24: Power and Authority: The Case of Crime and Deviance  
Brown, pp.143-47  
Tepperman, pp.21-23, *The Hacker Spirit: An Interactionist Analysis of the Hacker Ideology*  
Video: *Bhopal: The Search for Justice* (26 min.)

- Jan.25-31: Power and Authority: The Case of Social Movements  
Brown, pp.147-59  
Tepperman, pp.270-73, "Thirty Thousand Calls for Justice: The Human Rights Movement, Political Graffiti, and the Struggle over Collective Memory in Argentina"  
Video: *The Air We Breathe* (15 min.)
- Feb.1-7: Power and Authority: The Case of the State  
Brown, pp.159-71  
Tepperman, pp.75-77, "Keeping an Eye on Crime Control Culture: The Rise of Open-street Closed-circuit Television Surveillance in Canada"  
Video: *Stopping Traffik: The War Against the War Against Drugs* (26 min.)
- Feb.8-14 Power and Authority: The Case of Formal Organizations  
Brown, pp.171-83  
Tepperman, pp.116-19, "Polite, Well-Dressed, and On Time: Secondary School Conduct Codes and the Production of Docile Citizens"  
Video: *Anybody's Son Will Do* (20 min.)
- Feb.15-19 Study Week
- Feb.23: \*\*Winter Midterm Exam  
-based on all readings and classroom material covered since Mid-year Exam
- Feb.25: Corporations  
Brown: no reading  
Tepperman: no reading  
Video: *The Corporation* (part I & II)
- Mar.1-7: Power and Authority: The Workplace  
Brown, pp.183-92  
Tepperman, pp.143-47, "Knowledge Workers and the New Economy: A Critical Assessment"  
Video: *Clockwork* (15 min.)
- Mar.8-14: Family Organization and Change  
Tepperman, pp.98-101, "Earning and Caring"  
Tepperman, pp.55-58, "Searching, Working and Shopping: Is This Prolonged Youth?"  
Tepperman, pp.215-18, "Preserving Domesticity: Reading Tupperware in Women's Changing Domestic, Social and Economic Roles"  
Video: *Women and Men Unglued* (23 min.)

- Mar.15-21: The Social Construction of Health and Disease  
Tepperman, pp.165-67, "An Epidemic in Search of a Disease: The Construction of Sexual Dysfunction as a Social Problem"  
Tepperman, pp.43-46, "Even if I Don't Know What I'm Doing, I Can Make it Look Like I Know What I'm Doing: Becoming a Doctor in the 1990's"  
Tepperman, pp.168-70, "Citizenship and Health: The Governance of Imported Malaria and the Safety of Anti-Malarial Drugs"  
Video: *Drug Deals* (22 min.)
- Mar.23: \*\*Deadline for Research Project (submit hardcopy; late penalties apply)
- Mar.22-28: Economic and Political Globalization  
Brown, pp.194-223  
Video: *The World According to Monsanto* (part I)
- Mar.29-Apr.6: Cultural Globalization  
Brown, pp.223-42  
Video: *The World According to Monsanto* (part II)
- T.B.A.: \*\*Final Exam: 3 hour exam held in the Gym (Saunders Fieldhouse)