

**Lakehead University  
Department of Sociology  
Sociology 2011 SDE  
Youth and Canadian Society**

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**Spring Semester: 2026  
Phone: 807-343-8010 Ext. 8966  
Office Hours: Monday 1.00-4.00**

**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.**

**Course Description**

Youth is complex both in terms of societal discourse 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, how relationship formations take on new meaning and often new forms of intimacy; how life choices are made; and how 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.

**Required Text**

One textbook is required. The approximate textbook cost is provided below and reflects current LU bookstore pricing (prices subject to change). The text may be available from other sources at reduced prices. Additional readings will be posted to the D2L course website in content. Readings posted to D2L are free of charge. Other readings can be accessed online or through the library, these readings are free of charge.

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 very helpful workbook. LU bookstore prices: \$85.95 print, \$72.99 e-version.

**Important Note: This is a web course. This means the whole course is online. You will find lectures which include the discussion questions you are to answer and links which you are to open and read or videos to watch. The exams are written online, in the course D2L site. In a web course there are no zoom lectures, we do not meet in-person, and lectures are not taped.**

**This is a compressed course and we are covering in 6 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 6 hours a week in class; not including daily**

readings and assignments. This course is designed so that you spend 6 hours a week working on lectures, links and videos in the lectures, and answering discussion posts. The 6 hours does not include the assignment, all of the readings, and studying for the midterm and final examinations.

### **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 regularly check the D2L site and actively participate in class discussions. Students are to read the textbook and online lectures, read the material in the links found in the lectures, and watch the videos listed in the online lectures. Reading assignments are to be completed for the date they are assigned. The reading list is attached to this syllabus. This class is designed to be interactive and group discussion is a central component of the course.

**All times for this course are Eastern Daylight Time.**

<b><u>Evaluation</u></b>	<b><u>Marks</u></b>	<b><u>Due Dates</u></b>
Midterm Examination	15%	May 21, 2026
Research Project	30%	June 8, 2026
Participation	35%	Throughout the Course
Final Examination	<u>20%</u>	June 16, 2026
	100%	

### **Examinations**

The midterm and final examinations will be held at 6:00 in the evening (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 examination at the same time. These are individual examinations, and you are not to answer examination questions with another person. Answers to examination questions are to be based on your knowledge, using your words; you are not to use outside sources, including, but not limited to google or any other computer search engine, AI, systems like, but not limited to Grammarly, lecture material, study notes, textbooks, videos, or other sources. You can increase your chances of doing well by reading the textbook and workbook, reading the links in the lectures, watching the videos in the lectures,

reading all assigned readings, 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. All questions are to be answered based on class material.

**To be clear: You must not access any sources or materials (in print, online, recordings, or in any other way, including course material, texts, videos, notes you have taken, etc.) to complete any course examinations. The exams are to be completed individually, without collaboration with any other person. Your examination answers are to be based on what you have learned in the course and are to be in your own words. Use of AI, including programs like, but not limited to Grammarly is considered plagiarism.**

**The midterm and final examinations are at 6.00 pm, Eastern Daylight Time. Everyone will write the midterm and final examinations at the same time. The examination times are firm. The final examination day is set by the registrar.**

**Please note: Time for all students, for the midterm and final examinations, begins at 6.00 pm and if the exam, for example, is one hour in length, no questions registered after 7.00 pm will be graded. If you have a registered accommodation, for example, to have an additional 30 minutes, your time will be adjusted and you will have until 7.30 to finish the exam. Any posts after 7.30 will not be graded.**

**Exams are to be written directly in the space provided, in the D2L exam site. To be clear, no examination answers are to be answered outside the D2L site and cut and pasted into the exam.**

### **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 lecture. 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.

If you are concerned you will be repeating what a group member has posted you might want to answer the question offline, cut and paste it into the discussion forum, and then comment on what your group members have said.

Each of you is 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.

Each question, in each lecture and the questions/comments/responses on posters will be marked out of 4 possible marks, following the list below. Your answers should not only reflect that you have read the material/watched the videos in question, but have thought about and further analyzed it. Additionally, you should read the responses of your peers to avoid repeating or copying their answers, as well as to further your group discussion regarding that question.

- 0 Marks: No answer or an answer that reveals a fundamental misunderstanding of the question or content being asked about.
- 1 Mark: Answer reveals you have read the relevant material and provided an answer.
- 2 Marks: Answer shows an understanding of the material being asked about and appropriately addresses the question.
- 3 Marks: Answer illustrates a full understanding of the material and the question, as well as the capacity to engage with the discussion beyond merely answering the question.
- 4 Marks: Answer proves that you have not only understood the material and question, but are able to deeply discuss the sociological relevance provoked by the question and the material.

Discussions are not marked for length, only for content.

**All sources in your discussion posts they must be cited, including page numbers. Failure to do so is plagiarism. Answers are not to be generated by computer programs. Discussion post responses are to be based on your knowledge, answered in your own words.**

Interaction is an important part of learning and working together collegially. While you will not lose marks for not responding to group members posts, thoughtful, fulsome responses are duly noted. It can be the case, with the information provided in the response to a group member's post, it clarifies your original answer moving the mark from a 0 to 1, or 1 to 2, or 2 to 3, or 3 to 4. As well, I have been known to use responses to group members to occasionally assign bonus marks.

**To be clear, no participation marks will be assigned after 2.00 pm on the day they are due, as noted, in the lecture and reading schedule. I will provide a response to at least one post, per student, each week, for posts made between the opening of discussion posts on Monday and Wednesday of that week, by 2.00 pm.**

**Please note: While lectures open early for those who want to get ahead, discussion posts for week one begins on May 4, discussion posts for week two**

**begin on May 11, discussion posts for week three begin on May 18, discussion posts for week 4 begin on May 25, discussion posts for week 5 begin on June 1, and discussion posts for week 6 begin on June 8.**

Reading posters and making comments/asking questions and responding to questions/comments asked of your poster is a peer review process and part of the participation grade. While you are to read all the posters, you are to select 10 of your classmates' poster assignments to read in-depth and ask questions/make comments on these. As well, you are to answer questions/comments asked of your poster. Please ask questions/make comments of the posters of your group members before examining the posters of those in other groups. Doing so ensures everyone has questions/comments to address and everyone's work is read in-depth by some classmates. Respectfulness is expected when asking questions/making comments or responding to questions/comments. Questions/comments/responses are to be fulsome. Saying nice colours is not a fulsome comment.

**Participation marks will be posted every second week. Please note the grade as it will be deleted when the grade is updated.**

### **Research Project**

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 are to reference your sources and add a separate reference page with your poster submission. All sources in the poster are to be fully cited, not just direct quotes. For example, intext citations should be (Smith 1927:36).

You need to use a minimum of 6 sources for your assignment. Three of the sources must be academic sources. Simply finding 6 sources on the internet is not sufficient. As this is a research project make use of research skills and find your information from a variety of sources; books on the social movement, journal articles, newspaper articles, organizational mandates, etc. While you can use your textbook in your poster, it does not count as one of the required sources. Images are to be cited and do not count as one of the minimum 6 required sources.

**Helpful hint: Google academic poster examples.**

**Helpful hint: Do not use "I", "me", or "my" in academic work**

The following link explains academic sources.

### [Reading Research - University of Central Missouri](#)

#### **Academic sources are peer reviewed.**

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)

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 youth social movement from the past or present.

The research projects will be posted for the entire class to read. There will be time devoted to reading the posters, posing questions, and answering questions. Research Projects are to be posted by 9.00 am on June 8, 2026. Posters posted after 9.00 am June 8 and before 9.00 am on June 9, 2026, will be docked 5 late marks. Should you submit your poster any time after 9.00 am and before 6.00 pm on June 9, 2026, you will be docked 10 late marks. No posters will be accepted after 6.00 pm on June 9, 2026.

Posters must be submitted in PDF format. Posters not in a readable format will be treated as late posters, with marks docked until they are readable. Should the poster not be resubmitted in a readable format by June 9, at 6.00 pm, a grade of zero will be assigned.

There will be a forum set up to post your poster. 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 poster beginning June 7 at 8.00 am. Comments to posters can begin on June 8 at any time. Questions/comments must be made prior to Friday, June 12, 2026, at 2.00 pm.

**If you were handing in a hardcopy of the poster, it would be on standard Bristol board, which is 22 X 28 inches; this is the size your poster is to be. You will be creating your poster online, based on the instructions found in content. You are to use the site posted in the link or google docs to create your poster. There is an example, posted in content to help you. [Please note: this is only an example and you can design the poster any way you want.](#)**

Remember to post your poster in the poster 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.

**To be clear: You must cite direct quotes, paraphrasing, any idea or thought not your own, including any information taken from online sources. The citations are to appear in the body of the poster, for example, (Duncan 1942:86). All sources are to appear in the reference page. Failure to cite all sources is plagiarism. The posters are to be created in your own words, posters are not to use AI.**

**Posters without citations will receive a grade of zero.**

**Please refer to the grading rubric, posted on the D2L site.**

### **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.

**Please note: Posters do not require an abstract and are not double-spaced.**

### **Plagiarism**

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

### **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](http://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](mailto: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.

**The Following is Lakehead University's Policy for Students Engaged in Remote Learning at Lakehead University.**

**(1) Academic Integrity**

A breach of Academic Integrity is a serious offence. The principle of Academic Integrity, particularly of doing one's own work, documenting properly (including use of quotation marks, appropriate paraphrasing and referencing/citation), collaborating appropriately, and avoiding misrepresentation, is a core principle in university study. Students are strongly advised to familiarize themselves with the Student Code of Conduct - Academic Integrity ("[The Code](#)") - and, in particular, sections 26 and 83 through 85. Non-compliance with the Code will NOT be tolerated in this course and the Code will be adhered to in terms of disciplinary action. The Code provides a full description of academic offences, procedures when Academic Integrity breaches are suspected and sanctions for breaches of Academic Integrity.

**(2) Copyright Compliance:**

I understand and agree that all instructional, reference, and administrative materials to which I am given access in this course (the "course materials"), whether they consist of text, still or kinetic images, or sound, whether they are in digital or hard copy formats, and in whatever media they are offered, are protected in their entirety by copyright, and that to comply with this copyright and the law:

- (1) I may access and download the course materials only for my own personal and non-commercial use for this course; and
- (2) I am not permitted to download, copy, store (in any medium), forward or share, transmit, broadcast, show, post or play in public, adapt, or change in any way any text, image, or sound component of the course materials for any other purpose whatsoever except as expressly authorized, and only to the extent authorized, in writing, by the course instructor.

I further understand and agree that, if I infringe the copyright of the course materials in any way, I may be prosecuted under the Lakehead University Student Code of Conduct – Academic Integrity, which requires students to act ethically and with integrity in academic matters and to demonstrate behaviours that support the University's academic values.

**(3) Exam/Assignment/Discussion Post Integrity:**

I understand and agree that:

- (1) Unless otherwise allowed by the course instructor, I must complete the assignments/discussion posts in this course without the assistance of anyone else.
- (2) Unless otherwise allowed by the course instructor, I must not access any sources or materials (in print, online, or in any other way) to complete any course exam.

I further understand and agree that, if I violate either of these two rules, or if I provide any false or misleading information about my completion of course assignments or exams, I may be prosecuted under the Lakehead University Student Code of Conduct – Academic Integrity, which requires students to act ethically and with integrity in

academic matters and to demonstrate behaviours that support the University's academic values.

#### **(4) GenAI Use Prohibited**

Generative artificial intelligence (Generative AI or GenAI) is a category of AI systems capable of generating text, images, or other media in response to prompts. These systems include ChatGPT and its variant Bing (built by OpenAI) and Bard (built by Google) among several others. Other Generative AI models include artificial intelligence art systems such as Stable Diffusion, Midjourney, and DALL-E. Use of systems including, but not limited to, Grammarly are prohibited.

Any use of GenAI systems to produce assignments/discussion posts/exams for this course is not permitted. All work submitted for evaluation in this course must be the student's original work. The submission of any work containing AI generated content will be considered a violation of academic integrity ("Use of Unauthorized Materials").

**Please note: Submitted work (discussion posts, exams, assignments, etc.) may be run through an AI detection program.**

### [Lecture and Reading Schedule Spring Semester 2026](#)

#### **Week 1 May 4 to May 8**

**Lecture 1:** Lecture 1 Introduction to the Course Youth and Canadian Society

**Lecture 2:** Introduction to Youth and Canadian Society

**Reading:** Danesi Chapter 1

**Reading:** Workbook Chapter 1

**Discussion forum for week 1 will open Monday, May 4 at 8.00 am and you can post until 2.00 pm on Friday, May 8.**

#### **Week 2 May 11 to May 15**

**Lecture 3:** Historical Perspectives on Youth

**Reading:** Danesi Chapter 2

**Reading:** Workbook Chapter 2

**Lecture 4:** Socialization

**Reading:** Danesi Chapter 3

**Reading:** Workbook Chapter 3

**Discussion forum for week 2 will open Monday, May 11 at 8.00 am and you can post until 2.00 pm on Friday, May 15.**

**Remember the Midterm is Thursday May 21, 2026, at 6.00 pm Thunder Bay time. The midterm includes the material covered in lectures one to four.**

### **Week 3: May 18 to May 22**

**Lecture 5:** Body Image, Intimacy, and Health

**Reading:** Danesi Chapter 4

**Reading:** Workbook Chapter 4

**Midterm Thursday May 21, 2026, @ 6.00 pm**

**Please note: Due to the midterm, there is only one lecture this week.**

**Discussion forum for week 3 will open Monday, May 18 at 8.00 am and you can post until 2.00 pm on Friday, May 22.**

### **Week 4: May 25 to May 29**

**Lecture 6:** Education, Work, and Policy

**Reading:** Danesi Chapter 5

**Reading:** Workbook Chapter 5

**Lecture 7:** Crime

**Reading:** Danesi Chapter 6

**Reading:** Workbook Chapter 6

**Discussion forum for week 4 will open Monday, May 25 at 8.00 am and you can post until 2.00 pm on Friday, May 29.**

### **Week 5: June 1 to June 5**

**Lecture 8:** Identity, Media, and Youth Culture

**Discussion forum for week 5 will open Monday, June 1 at 8.00 am and you can post until 2.00 pm on Friday, June 5.**

### **Week 6: June 8 to June 12**

**Read the posters and ask and answer questions on the posters.**

**Discussion forum for week 6 will open Monday, June 8 at 8.00 am and you can post until 2.00 pm on Friday, June 12.**

**Remember the final exam is June 16 at 6.00 pm, Thunder Bay time.**

**Please note: as you have all the course material available to you, there will be no reviews. You might want to create your study notes as you go through each unit.**

## References

Reading Research - University of Central Missouri Retrieved April 19, 2026.  
<https://guides.library.ucmo.edu/c.php?g=459037&p=9065736>

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