

**Lakehead University
Department of Sociology
Sociology 2112 SDE
Youth in Canadian Society**

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Meeting with students: If you are on-campus or would like to converse by telephone please send me an email (lforbes@lakeheadu.ca) and we will find a convenient time to meet.

Required Texts

Danesi, Marcel. 2018. *From Flappers to Rappers The Origins, Evolution, and Demise of Youth Culture*. Toronto, ON: Canadian Scholars Press.

The text can be purchased in hardcopy or e-book through the Lakehead University bookstore. The text comes with a workbook that is very helpful.

Course Description

Youth is complex both in terms of societal discourse on youth and the many transitions an individual is expected to undergo as they move from child to adult in Canadian society. This course will address; the central questions and issues surrounding youth from a sociological perspective; bodily changes as one moves from child to adult, relationship formations take on new meaning and often new forms of intimacy; life choices are made; and individuals gain more independence within a cultural milieu that shapes youth. Using a critical perspective how youth is socially constructed will be examined for its impact on the micro, macro, and meso levels. Of particular importance are youth culture and youth movements.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the origin of youth
- Discuss youth from a life course perspective
- Explore how youth has become a prolonged period in Canada
- Examine stereotypes surrounding youth
- Explore youth culture and youth movements
- Discuss bodily changes and new relationships including intimacy
- Investigate youth crime
- Investigate sociological concepts and theories associated with youth studies
- Use your sociological imagination to explore the micro, meso, and macro world of youth
- Develop critical thinking skills

Course Requirements

Students are expected to read the textbook and online modules (lectures), read the material in the links found in the modules, watch the videos listed in the online modules, and participate actively in your online group.

This is a compressed course and we are covering in 3 weeks what we would normally cover in 3 months. If this was a face-to-face course, on campus during the spring semester, we would spend 10 hours a week in class; not including daily readings and assignments. This course is designed so that you spend 10 hours a week working on lectures, links and videos in the lectures, and answering discussion posts. The 10 hours does not include the Danesi readings and work on your assignment.

Evaluation

Midterm Examination
Poster Assignment
Final Examination
Participation

Marks

25%
25%
15%
35%
100%

Due Dates

June 4, 2018
June 12, 2018
June 16, 2018
Throughout the course

Weekly Schedule

Week 1 May 28 to June 3

Lecture 1: Introduction to Youth in Canadian Society – Reading Danesi Chapter 1
Lecture 2: Historical Perspectives on Youth – Reading Danesi Chapter 2
Lecture 3: Socialization – Reading Danesi Chapter 3

Week 2 June 4 to June 10

Midterm Examination **June 4 at 6.00 pm**
Lecture 4: Body Image, Intimacy, and Health – Reading Danesi Chapter 4
Lecture 5: Education, Work, and Policy – Reading Danesi Chapter 5
Lecture 6: Crime – Reading Danesi Chapter 6

Week 3 June 11 to June 15

Lecture 7: Identity, Media, and Youth Culture
Read Poster Assignments

Final Exam June 16 at 6.00 pm

Examinations

The midterm and final examinations will be held at 6:00 in the evening (Thunder Bay time, Eastern Time). Please note these times on your calendar as they are the only time the examinations are available. The examinations will be online. Everyone will write the exam at the same time. These are individual examinations and you are not to answer examination questions with another person. You can increase your chances of doing well by reading the textbook, reading the links in the modules, watching the videos in

the modules, carefully reading the lecture material, actively engage in online discussion with your group, and understand the material.

Examinations will incorporate lectures (including links and videos), discussions, research assignments and assigned readings.

Participation

Participation is a significant part of your overall mark. Your participation mark is based on your contribution to group discussions and asking questions/making comments and answering questions/comments on the poster assignment. This entails fulsome responses to group discussions/poster questions/comments; stating “I agree” or “I disagree” without adding why you agree or disagree is not considered a fulsome discussion. Repeating what a group member has said in discussion posts/questions/comments is not a fulsome discussion. Participation means engaging with the material. You are to answer each discussion question in each module. While you certainly can agree or disagree with a post, you need to outline your rationale for doing so. Critical thinking is not about opinions. Critical thinking is rational, unbiased, evidence based thought.

Each of you was randomly assigned to a discussion group forum and will work with your group throughout the course. Discussion forums can only be viewed by the members of the group and me. Respectfulness of answers is to be practiced. You do not have to agree with your classmates, you can respectfully disagree. Academia is about discourse and critical thought.

Discussion posts open at 8.00 am on Monday for weeks one and two of this course. The last posts for these two weeks need to be made by 8.00 pm on Sunday. The discussion post, for weeks one and two, will stay open until 11.30 for those who want to read the last postings. To be clear, no participation marks will be assigned after 8.00 pm on Sunday for weeks one and two discussion questions.

The registrar posts the final exam date. The final exam for this semester is on June 16. Since the exam is set for this date, no posts will be made after 8.00 pm on Friday, June 15. The forum will stay open until 11.30 on Friday for those who wish to read the posts. To be clear, no participation marks will be assigned after 8.00 pm on Friday, June 15.

You are to read 15 of your classmates’ poster assignments (see details below) and ask questions/make comments on these. As well, you are to answer questions/comments asked of your assignment. Please ask questions/make comments of the assignments of your group members before examining the assignments of those in other groups. Doing so ensures everyone has questions/comments to address and everyone’s work is read by some classmates. Respectfulness is expected when asking questions/making comments or responding to questions/comments.

There will be a discussion forum set up to post your assignment. Classmates can ask questions or make comments simply by hitting reply under your posting and you can

make your response in the same way. Responding in this way keeps all questions/comments/responses in one place, which makes it easier for all concerned. You can post your assignment beginning June 10 at 8.00 am. Comments to posters can begin on June 12 at anytime.

Poster Assignment

Throughout his book Danesi speaks of youth social movements. Youth involved in social movements provides an interesting opportunity to examine youth. The intriguing aspect of youth social movements is it is youth transforming society through social action.

Your assignment is to design a poster focusing on a youth social movement. The poster will include: how the movement started, what those involved hoped to gain, how the movement took shape, what specifically did the movement do, were they successful, and are they still active. You might also include any interesting facts and fun facts you find. Danesi, in his discussion of youth social movements makes mention of common language in youth social movements and styles of dress; this may or may not be applicable to your topic.

You need to cite all sources used. You can do this by using a footnote style and assign a number to each citation and provide a separate page with citations or cite them at the end of your poster; full citations are required. Alternatively, you can cite in the body of the poster and include a bibliography.

Danesi provides examples of youth social movements and there are many others. You can google youth social movements to look at the numerous youth social movements that are currently active or were active in the past.

Some Examples of Youth Social Movements:

Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA)

Grassy Narrows Protest Against Mercury Poisoning

Idle No More

#Never Again Movement

Beatniks

#Becca Told Me To Movement

You do not have to use the examples in Danesi or the ones I list above, you can choose any social movement from the past or present.

Google has a number of sites that tell you how to design a poster.

The due date of your research project is June 12 at 9.00 am. Any assignment handed in after this time will be docked 5 late marks. Late assignments will not be accepted after 6.00 pm on June 13. An additional 5 marks will be docked if the assignment is handed in any time after 9.00 am June 13.

Remember to post your poster in the open forum specifically designed for posters. You also need to post your poster in assignments. The poster will be graded in the assignment folder and only you can see the comments and grade in the assignment folder.

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. Google 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](#).

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

I will be online often reading posts. Should you need any assistance or have a question I am only an email away and happy to help/answer questions.