

**Lakehead University
Department of Sociology
Sociology 1100 YC
Introduction to Sociology**

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Fall and Winter Semesters: 2015-2016
Class Times: Tuesday 7.00 to 10.00
Classes are held in: UC 0050
Office Hours Fall Semester Monday 1.30-3.30
Office Hours Winter Semester Monday 3.00-5.00

Required Texts

Henslin, James, M., Glenday, Dan, Pupo, Norene, and Ann Duffy. *Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach*. 6th Canadian Edition.

Henslin, James. *Life in Society*.

Course Description

Welcome to the exciting world of sociology. Throughout this course you will be challenged to look at the world through *sociological eyes*. You will explore the concepts sociologists use to examine the social world. Of importance, will be an analysis of how sociologists conduct research. Sociological theories and the ways and end results of research will provide the background to explore such substantive areas as: culture, socialization, society, social structure, social interaction, networks, groups, organizations, deviance and crime, social class and stratification in Canada, global stratification, race and ethnic relations, sex and gender, aging, work and the economy, power, politics, government, families, intimate relationships, education, religion, health, health care, disability, population and urbanization, collective behaviour, social movements, and social change. The course will begin with an examination of theoretical perspectives and the methods sociologists use to conduct research.

Course Objectives

Gain familiarity with key sociological concepts.
Understand the applicability of sociological concepts to explain everyday social life.
Examine sociological perspectives. Learn to examine the social world through sociological eyes.
Comprehend the importance of sociological research and the tools used to do sociology.
Investigate substantive areas of study in sociology.
Develop critical skills.
Enjoy the material!

Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend class regularly and actively participate in class discussions. As well, reading assignments are to be completed for the date they are assigned. The reading list is attached to this syllabus. It is your responsibility to ensure you know the dates and times of all examinations. In-class midterm examinations are listed below and are held in class, during regularly scheduled classes. The December and Final examinations are posted by the registrar and the schedule for these can be found online.

The due date for your assignment is listed below. Assignments are due at the beginning of class.

<u>Evaluation</u>	<u>Marks</u>	<u>Due Dates</u>
Mid-Term Examination	15%	Oct. 20, 2015
December Examination	20%	Set by the Registrar
Mid-Term Examination	15%	Feb. 2, 2016
Assignment	15%	March 8 2016
Final Examination	25%	Set by the Registrar
Participation	<u>10%</u>	Throughout the course
	100%	

Examinations

Examinations will incorporate lectures, class discussions, films and assigned readings.

Participation

Your participation mark is based on your contribution to class discussions. This entails engaging in meaningful discussion and handing in group reports. Should you choose to chat with your fellow classmates, play games, check your emails, etc. and not to be part of your group discussion you will forfeit your participation marks for the class.

Assignment

You will critically analyze an academic article and an article, on the same topic, from the popular media. You will then compare and contrast the two articles. You will choose your academic article from a **Sociological Journal**, with refereed articles (for example, Canadian Journal of Sociology). From the popular media you can choose a newspaper or magazine article. Alternatively, you can use a television documentary on the topic, instead of an article from the popular media. You will include a copy of the articles you use, attach them to the assignment you hand in. Should you use a television program, you will need to provide detailed notes on what was covered in the program to be included as an attachment to the paper you hand in; these notes are not part of the 6 to 7 pages required of the assignment.

You are to briefly summarize each article (or article and television documentary). Next, you are to analyze each work you are examining.

Some things you might consider in your analysis:

- what are the main arguments presented?
- does the author make assumptions in presenting the material? If so, what kind of assumptions does he/she make?
- what kind of evidence does the author use?
- what is the source of this evidence? (I.e. does the author rely heavily on the work of others?)
- how well does the evidence support the arguments? (I.e. is the author presenting his/her own opinion?)
- does the author leave out alternative sources of evidence?

- does the author leave out alternative arguments?
- is the article written clearly?
- is the article interesting to read?
- are there issues raised in the article that require further explanation?
- what is the sociological relevance of the article\television documentary?

You are then to compare and contrast the two works you are discussing.

By critical, I do not mean you have to focus on finding fault. Rather, you are to carefully analyze and evaluate the article. Critical analysis includes both positive and negative aspects.

You must include a bibliography. The assignment is to be 6 to 7 pages, Times Numeral, 12 font, and double-spaced.

Late assignments will be penalized at a loss of 5 marks per day. This includes weekends and holidays. No Assignments will be accepted 7 days after the due date.

NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE HANDED IN ELECTRONICALLY.

American Sociological Association (ASA)

All assignments in the Department of Sociology are to follow the ASA (American Sociological Association) style guide. The guide can be accessed on the web. Type in ASA Style Guide and a number of examples will be available for you to choose from.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is unacceptable and subject to various sanctions. Please see the university regulations section on academic dishonesty in the Lakehead University Calendar.

Grades

Midterms and your assignment will be returned in class. You have two weeks, after the day midterms and the assignments are handed back in class, to come and discuss your grade.

Medical or Compassionate Consideration

Should you require academic consideration for medical or compassionate reasons, you will need a note from a physician or counsellor. Please refer to the current Lakehead University Calendar for detailed information.

Office Hours

There are two regularly scheduled office hours each week. Office hours are set to provide students the opportunity to stop by if they have questions, concerns, or would just like to say hello.

Technology

The use of phones during class is prohibited. Please turn your phone off and put it away during class. Use of computers is fine, as long as they are used for class work and not to play games, check emails, look at photographs, etc. Should you choose to use computers or other electronic devices for purposes other than recording lecture notes your use of such devices will be curtailed and paper and pen/pencil will be the means to take lecture notes.

Please Note: I do try to answer email in a timely fashion. I do guarantee a response during my regularly scheduled office hours. I do not discuss marks through email.

Tentative Reading Schedule Fall Semester**1. Tuesday, September 15**

Welcome to Introduction to Sociology 1100YC

Introductions

Course Outline

Lecture: The Sociological Perspective

2. Tuesday, September 22

Lecture: The Sociological Perspective

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 1

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 1

3. Tuesday, September 29

Lecture: What Do Sociologists Do?

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 2

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 5

4. Tuesday, October 6

Lecture: Finish What Do Sociologists Do?

Lecture: Culture

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 3

Reading: Miner, Horace. 2007. "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema." Pp. 18-21 in *Classic Readings in Sociology*, edited by E. L. Howard. Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth. On Reserve in the Library.

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 2

5. Tuesday, October 13

Lecture: Socialization

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 4

Reading: Pines, Maya. 2005. "The Civilizing of Genie." Pp. 61-67. in *Images of Society: Readings That Inspire and Inform Sociology*, edited by M. Carroll & J. P. White. United States: Thomson Nelson. On Reserve in the Library.

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 3

6. Tuesday, October 20

Midterm for the First Half of the Class

Lecture: Globalization

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 5

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 9

7. Tuesday, October 27

Lecture: Social Inequality: The Canadian Experience in a Global Context

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 6

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 4

8. Tuesday, November 3

Lecture: Social Inequality: The Canadian Experience in a Global Context

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 6

9. Tuesday, November 10

Lecture: Inequalities of Gender

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 7

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 11

10. Tuesday, November 17

Lecture: Inequalities of Race and Ethnicity

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 8

11. Tuesday, November 24

Lecture: Inequalities of Race and Ethnicity

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 12

12. Tuesday, December 1

Lecture: Inequalities of Age

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 9

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 13

Tentative Reading Schedule Winter Semester

13. Tuesday, January 5

Happy New Year and Welcome back!

Lecture: Bureaucracy and Corporation

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 10

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 7

14. Tuesday, January 12

Lecture: The Economy and Work

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 11

Reading: Life in Society Chapters 10 and 14

15. Tuesday, January 19

Lecture: Politics: Power and Authority

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 12

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 15

16. Tuesday, January 26

Lecture: The Family: Doorway to Society

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 13

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 16

17. Tuesday, February 2

Midterm first half of the class

Lecture: Education and Religion

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 17

18. Tuesday, February 9

Lecture: Education and Religion

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 14

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 18

19. Tuesday, February 16 Reading Week

20. Tuesday, February 23

Lecture: Medicine: Health and Illness in Canada

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 15

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 19

21. Tuesday, March 1

Lecture: Crime and Social Deviance

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 16

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 8

22. Tuesday, March 8

Lecture: Crime and Social Deviance

Reading: No Reading Assignment

Assignment is due

23. Tuesday, March 15

Lecture: Population, Urbanization, and the Environment

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 17

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 20

24. Tuesday, March 22

Lecture: Social Movements and Social Change

Reading: Sociology A Down-to-Earth Approach – Chapter 18

Reading: Reading Life in Society Chapter 21

25. Tuesday, March 29

Lecture: Social Movements and Social Change

Reading: Life in Society Chapter 22