

# *LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY*

## *MEMORANDUM*

**Sociology website address:** <http://sociology.lakeheadu.ca/>

**TO:** Students in "Higher Education, 'Success,'  
and 'Peep Culture'"  
(Sociology 4113 FA)  
Fall 2009

**DATE:** September 2009

**FROM:** R.W. Nelsen, Professor  
Department of Sociology

**SUBJECT: SOCIOLOGY 4113 FA**

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### Description

University life will be discussed and analyzed, as will the relation of university to "success" in the Canadian cultural context. In addition to discussions connecting higher education to career mobility and scholarship, we shall focus upon the current transformation of popular culture into peep culture.

### Some Topics We Might Cover as Part of Our Learning Agenda

What the Students Are Saying  
Funding Today's Universities  
Corporate Capital and the Academy  
The University as Edubusiness  
The Role of Administration in the University  
Technocratic Management in the University  
Social Control in the University  
Dialogic Communication, Self Development,  
and the Search for Wisdom  
The University Hierarchy  
The Hierarchy of Universities  
The University as Bureaucracy  
"The Political Correctness Debate"  
Ethical/Value Neutrality and the University  
"Science" as the Language of the University  
Sexism in the University  
Racism in the University

The Hidden Curriculum of the University  
Cultural Capital and the University  
Unionism and University Workers  
"Academic Freedom," "University  
Community," and "Collegiality"  
Ideology, "liberalism," and the University  
Social Change in/and the University  
Government and the University  
On Knowing and the University  
Critical Pedagogy and the University  
Technology and the University  
The University and "Distance Education"  
Teaching and Research in the University  
Postmodernity and the University  
Day-to-Day Life at the University  
The University as Popular Culture

**Textbooks (Available at Lakehead University)**

1. Hal Niedzviecki, The Peep Diaries: How We're Learning To Love Watching Ourselves And Our Neighbors. San Francisco: City Lights Books, 2009.
2. Tom Pocklington and Allan Tupper, No Place To Learn: Why Universities Aren't Working. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2002.

**Optional:**

1. Malcolm Gladwell, Outliers: The Story of Success. New York: Little, Brown and Company, 2008.

**On Plagiarism:** *Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to the University regulations (see Lakehead University Calendar).*

**Final Note:** *You will be presented with further information concerning course requirements, assignments, evaluation procedures, and any other relevant material which we shall need to discuss as a group on the first day of class, Tuesday, September 15, 2009.*

  
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R.W. Nelsen.