

L A K E H E A D U N I V E R S I T Y
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
Introduction to Sociology
Sociology 1100YB 2015/16

Brian McMillan

RB2036

brian.mcmillan@lakeheadu.ca

Office Hours: Mon. and Wed. 10:00-11:00 a.m.

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

Fall/Winter 2015/16

Tues. & Thurs. 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

BB1021

Course Description

This course of study addresses 3 basic questions: What is sociology? How do societies work? How is sociology personally relevant? Through readings, lectures, classroom discussions, and audio-visual materials, you will come to understand sociology's unique perspective on human behaviour, its main theoretical perspectives, and its basic research methodologies. The course identifies and examines various core sociological concepts including culture, socialization, social interaction, formal organizations, social stratification, crime and deviance, race and ethnicity, gender and sexuality, aging, social institutions (family, education, medicine, etc.), demography, collective behaviour, social movements, and globalization.

Course Material

Required Textbook: Henslin, James M., Dan Glenday, Norene Pupo, and Ann Duffy. 2014. *Sociology: A Down-to-Earth-Approach, 6th Canadian Edition*. Pearson Education Canada

It is imperative that you read the required chapters in the Henslin textbook according to the Course Schedule (see below). Please be advised that classroom lectures do not merely repeat the content found in our textbook. Attending lectures is not a substitute for reading the text. Examinations will include numerous questions on content from our main textbook which is not covered in class. You may make comments and ask questions about textbook content in class. You are advised to prepare for your classes by reading your assigned chapters *before* the classes in which they are discussed.

MySocLab: The Henslin textbook is accompanied by an easy-to-use companion website (MySocLab) which serves as a helpful study guide. The website offers chapter summaries, learning objectives, self-help study questions, self-grading quizzes, 'explore & discuss' exercises, videos, guidance and sources for assignment preparations, and more. You are strongly encouraged to work with MySocLab on a regular basis. The link and access code to MySocLab are found in the Henslin textbook. I will provide the Course Code needed to access the site during our first week of classes.

Lectures: Lectures are an important source of required course content. You should make every effort to attend classes regularly. You are responsible for everything that takes place in class (announcements, lectures, videos, class discussions). Just as attending lectures is not a substitute for reading your main textbook, reading your text is not a substitute for attending classes. The examinations will include numerous questions based on material covered exclusively in class.

Videos: We will view several videos throughout the course of study. Video content will be discussed in class and may be included in course examinations. Because some of these videos may not be available outside of our classes, it is imperative that you attend their classroom showings.

Grading Scheme

Pop Quizzes.....	6%
Group Assignment #1.....	4%
Fall Midterm Exam.....	14%
Group Assignment #2.....	4%
Mid-year Exam.....	22%
Group Assignment #3.....	4%
Winter Midterm Exam.....	14%
ASA Assignment.....	10%
Final Exam.....	22%

Pop Quizzes

Several unannounced “pop” quizzes will be administered throughout the course. The quizzes will be completed during class and will test your understanding of recently covered course content. They will feature multiple-choice questions and, taken together, will be worth a maximum of 6% of your final course grade. For each quiz you **MUST** be in attendance at the very time the quiz is distributed in order to receive credit. **NO** second chances will be offered.

Examinations

There are 4 examinations scheduled throughout the course of study. The Fall and Winter midterm exams will be held during regular class times, and will include approximately 75 multiple-choice questions each. The Fall midterm exam will cover all course material (readings, lectures, videos, class discussions) from the first class to the time of the exam. The Winter midterm exam will cover all course material from the first class in the Winter term to the time of the exam. See the Course Schedule for midterm exam dates. The Mid-year (Xmas) exam will cover all course material from the beginning of the course to the time of the exam, with an emphasis on the material covered since the Fall midterm. The Final exam will cover all course material from the beginning of the Winter term to the time of the exam, with an emphasis on the material covered since the Winter midterm exam. The Mid-year and Final exams will be held in the Saunders Fieldhouse (the Gym). The Mid-year and Final examinations will be 3 hours in duration and may include multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions. The dates and

times of the Mid-year and Final examinations will be announced at a later date. See the Grading Scheme above for examination weights.

**Lakehead University has a very strict policy regarding the failure to write formal examinations at the prescribed time. Please note that make-up examinations will only be offered when missed exams are due to medical and/or compassionate reasons, for which detailed, official supporting documentation must be submitted. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the University's policy regarding missed examinations. Knowing your obligations in this area may help you avoid serious academic penalty.*

Group Assignments: *Headlining Sociology*

At different points throughout the course you will be asked to form groups of 2-3 members each for the purposes of completing and submitting 3 *Headlining Sociology* assignments. Groups will be formed during class time, but work on the assignments must take place outside of class. For each assignment each group must submit a 450-500 word report for evaluation by the appropriate deadline indicated in the Course Schedule (see below). Group assignments carry a maximum total weight of 12% of your final course grade (4% per assignment).

Each *Headlining Sociology* assignment entails selecting a brief article from a popular media source (newspaper, mass circulation magazine, internet news service, etc.) which reflects an important course concept or theory covered in our textbook or lectures during the term in which the assignment is due. Your group's report should be formatted according to the following 3-part model:

- Identify and define the important course concept/theory which you believe is reflected in your chosen article
- Paraphrase your chosen article
- Discuss how your chosen course concept is reflected in your chosen article

Your report must be 450-500 words in length, must use Times New Roman 12 point font, 1" margins, and double-spacing. You must include a title page, and a References page formatted according to American Sociological Association (ASA) guidelines. See the following link for an abbreviated version of ASA: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/583/01/> See the Course Schedule below for submission deadlines. Assignments which are submitted after the deadline will be penalized 5% per day including weekends. Additional details T.B.A.

ASA Assignment

You are required to prepare and submit a paper in which you demonstrate an ability to apply the American Sociological Association's (ASA) guidelines used in the formatting of research papers and essays. Detailed instructions for the assignment will be posted on our course site by October 1st. The assignment is worth 10% of your final course grade. The deadline for this assignment is Thursday March 31st. Assignments which are submitted after the deadline will be penalized 5% per day including weekends. Late assignments will NOT be accepted after Tuesday April 5th.

COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to minor changes)

Sept. 14 - 27	The Sociological Perspective, Henslin ch. 1
Sept. 28 - Oct. 4	What do Sociologists Do? Henslin ch. 2
Oct. 5 - 11	Culture, Henslin ch. 3
Mon. Oct. 12	Thanksgiving Day (University closed)
Oct. 13 - 25	Socialization, Henslin ch. 4
Oct. 22	Deadline for Headlining Sociology Assignment #1 (class time/location)
Tues. Oct. 27	Fall Midterm Exam (14% of final course grade; class time/location)
Oct. 28 - Nov. 8	Crime and Social Deviance, Henslin ch. 16
Nov. 9 - 22	Social Inequality: The Canadian Experience within a Global Context, ch. 6
Nov. 23 - 29	Inequalities of Gender, Henslin ch. 7
Nov. 30 – Dec. 6	Inequalities of Race and Ethnicity, Henslin ch. 8
Thurs. Dec. 3	Deadline for Headlining Sociology Assignment #2 (class time/location)
T.B.A	Mid-year Examination (22% of final course grade; Saunders Fieldhouse)
Jan. 4 - 10	Inequalities of Aging, Henslin ch. 9
Jan. 11 - 24	Bureaucracy and the Corporation, Henslin ch. 10
Jan. 25 - 31	The Economy and Work, Henslin ch. 11
Feb. 1 - 14	The Family: Integration into Society, Henslin ch. 13
Thurs. Feb 11	Deadline for Headlining Sociology Assignment #3 (class time/location)
Feb. 15 - 21	Reading Week
Tues. Feb. 23	Winter Midterm Exam (14% of final course grade; class time/location)
Feb. 23 - Mar. 6	Education and Religion, Henslin ch. 14
Mar. 7 - 20	Medicine: Health and Illness in Canada, Henslin ch. 15
Mar. 21- 27	Globalization, Henslin ch. 5
Mon. Mar. 28	Easter Monday (University closed)
Mar. 29 - Apr. 4	Population, Urbanization, and the Environment, Henslin ch. 17
Thurs. Mar. 31	Deadline for ASA Assignment (10% of final grade; class time/location)
T.B.A	Final Examination (22% of final course grade; Saunders Fieldhouse)