

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

Current Instructor: Dr. Laurie Forbes

Fall and Winter Semesters: 2021-2022

Dr. Forbes: Office: UC 0034

Class Times: Monday and Wednesday 11.30-1.00

Dr. Forbes: Phone: 343-8966

Classes are held in: UC 1017

Dr. Forbes: E-mail: lforbes@lakeheadu.ca Dr. Forbes: Office Hours: Tuesday 9.30 to 12.30

Required Texts

The Sociology Book, by Christopher Thorpe et al. DK. ISBN-10: 1465436502 | ISBN-13: 978-1465436504 3

Note: Kindle Edition of the book is also available; ASIN: B00W6H6YOG

All additional course resources will be available through our D2L website.

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, within a Canadian context, such substantive areas as: culture, socialization, society, social structure, social interaction, networks, groups, organizations, deviance and crime, social class and stratification, global stratification, race and ethnic relations, sex and gender, aging, work and the economy, power, politics, government, families, intimate relationships, education, religion, health, population and urbanization, collective behaviour, social movements, and social change. The substantive areas are subsumed in the thematic areas found in the reading schedule.

Overall, SOCI 1100 is not designed to offer ‘hard facts’ and ‘undisputed sociological truths’ about society but, rather, to provide a window into ‘sociological mind’ and reveal the essence of what it means to think sociologically. Each social science discipline is based on a particular form of thinking which opens up the possibilities of seeing life in a different light, and so is sociology. What makes one discipline different from another, in the end, is the nature of thinking that underlies it, and the kinds of questions we are able to ask because of the way we conceptualize things through our thought. The discipline of sociology is particularly exciting in this regard because it is based in several distinct perspectives that offer the multiple ways of thinking about ourselves and our world. Throughout the course, we will explore these perspectives and aim to understand their respective contributions to the nature of sociological thought. By the end of our introductory explorations, you should be fully initiated into the ‘wonderful world of sociological mind’ and have command of the essential ingredients that make sociology the discipline that it is. Sociologists are known for asking and pondering the ‘big questions.’”

Learning 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.
Develop communication 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 examination is posted by the registrar and the schedule for this can be found online.

The due dates for examinations listed below.

<u>Evaluation</u>	<u>Marks</u>	<u>Due Dates</u>
Midterm Examination	20%	October 18, 2021
Midterm Examination	25%	Set by the Registrar
Midterm Examination	20%	February 17, 2022
Final Examination	25%	Set by the Registrar
Participation	<u>10%</u>	Throughout the course
	100%	

Examinations

The examinations will incorporate lectures, class discussions, films and assigned readings. Examinations are not cumulative. Examinations are designed, in such a way, those who have carefully read the required readings, carefully read the links, watched the videos, understood the lectures, fully addressed the discussion questions, and worked to clearly understand course material, should have no trouble answering the questions.

Participation

Your participation mark is based on your contribution to class discussions. This entails engaging in meaningful discussion. 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 any class you have not actively participated in.

Discussion is an important part of academia. Discussions in this class will be based on principles of respectfulness for diversity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, ancestry, colour, race, citizenship, ethnic origin, place of origin, creed, disability, family status, and socio-economic status. Please refer to the [Lakehead University Code of Student Behaviour](#).

Plagiarism:

Lakehead University defines plagiarism as follows:

1. Plagiarism of ideas as where an idea of an author or speaker is incorporated into the body of an assignment as though it were the writer's idea, i.e. no credit is given the person through referencing or footnoting or end noting.
2. Plagiarism of words occurs when phrases, sentences, tables or illustrations of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a writer's own, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on the format followed) are present but referencing or footnoting or end noting is given.
3. Plagiarism of ideas and words as where words and an idea(s) of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a written assignment as though they were the writer's own words and ideas, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on format followed) are present and no referencing or footnoting or end noting is given.

According to Lakehead University's "Code of Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures", penalties for plagiarism are strictly enforced and are as follows:

1. The minimum penalty for a candidate found guilty of plagiarism, or of cheating on any part of a course, will be a zero for the work concerned
2. A candidate found guilty of cheating on a formal examination or a test, or of serious or repeated plagiarism, or of unofficially obtaining a copy of an examination paper before the examination is scheduled to be written, will receive zero for the course and may be expelled from the University.

For more details, see your Lakehead University 2021-2022 Academic Calendar, section University Regulations (IX Academic Misconduct). Also, see the "Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures", which can be obtained from the Office of the Registrar.

Grades

Midterms will be returned in class. You have two weeks, after the day each midterm is handed back in class, to come and discuss your grade.

Your grade is a reflection of your performance in the course, which is the only criterion for your final mark. There will be no rescaling of grades at the end of the course and no adjustments except for legitimate clerical errors. Please take note of that.

According to Lakehead University defined standards, grade 0-49% constitutes unsatisfactory academic performance and means failing the course; 50-59% is a minimally accepted level of performance for passing the course, while 90-100% constitutes outstanding performance. For details on evaluation and grading see your Lakehead University 2021-2022 Academic Calendar, section University Regulations (V Standing).

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.

As a university student, you may sometimes experience mental health concerns or stressful events that interfere with your academic performance and negatively impact your daily activities. All of us can benefit from support during times of struggle. If you or anyone you know experiences academic stress, difficult life events or feelings of anxiety or depression, Student Health and Wellness is here to help. Their services are free for Lakehead Students and appointments are available. You can learn more about confidential mental health services available on and off campus at lakeheadu.ca/shw. Remember that getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do for yourself, for those you care about, and for those who care about you. Asking for support sooner rather than later is almost always helpful.

Please use Lakehead Email to converse with me lforbes@lakeheadu.ca. Any notices I send will be through your Lakehead Email account.

Should you need any assistance or have a question I am only an email away and happy to help/answer questions. Please note: I check and respond to emails during my working hours of Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. I will not regularly see or respond to emails outside of these hours.

Office Hours

There are three 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. If these times conflict with your schedule we can find an alternative time to meet.

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 taking lecture notes your use of such devices will be curtailed and paper and pen/pencil will be the means to take lecture notes.

Fall Semester Reading and Lecture Schedule

Week 1: Tuesday, Sept. 7 to Wednesday, Sept. 8

Please take this time to familiarize yourself with the textbook and the D2Lsite.

Week 2: Monday, Sept. 13 to Wednesday, Sept. 15

On Monday Sept.13:

Welcome to Introduction to Sociology 1100YA

Introductions

Course Outline

Class Protocol

Let's Begin Our Journey into the Exciting World of Sociology

Readings: "Why Go to University?"

Readings: The Sociology Book: Introduction (pp. 12-15)

On Wednesday Sept. 15:

The Sociological Perspective and Research Methods

Readings

Foundations of Sociology: Introduction (pp. 18-19) SOCIOLOGY

Auguste Comte: scientific positivism (pp. 22-25)

Charles Wright Mills: sociological imagination (pp. 46-49)

Ferdinand Tönnies: Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft (pp. 32-33)

Ibn Khaldun: solidarity (p. 20)

Adam Ferguson: civic spirit (p. 21)

Week 3: Monday, Sept. 20 to Wednesday, Sept. 22

The Sociological Perspective and Research Methods

Readings:

Karl Marx: class conflict (pp. 28-31)

Emile Durkheim: Functionalism (pp. 34-37)

Week 4: Monday, Sept. 27 to Wednesday, Sept. 29

The Sociological Perspective and Research Methods

Readings:

Max Weber: rationality/modernity (pp. 40-45)

Harold Garfinkel: ethnomethodology (pp. 50-51)

George Herbert Mead: the self (pp. 176-177)

Week 5: Monday, Oct. 4 to Wednesday, Oct. 6

The Sociological Perspective and Research Methods

Readings:

Harriet Martineau: feminism (pp. 26-27)

Judith Butler: gender performativity (pp. 58-61)

bell hooks: feminism/intersectionality (pp. 92-95)

Week 6: Monday, Oct. 11 to Wednesday, Oct. 13

Thanksgiving and Study Week No classes

Week 7: Monday, Oct. 18 to Wednesday, Oct. 20

Monday, October 18 Midterm Examination

Wednesday, October 20

Modern Living

Readings:

Modern Living: Introduction (pp. 102-103) SOCIETY I
Ferdinand Tonnies: Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft (pp. 32-33)
Benedict Anderson: nationalism/'imagined community' (pp. 202-203)

Week 8: Monday, Oct. 25 to Wednesday, Oct. 27**Monday, October 25****Modern Living****Readings:**

Niklas Luhmann: systems of communication (pp. 110-111)
Amitai Etzioni: communitarianism (pp. 114-119)
Robert D. Putnam: social capital (pp. 124-125)

Wednesday, October 27**A Sociological Look at Halloween****Week 9: Monday, Nov. 1 to Wednesday, Nov. 3****Modern Living****Readings:** George Ritzer: McDonaldization (pp. 120-125)

Alan Bryman: Disneyization (pp. 126-127)
Erving Goffman: institutionalization/total institutions (pp. 266-269)

Week 10: Monday, Nov. 8 to Wednesday, Nov. 10**Population and Urbanization****Readings:**

Georg Simmel: mental life of the metropolis/stranger (pp. 104-105)
Henri Lefebvre: the right to the city (pp. 106-107)
Jane Jacobs: urban community (pp. 108-109)
Sharon Zukin: gentrification (pp. 128-131)

Week 11: Monday, Nov. 15 to Wednesday, Nov. 17**Culture, Identity, Social Interaction, Socialization****Readings:**

Culture and Identity: Introduction (pp. 174-175) CULTURE I
Jeffrey Alexander: culture/cultural sociology (pp. 206-209)
Norbert Elias: the civilizing process (pp. 180-181)
Raymond Williams: culture/structure of feeling (p. 189)

Week 12: Monday, Nov. 22 to Wednesday, Nov. 24**Culture, Identity, Social Interaction, Socialization****Readings:**

Antonio Gramsci: cultural hegemony (pp. 178-179)
Herbert Marcuse: the culture industry (pp. 184-187)

Erich Fromm: alienation (p. 188)

Jean Baudrillard: simulacra (pp. 196-199)

Week 13: Monday, Nov. 29 to Wednesday, Dec. 1
Culture, Identity, Social Interaction, Socialization

Readings:

Stuart Hall: cultural identity (pp. 200-201)

Erving Goffman: stigma (pp. 192-195)

Howard S. Becker: labeling theory/deviance (pp. 282-285)

Robert K. Merton: anomie/strain theory (pp. 262-263)

Arlie Russell Hochschild: emotional labor (pp. 238-243)

Michel Foucault: the will to truth (pp. 302-303)

Week 14 Monday, Dec. 6

A Sociological Look at Christmas

Be sure to check the exam timetable for the date and time of the December examination.

Please note: the Winter Reading and Lecture Schedule will be handed out in December for those who want to read ahead.