

Sociology 1020
Section 550
Introduction to Sociology
Tuesdays 2:30 – 5:30
Room: W12

Instructor: Darlene Balandin
Office: Huron's Benson House, Room 3
Office Hours: Following class *or by appointment*
Email: dbalandi@uwo.ca (**please insert soc1020/550 in the subject line**)
Course site: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

The discipline of sociology investigates the relationship between societal structures and human agency. This full-credit course is designed to present an overview of various sociological perspectives with a goal of understanding the dynamics of the interaction(s) between structural forces and the individuals / groups that comprise society, within the general context of North America and more specifically – Canada. You will be exposed to a variety of standpoints with the expectation that this knowledge can (and will) be utilized in an ongoing effort to develop your 'sociological imagination'.

To assist you in this endeavour, classroom time will NOT be a lecture that regurgitates the textbook chapter. Rather, we will use the chapter information as a common knowledge base in order to discuss, critique, and more fully understand our social world. Therefore, readings are to be done prior to class. A variety of teaching AND learning methodologies that match the best technique for the material to be learned will be utilized throughout the year – whether it be mini lectures, our chapter quizzes and discussions in pairs, small group or whole class, participatory learning exercises, case studies, and so on.

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes:

During this course and upon completion, you can expect to:

- * Differentiate between an opinion and an argument and construct compelling arguments utilizing a sociological lens and your sociological imagination
- * Understand the major sociological perspectives and analyze human behaviour by applying these perspectives
- * Explain the relationships between social structure, social stratification, and the consequences of social status
- * Describe how inequality and other social factors contribute to social change
- * Use course concepts to explain / analyze / understand non-textbook material (i.e. films, documentaries, current events, newspaper articles etc.)
- * Develop 'five habits of mind' (Deborah Meier, 2002)
 1. Evidence – How do we know what we know?
 2. Point of view – Whose perspective does this represent?
 3. Connections / cause and effect – How is this related to that?
 4. Conjecture / supposition – How might things have been otherwise? How could things be?
 5. Relevance – Why is this important? Is it important?

PREREQUISITE: None
ANTIREQUISITE: Sociology 1021E

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites. If you do not have the prerequisites for this course, and you do not have written special permission from your Dean to enroll in this course, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIAL:

Sociology: Compass for a New Social World with MindTap access
Brym, Roberts, Strohschein (2019)

One year TurningPoint student subscription (to be used with your cellphone/laptop)

Textbook and TurningPoint subscription will be discussed in first class.

***Additional supplemental readings may be assigned. Students will be notified and provided with readings.*

PROFESSOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Be organized and well prepared for class
- Create a supportive and learning environment
- Be available to provide additional explanation or feedback
- Actively seek students' input in class and take students' arguments seriously
- Respond to student inquiries and emails and post marks/grades promptly
- Assist students with developing transdisciplinary skills – critical *and* creative thinking, logical analysis and argument formation
- Use a variety of teaching methods and strategies to accommodate different learning styles

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

As a participant in this class, you should:

- Read and reflect upon the assigned chapter BEFORE each class
- Attend each class ready to engage with the course material
- Participate respectfully with class and/or group discussions
- Take seriously (and reflect upon) the opinions / arguments presented in your text, by your fellow students and your professor
- Develop your sociological imagination through practice and application
- Thoughtfully examine every day ('commonsense') ideas through a sociological lens

ATTENDANCE: Regular attendance is critical as many classes will address material not found in the text and / or will involve thinking outside the book. If you miss a class, please make arrangements with *another student* to obtain her / his notes. For logistical reasons, films cannot be shown out of class.

CELLPHONES, BLACKBERRIES, AND SIMILAR DEVICES: Cellphones, Blackberries, and similar devices, must be turned **OFF** (not just vibrate) during classes unless specific permission is sought for emergency purposes in a given class. Text messaging / 'twittering' / 'face booking' etc. are **not** permitted during class.

EVALUATION:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| FALL MIDTERM: | 15% |
| WINTER MIDTERM: | 25% |
| FINAL EXAM: | 35% |
| IN-CLASS QUIZZES: | 10% |
| MindTap ASSIGNMENTS: | 10% |
| PARTICIPATION/ENGAGEMENT: | 5% |

EXAM INFORMATION:

The **fall midterm** will be held during class time on **Tuesday, November 6th, 2018**. It will be multiple choice and contain questions drawn from the lectures, text readings and classroom discussion material covered from **September 11th up to and including October 30th**.

There will be NO exam for this course during the December examination period.

The **winter midterm** will be held during class time on **Tuesday, FEBRUARY 5th, 2019**. It will be multiple choice and contain questions drawn from the lectures, text readings and classroom discussion material covered from **November 13th up to and including January 29th**.

Final Exam: is a cumulative two-hour exam and you are responsible for all the material in the assigned chapters of the textbook, even if this material is not discussed in lecture. The majority of questions will address the lecture and classroom discussion material from February 12th up to and including April 2nd. It will be multiple choice. Due to the challenge of a cumulative exam, students are well advised to actively review course material throughout the school year.

The **final exam will be held during the final examination period**; the date and time will be determined by the Registrar's Office. Although an early date has been requested, the final schedule is established by the Registrar and therefore, **you should not finalize your travel plans until the exam schedule has been posted and you are certain about the date and time of your final exam**. Exam dates, once posted by the Registrar's Office, are firm and will not be changed.

Software designed to detect cheating will be utilized on every exam. *Cheating is a grave academic offence and will not be tolerated.* Any class member(s) caught cheating will receive an F on the exam and may fail the course.

Electronic devices in tests and exams: No books, notes, or electronic devices will be permitted during the midterms or final exam.

More information will be provided during lecture in the weeks prior to the exam dates.

CHAPTER QUIZZES:

There will be a total of **15** chapter quizzes throughout the course, made up from objective questions (i.e. multiple-choice / fill in the blank / true or false). I will drop your 5 lowest quiz scores when I compute your final quiz average. With this safety margin, there are **NO make-up quizzes** if you are absent. A missed quiz is 0%.

These weekly quizzes require that you have purchased your Turning Point subscription code and registered an account online in order to receive marks for your quizzes.

MindTap Assignments:

There will be assignments throughout the school year that will help you master the material found in your textbook. These activities are designed to guide you through the course and improve your ability to focus on what's important—a skill that will benefit you in all of your university classes. These assignments require the online registration of your access code.

Registration

Connect to <https://login.nelsonbrain.com/course/MTPNNVZP7CDV>

Follow the prompts to register your MindTap course.

POLICY ON LAPTOPS IN CLASS:

Huron University College acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of laptop computers can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. However, it is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited to, laptops, PDAs, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:

The following two pages is an itemized outline of our classes this year. The reading, *The 'McDonaldization' of Society* by George Ritzer can be found in the RESOURCE folder on our home page of OWL. *It is highly recommended that you utilize this schedule to keep you on track* for your readings, quizzes, and scheduled dates of exams. If there are any changes, they will be announced in class and on OWL.

PLAGIARISM:

Plagiarism is an academic offense and will be treated as such. Students who are in doubt as to the nature of this offence should consult their instructor, Department Chair, or Dean's Office, as well as the Huron University College Statement on Plagiarism, available at the Reference Desk in the Huron University College Library and at <https://huronuc.libguides.com/c.php?q=455405&p=4961561>

In addition, students may seek guidance from a variety of current style manuals available at the Reference Desk in the Huron University College Library. Information about these resources can be found at <https://huronuc.libguides.com/c.php?q=455405&p=4961561>

Plagiarism detection software may be used in this course. Students may be required to submit their work in electronic form.

| Have Read | Date | Topic |
|---|--|--|
| | Tuesday, September 11 th , 2018 | Introduction to the Course (objectives, course outline and assignments) and to each other <i>Introduction to the Sociological Imagination</i> |
| The 'McDonaldization' of Society (Ritzer) (posted online) | Tues. Sept. 18th | Our (ir)'rational' society |
| Chapter 1 | Sept. 25 Quiz 1 | A Sociological Compass |
| Chapter 3 | Oct. 2 Quiz 2 | Culture |
| FALL READING WEEK – OCTOBER 8TH – OCTOBER 12TH | | |
| Chapter 4 | Oct. 16 Quiz 3 | Socialization |
| Chapter 5 | Oct. 23 Quiz 4 | Social Interaction |
| Chapter 6 | Oct. 30 Quiz 5 | Networks, Groups, Bureaucracies, and Societies |
| | November 6 | FALL MIDTERM EXAM |
| Chapter 7 | Nov. 13 Quiz 6 | Deviance and Crime |
| Chapter 8 | Nov. 20 Quiz 7 | Social Stratification |
| Chapter 9 | Nov. 27 Quiz 8 | Globalization, Inequality, and Development |
| <i>Final Drop Date without Academic Penalty is November 30, 2018</i> | | |
| No assigned reading | Dec. 4 | Documentary |
| ALL THE BEST ON YOUR DECEMBER EXAMS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS! | | |

| Have Read | Date | Topic |
|--|----------------------------|--|
| Chapter 10 | Jan. 8, 2019 Quiz 9 | Race and Ethnicity |
| Chapter 11 | Jan. 15 Quiz 10 | Sexualities and Gender Stratification |
| Chapter 13 | Jan. 22 Quiz 11 | Work and the Economy |
| Chapter 14 | Jan. 29 Quiz 12 | Politics |
| | February 5, 2019 | WINTER MIDTERM EXAM |
| Chapter 15 | Feb. 12 Quiz 13 | Families |
| Reading Week February 18 – 22, 2019 | | |
| Chapter 16 | Feb. 26 Quiz 14 | Religion |
| Chapter 17 | Mar. 5 Quiz 15 | Education |
| Chapter 18 | Mar. 12 | Mass Media and Mass Communication |
| Chapter 19 | Mar. 19 | Health and Medicine |
| Chapter 21 | Mar. 26 | Collective Action and Social Movements |
| Chapter 22 (online) | April 2 | Technology and the Global Environment |
| | April 9 | Course wrap-up |

FINAL EXAM DURING THE APRIL EXAM PERIOD – APRIL 11—30, 2019

This outline is subject to change with sufficient prior notice. It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of changes announced in class. These changes will also be announced on OWL.



The Appendix to Course Outlines is posted on the OWL course site.