

**TO:** Students in "Sociology of Everyday Life"  
Sociology 3113 SA – 2016 Spring Session  
(May 24 – June 14)

**DATE:** May 2016

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

**SUBJECT: COURSE TEXTS, COURSE DESCRIPTION, A NOTE ON COURSE CONTENT,  
COURSE OBJECTIVE, AND EVALUATION (GRADING)**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Textbooks** (Available at Lakehead University Bookstore)

Required Textbook

1. Randle W. Nelsen. Life of the Party: A Study in Sociability, Community, and Social Inequality. Toronto: Between the Lines, 2012.

Suggested Textbook

2. Clay Shirky. Here Comes Everybody: The Power of Organizing Without Organizations. New York: Penguin, 2008.
3. Randle W. Nelsen. Fun & Games & Higher Education: The Lonely Crowd Revisited. Toronto: Between the Lines, 2007.
4. Sherry Turkle. Alone Together: Why We Expect More from Technology and Less from Each Other. New York: Basic Books, 2011.

**Course Description:**

This course will focus on how the sociological imagination can offer important insights useful in understanding our everyday/everynight lives. Lectures and readings will emphasize the interplay between work and leisure to help students understand the importance of class, race, and gender in various settings -- on the job, at school, at a sporting event, as users of public transportation and social services, as taxpayers, in front of cell phone, computer and television screens, as shoppers at the mall, at a party, at the neighbourhood bar, and so on.

**A Note on Course Content:**

It is next to impossible (certainly it is impractical) to list and cover the myriad subject matter falling under the course title. Literally every activity that human beings engage in while living their everyday/everynight lives is a possible focal point in our sociological studies. I shall (we shall) expand upon this when we meet as a class for the first time.

**Course Objective:**

The sole objective of this course is to benefit students by making them aware of the sociological side of their everyday activities, providing students with some insights regarding how to be critical social analysts.

**Evaluation (Grading):**

Students will be evaluated according to how well they achieve the above course objective. Specifics regarding course requirements, student-initiated assignments, evaluation procedures, and any other relevant information we shall discuss as a group on the first day of class, Tuesday, May 24, 2016.

**On Plagiarism:**

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