

SOCI-1100 YA: Introduction to Sociology

Course Location: RC0005

Class Times: Mon. 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Dates: Fall term: Sept. 10 – Dec. 3, 2018

Winter term: Jan. 7 – April 1, 2019

Instructor Information

- Taina Maki Chahal
- Office: UC0036B
- Telephone: 343-8082
- Email: tchahal@lakeheadu.ca
- Office Hours: Thurs. 1:00–2:00 p.m. and by appointment

T.A. Information

- Josie Zussino
- Office: RB 2032; Office Hours: TBA
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Course Description/Overview

Why study sociology? Undoubtedly, 21st c society has been undergoing rapid change, both exhilarating and unstable. Indeed, sociology is more relevant than ever before. Sociology provides conceptual tools to explain the changing social world, providing us with a broad knowledge base on society and culture, social organization and social change, and social roles and human behavior. Through a critical perspective, this class introduces the discipline of sociology, its key concepts, theorists, and methods. Further, taking up sociological perspectives and questions, we will analyze various social contexts of everyday life, micro and macro, focusing on Canadian examples. Key sociological concepts that we will examine include class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, health, education, family, religion, the environment, and capitalism.

Course Objectives and/or Learner Outcomes

- Identify and analyze social structures, social difference, social institutions, and social change.
- Name and describe basic sociological concepts and theories.
- Develop one's intellectual skillset to engage in dialogue and debate about Canadian society, past and present, and 21st c society in general.
- Apply sociological concepts and perspectives to create complex comprehensive analyses of social phenomena.
- Think critically about social construction, socialization, and social institutions.
- Improve one's ability to contribute to positive social change, including social justice.

Course Resources

Required Course Text

- *Elements of Sociology: A Critical Canadian Introduction*. 4th ed. 2017. John Steckley. Oxford UP.
- documents and links posted on the D2L

Course Website

- Desire2Learn (D2L)

Course Reading Schedule

The schedule of readings may change due to class progress, technical problems, or unforeseen reasons. Changes will be announced in class and posted on the D2L.

FALL TERM 2018

Week one. Sept. 10 Ch. 1 Introduction to Sociology	
Week two. Sept. 17 Ch. 2 Social Research Methods	
Week three. Sept. 24 Ch. 3 Culture	
Week four. Oct. 1 Ch. 3 Culture	
Fall Study Break Oct.8 – 12	No classes!
Week five. Oct. 15 In-class test#1	In-class test#1 15%
Week six. Oct. 22 Ch. 4 Socialization	
Week seven Oct. 29 Ch. 5 Social Roles, Interaction, and Organization	
Week eight. Nov. 5 Ch. 6 Deviance	
Week nine. Nov. 12 Ch. 7 Social Inequality	
Week ten. Nov. 19 Ch. 7 Social Inequality	
Week eleven. Nov. 26 In-class test#2	In-class test#2 20%
Week 12. Mon. Dec. 3 In-class group work	

WINTER TERM 2019

Week 13. Jan. 7 Ch. 8 "Race" and Ethnicity	
Week 14. Jan. 14 Ch. 8 "Race" and Ethnicity	
Week 15. Jan. 21 Ch. 9 Gender and Sexuality	
Week 16. Jan. 28 Ch. 9 Gender and Sexuality	
Week 17. Feb. 4 Ch. 11 Religion	Feb. 8 last day to drop
Week 18. Feb. 11 In-class test#3	In-class test#3 20%

STUDY BREAK February 18 - 22

Week 19. Feb. 25 Ch. 10 Family	Reflection paper 10% due Feb. 25
Week 20. March 4 Ch. 12 Education	
Week 21. March 11 Ch. 12 Education	
Week 22. March 18 Ch. 13 Health and Medicine	
Week 23. March 25 Ch. 14 The Environment	
Week 24. April 1 Ch. 15 Social Change and the Future	
Final exam: TBA	Final Exam 25% TBA

Assignments and Evaluation

Assignment	Due date	Value	Length
In-class test#1	Oct. 15	15%	3 hours
In-class test#2	Nov. 26	20%	3 hours
In-class test#3	Feb. 11	20%	3 hours
Reflection paper	Feb. 25	10%	750 words
Final Exam	TBA	25%	3 hours
Participation	Throughout the term	10%	

Details of Assignments

In-class Tests

In-class test#1 = 15%. It covers class and textbook material from Week 1 to Week 4 (chapters 1, 2 and 3 plus class lectures, discussions, content, and assigned reading or watching). In-class test#1 consists of multiple choice questions.

In-class test# 2 = 20%. In-class test#2 covers class and textbook material from Week 6 to Week 10 (chapters 4, 5, 6 and 7 plus class lectures, discussions, content, and assigned reading or watching). In-class test#2 consists of multiple choice questions and short answer questions.

In-class test# 3 = 20%. In-class test#3 covers class and textbook material from Week 13 to Week 17 (chapters 8, 9, and 11 plus class lectures, discussions, content, and assigned reading or watching). In-class test#3 consists of multiple choice questions and short answer questions.

Reflection paper = 10%

Due: Feb. 25, 7:00 p.m. 750 words; maximum word count 850.

Lateness Policy: Due at the beginning of class on the due date. After that, there is a 2% penalty per day up to 5 days (maximum 10%). Penalties accrue from 7:00 p.m. each day.

In the Reflection Paper, you describe, analyze, and use critical reflexivity (we will discuss this concept in class) to reflect on how your identity has been shaped and affected by two agents of socialization, such as family, friends and peer group, education, religion, health, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, work, media (films, television, gaming, fashion, music), the internet (including social media). Use specific examples. Avoid generalizations, clichés, and vague language. Include discussion of your own agency.

Use the class textbook, *Elements of Sociology*, as a secondary source. Quote passages that are applicable to your analysis.

Use essay format: a well-developed introductory paragraph with a thesis, body paragraphs where you develop your ideas, provide support, include details, and give examples, and a concluding paragraph.

Use ASA (American Sociological Association) format and style. Include a title page with the title of your paper, your name, institution, professor, date, and word count (of the body of the essay) in square brackets. Paginate and double space the essay. Use 12 point Times New Roman or Arial font. Include a References page; it should have a minimum of one secondary source, the class textbook. Read and apply the basics of ASA:

https://www.lakeheadu.ca/sites/default/files/uploads/92/ASA_Style_4th_ed_0.pdf

Final Exam = 25%

Date: TBA

The Final Exam covers class and textbook material from Week 19 to Week 24 (chapters 10, 12, 13, 14 and 15 plus class lectures, discussions, content, and assigned reading or watching). The Final Exam consists of multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and an essay question. **NOTE:** The essay builds on cumulative knowledge from the beginning of class (Sept. 2018) to the end (April 2019).

Participation = 10%

This mark includes engaging with class and group discussions, coming to class prepared (having done the readings), being attentive and focused (see Course Policies for my policy on mobile phones and doing work for other classes), being punctual, participating in group work, attending class, handing in your own record of attendance (see below), and completing short in-class writings that are handed in that day. Only upon special circumstances and consultation with me will I accept in-class writing assignments outside of the class in which they were assigned. Sign your name on the roster before leaving class. Each full attendance of class earns you a 1. Staying for half of the class earns you a .5. Absence is marked as X. Each in-class writing assignment receives a check mark. Missing group work or in-class writing gets an X.

From the start of class and throughout the term, keep notes of your own attendances, absences, early departures (staying less than the full class), and lateness, with brief reasons for missing and leaving class. Be honest; don't make up stuff. Hand in your record of attendance on the last class of the Fall term and the last day of the Winter term.

I tabulate your Participation mark at the end of the year in consideration of all the above.

Assignment Policies

- If you require special accommodations to complete assignments, please approach me early in the year. Also, read the section on Accommodations under **University Policies** on the last page of this syllabus.
- In-class tests as well as the Final Exam must be written on the day that they are scheduled so do not make travel plans on those days.
- No email submission of the Reflection paper. It is due hard copy at the start of class.
- Use ASA (American Sociological Association) format and style for the Reflection paper.
- If you require an extension for the Reflection paper, ask for one in advance of the due date. See me in person; do not email your request.
- Exceptions to the policies above are allowed only with a doctor's note or other appropriate documentation.

Plagiarism Rules

Plagiarism is an offence. Papers with plagiarized content and in-class tests charged with academic dishonesty are not marked; your name is forwarded to Dr. Tony Puddephatt, Chair of the Sociology Department. Further, all plagiarized work and other forms of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean, who is responsible for judging academic misconduct and imposing penalties. The minimum penalty for academic misconduct is a 0 on the assignment in question. It might also be subject to more severe academic penalties.

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of someone else's words, ideas, and/or photos. Not acknowledging your debt to the ideas of a secondary source, failing to use quotation marks when you are quoting directly, buying essays, copying another student's work, taking sentences and paragraphs from the internet and using them as your own, failing to credit the source of images, photos, or tables, or getting someone to write your assignment or parts of it, all constitute plagiarism. Resubmitting material you've submitted to another course is also academic dishonesty.

Course Policies

- Class schedule may change; changes will be noted in class.
- Detail on schedule, assignments, and evaluation will be discussed in class.
- Bring your textbook to class unless otherwise noted.
- Attendance is mandatory. Lateness is disruptive; respect your colleagues and your professor by arriving on time. Record your lateness and absences on your own record of attendance, providing a brief explanation.
- Laptops, tablets, or other digital notebooks or technologies can be used only for note keeping. No handheld digital technologies (mobile phones, cell phones, and so on) allowed on the desk or in your hands or lap during class. Exceptions to this because of accommodations must be discussed with me early in the term. Handheld digital technologies must be put away inside your packsack,

pocket, purse, etc., with ringers turned off. Any occasional exceptions to this (e.g., you are expecting a call or message from work or a babysitter) must be discussed with me before class begins.

- Using computer devices to take notes can distract nearby students. If you take notes with a laptop or other digital notebook, please sit in the back or on the edge of the classroom so that your screen does not disturb others. I reserve the right to ask you to close your digital device and put it away.
- Do not do homework for other classes or study for other classes in our class nor play games or check your social media.
- Once class starts, chatting outside of assigned group work is not permitted.
- If you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you have missed. Check with your colleagues to see what you have missed and check the D2L as some content may be posted there; the instructor does not provide lecture notes for missed classes, nor supply missed content via email.
- Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings and prepared to answer questions and engage in class discussions as well as remain attentive and focused.
- For questions outside of class time, speak to me after class, visit me during office hours, or arrange an appointment to see me.
- Generally, emails and text messages are answered within 48 hours. I do not read emails or messages on Friday night, Saturday or Sunday. Emails or messages sent on the weekend will be read on Monday.

University Policies

- Students in this course are expected to conform to the [Code of Student Behaviour](#). Please read the [Code of Student Behaviour](#)¹.
- Accommodations: Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact [Student Accessibility Services \(SAS\)](#)² and register as early as possible.
- Accommodations are in accordance with the terms of the [Ontario Human Rights Code](#)³. This occurs through a collaborative process that acknowledges a collective obligation to develop an accessible learning environment that both meets the needs of students and preserves the essential academic requirements of the course.

This course syllabus is also posted on the class D2L.

¹ <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/academics/academic-support/skills-for-success/responsibilities>

² <http://studentaccessibility.lakeheadu.ca>

³ <http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/ontario-human-rights-code>