



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2020

SO1000 (C2): INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Michael Holland **PHONE:** 780-539-2973
OFFICE: B-404 **E-MAIL:** mholland@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment (Zoom meetings).

FALL 2020 DELIVERY: Remote Delivery. This course is delivered remotely. There are no face-to-face or onsite requirements. Students must have a computer with a webcam and reliable internet connection. Technological support is available through helpdesk@gprc.ab.ca

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course examines the theory, methods, and substance of sociology. How societies and individuals are shaped and modified by culture, socialization, deviance, stratification, group processes, industrialization, and social movements will be covered.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None.

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Little, W., McGivern, R., & Kerins, N. (2016). *Introduction to Sociology-2nd Canadian Edition*. BC Campus

Available free-of-charge via OpenStax College at:

<https://open.bccampus.ca/browse-our-collection/find-open-textbooks/?uuid=6140c265-61a6-455b-80b8-6ec8fcdf5a48&contributor=&keyword=&subject=Sociology>

Supplemental readings will be provided for free on our course website (on D2L)

- Be certain to follow our course outline carefully in order to complete readings prior to each lecture

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students will:

- Be shown how to apply the theories and methodologies of sociology as a science, and how it relates to people's individual lives
- Be introduced to essential sociological concepts, perspectives, and historical foundations
- Be provided with strong foundational knowledge in preparation for further studies in sociology

- Be familiarized with the key sociological concepts, theories, and debates in present society.
- Encouraged to develop essential skills in critical thinking, writing, referencing and research.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will:

- Know how to think sociologically
- Gain a basic understanding of how to critically evaluate conventional wisdom using a “sociological imagination”
- Develop an ability to explain social patterns, trends, problems, and collective behaviour from a sociological perspective.
- Understand the major sociological perspectives and the methods sociologists use to perform their work.
- Differentiate between macro and micro-level analyses and the purpose of such types of analyses
- Recognize and apply the appropriate sociological terms, concepts, and definitions
- Apply and incorporate relevant sociological explanations of social issues and institutions

TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, AU, UL, AF, CU, CUC, GMU, KUC

***Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide at <http://transferalberta.alberta.ca/transfer-alberta-search/#/audienceTypeStep>

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions.**

Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.

Please note: It is simply unfair to alter the course evaluation for any individual. Therefore, under any conditions, there will be no alternative tests or assignments if you miss or do poorly on a requirement.

- Furthermore, it is your responsibility to **track your own grades:** Please do not contact the professor for such information.

Submission & Late Policies:

- Equally important to learn and apply professional communication skills, such as writing proper e-mail messages, it is very important to learn to meet deadlines. Complete your assignments on time!
- Late and/or incomplete assignments will receive a grade of 0% unless you have a valid reason supported with appropriate documentation (i.e., a medical note from an M.D.) and you discuss it with me **well in advance of any due date.**

EVALUATIONS:

Assessment	Total Point Value	Weight
4 Unit Reflections (5 pts each)	20 pts	7.5 %
10 Topic Quizzes (10 pts each)	100 pts	10 %
2 News Analysis Activity (5 pts each)	10 pts	7.5 %
Research Paper Assignment <i>Thesis/research problem (5 pts; 2.5 %)</i> <i>Outline (20 pts; 7.5 %)</i> <i>Final paper (50 pts; 15%)</i>	75 pts	25 %
1 Midterm	60 pts	20 %
Final Exam	80 pts	30 %
Total	345 pts	100 %
Bonus Quiz	10 pts	1 %
Bonus Marks for Frequent Participation	50 pts	3 %

Unit Reflections (4 unit reviews and discussion posts at 5 points each for 20 points total).

At the end of each unit, you will be asked to summarize each unit and main points and to provide critical reflection on the discussion forum for each unit. In addition, you will generate a question on the topic for purposes of further discussion with instructor and classmates. You are also asked to answer at least two other classmates' questions. The purpose of this is to generate an engaging and critical discussion with your classmates.

Topic Quizzes (10 quizzes at 10 points each for 100 points total)

You are required to take weekly quizzes based on the assigned readings (textbook chapters and additional articles). These quizzes are automatically graded via D2L and will test your knowledge and understanding of the basic sociological terms, concepts, perspectives and theories related to weekly topics. **The quizzes will open at 8 am on Mondays and are due on the following Sunday at 11:59 PM.** All quizzes must be done to receive full credit. The first quiz is due at the end of the first week of classes. There are 10 quizzes in total. One bonus quiz (worth 1 %) will be assigned before the final exam.

News Analysis Activity (2 news article analysis at 5 pts each total of 10 points)

You will be asked to apply sociological concepts, theories, and insights on current news events (2 news events). You are required to read current events via newspapers and comment on these stories as they relate to sociological analysis. It is recommended that you read The Globe and Mail (theglobeandmail.com), The Guardian (theguardian.com). However, you may chose any legitimate news source but it must be approved by the instructor before you begin the assignment.

Research Paper Assignment (consists of 3 parts, worth a total of 75 points)

You will complete a full research paper essay. The essay will be broken down in steps. First, you will come up with a **research topic (of your choice), write a research problem statement, and a working thesis or argument**. This first project will be evaluated and must be approved by the instructor before moving onto the **outline assignment**. The outline assignment consists of locating peer-reviewed, academic resources, and then organizing research into a logical essay in which you paraphrase research and utilize proper citations (APA citation style). Finally, you will complete a **full research paper** that consists of full sentences, paragraphs, and a complete title page and reference page. All of these assignments have strict due dates. **You must complete each part of these assignments in order before moving on to the next.**

Midterm (60 points total)

The midterm (20 % of course grade) will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. There will be a brief review the class before the midterm. The midterm will test your knowledge and application of concepts, theories, and perspectives on the course material (textbook, journal articles, classroom discussions, and video clips) up until the midterm.

Final Exam (80 points total)

The Final Examination (30% of course grade) will consist of any combination of multiple choice, true/false, or short answer questions. Like the midterm, there will be a brief review before the final exam. The final exam is cumulative but the emphasis will be on ‘big picture’ themes and concepts. The final exam will be based on all course material (textbook, journal articles, classroom discussions, and video clips).

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	0-49

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

PLEASE NOTE:

In order to fair to everyone in this course, **I will not alter the evaluation**, so any missed testing or assignments will not be accommodated.

If at any point in the semester you feel you are struggling with the course material or with your course work, please do not hesitate to ask me for assistance. Please contact me by e-mail for an appointment.

Bonus Marks for Participation/Attendance

Bonus marks will be given to students who frequently participate in classroom discussions (either in Zoom classes or via discussion forums). In addition, marks will be given to students who attend classes regularly.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE (next page):

Unit and Date	Topic	Readings	Assignments	Due Date
1: Foundations of Sociology				
Sep 3	Introduction to course: Thinking Sociologically	Course syllabus Chapter 1	Course syllabus Quiz (ungraded)	
Sept 8, 10	Sociological theories	Chapter 1	Quiz	Sunday at 11:59 PM
Sept 15, 17	Asking and Answering Sociological Questions	Chapter 2 Davis (1990) “Men as Success Objects...”	Quiz	Sunday at 11:59 PM
			Unit 1 Reflection	Sept 18 11:59 PM
2: Culture and Socialization				
Sept 22, 24	Culture	Chapter 3	Quiz	Sunday at 11:59 PM
Sept 29, Oct 1	Socialization and Social Interaction	Chapter 5 & Chapter 22	Quiz	Sunday at 11:59 PM
Oct 6, 8	Families	Chapter 14 Quirke: “Keeping Young Minds Sharp”	Quiz	Sunday at 11:59 PM
Oct 20, 22	Deviance, Crime, and Law	Chapter 7		
			Unit 2 Reflection	Oct 23, 11:59 PM
3: Inequality and Social Stratification				
Oct 27, 29	Wealth and Class Inequality	Chapter 9 & Chapter 10	Quiz	Sunday at 11:59 PM Research topic/thesis
Nov 3, 5	Race and Ethnicity; Gender and Sexuality	Chapter 11 & 12	Quiz	Sunday at 11:59 PM
Nov 10, 12	Education	Chapter 16	Quiz	Sunday at 11:59 PM
			Unit 3 Reflection News Reflection Activity	Unit Reflection due Nov 15, 11:59 PM News Reflection due Nov 17, 11: 59 PM

4: Institutions and Organizations				
Nov 17, 19	Mass Media	Chapter 8	Quiz	Sunday at 11:59 PM Paper outline due (TBA on specific time)
Nov 24, 26	Health	Chapter 19	Quiz	Sunday at 11:59 PM
Dec 1, 3	Work and the Political Economy	Chapter 18		
Dec 9th	Religion Exam review	Chapter 15		
			Unit 4 Reflection News Reflection Activity Bonus Quiz	Unit 4 Reflection due Dec 10 th ; News Reflection due Dec 13, 11: 59 PM Complete paper due (TBA on specific time, but before final exam, also TBA).
Final Exam		All course notes, chapters, and additional readings	Final Exam (cumulative) Scheduled by the Registrar Office	

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

September 7th, Labour day—No Classes

September 10th, Last day to add courses or drop courses for full refund (in most programs) & last day to pay Fall semester fees (except for students on an approved payment plan). Last day to opt out of Student Health/Dental Plan

October 12th, Thanksgiving—No Classes

October 13-16th, Fall Break—No Classes

November 27th, Last day to withdraw from classes (most programs) with a “W”

November 30th, Deadline to apply for Winter courses

December 9th, Last day of classes

December 11th- 19th, Exam Period for Fall semester

Academic Misconduct:

Students are considered responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own.
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating).
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work.
- Substitution in an examination by another person.
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment.
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the GPRC credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

SPECIALIZED SUPPORTS:

Counselling and Disability Services:

Counselling Services provides a wide range of specialized counselling services to prospective and registered students, including personal, career and academic counselling.

Students with Disabilities:

It is the College's goal that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on a disability, please let your instructor know immediately so options can be discussed. You are also welcome to contact Accessibility Services to establish reasonable accommodations. <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/services/accessibility/>

Learning Support Centre:

The Learning Support Centre is accessible through the Library at the Main campus of GPRC, where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff.

The Learning Support Centre, through a variety of delivery methods, provides assistance in skill development to GPRC students. Assistance is provided by instructors, staff and student tutors. Individuals wishing to improve their mathematics, writing, grammar, study, or other skills, can take advantage of this unique service.

Professional Conduct:

- Please be aware that I respect that everyone's time is precious and valuable, please afford me the same courtesy.
- Instead of preoccupying your mind with questions such as, "how do I get an 'A'?" Instead, ask yourself, "how can I work to expand my knowledge, perspective, and outlook on the real world?"

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the section on Plagiarism and Cheating in the College policy titled Student Misconduct: Academic and Non-Academic at (<https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/fetch.php?ID=68>).

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. **Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.**

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

Additional Information:

- Please only use your **GPRC e-mail account** to avoid having your message blocked by SPAM filters.
- Always include “SO1000” (with your section) in the subject line (or I may never even receive your message).
- Finally, in our academic environment, please practice writing e-mails *formally*, as you will need to do on a regular basis upon graduation. For example, use a simple greeting, do not use slang or abbreviations, and always sign off with your name!