

## **SOCIOL 1ZO3: Introduction to Sociology, Fall 2017**

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Class Times & Location:  
Thursday 3:30-4:20pm LRWB1007  
Tuesday 4:30-5:20pm LRWB1007

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### **Course Objectives**

In this course we will explore a range of topics studied by sociologists to help us better understand our social world and our place in it. Sociology allows us to connect our personal experiences to a broader social context and to understand the larger social forces that impact our lives. A sociological perspective illuminates how personal choices and individual destinies are shaped by larger social forces and sometimes constrained by the broader societal context. The course aims to develop important academic skills including library research, effective writing, critical thinking, and active reading. There are a range of topics covered in this course including sociological theory, methods, culture, socialization, inequality, family, globalization, crime and deviance, gender and sexuality, and work and the economy. Please note that theory is an important component of readings and lecture content in this course.

### **Learning Outcomes**

The learning outcomes of this course are consistent with McMaster's Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations. (see <http://csl.mcmaster.ca/COU/pdf/Undergraduate%20Degree%20Level%20Expectations.pdf>).

In this course students will develop a critical analysis of a topic using peer-reviewed sociological articles. This connects to several of the undergraduate degree level expectations including developing a depth and breadth of knowledge and development of communication skills.

### **Avenue-to-Learn**

Please check Avenue-to-Learn regularly for: announcements, marks, lecture slides, and other resources. The Academic Integrity and Library Quiz is on Avenue, as are links to the online library modules and turnitin.com. Instructions for using turnitin.com are on Avenue. Please do not email the instructor from Avenue. Please use [colaves@mcmaster.ca](mailto:colaves@mcmaster.ca) to email me.

### **Required Reading**

We are using the following textbook in the course:

Brym, Robert J. 2016. *New Society*. 8<sup>th</sup> Edition. Thomson Nelson.

### **Evaluation**

<b>Academic Integrity Quiz</b> (must achieve 80% on quiz)	5%
<b>Tutorial Mark:</b> Participation, Attendance, 4 Quizzes (long answer format)	7% (tutorial attendance and participation) 8% (four quizzes, each worth 2%) Total=15%
<b>Mid-term</b> (Multiple choice and True or False questions) Written during lecture time	25%
<b>Assignment</b>	25%
<b>Final Exam (non-cumulative;</b> Multiple choice and True or False questions ) Written during final exam period	30%

**Late Penalties:** 5% per day.

### **Tutorial Mark (Participation, Attendance, and Quizzes)**

15% of your final mark will be based on your tutorial attendance, participation, and 4 quizzes. Each quiz is worth 2% (total of 8%). Remaining 7% of tutorial mark will be based on participation and attendance.

Quizzes will be held in tutorial during the weeks of:

Tutorial Quiz 1: Week of Sep 18

Tutorial Quiz 2: Week of Oct 2

Tutorial Quiz 3: Week of Nov 6

Tutorial Quiz 4: Week of Nov 20

Examples of the kind of long answer questions you can expect:

Example #1: Apply structural functionalism and conflict theory to an understanding of the Olympic Games.

Example #2: Describe the limitations of participant observation, survey methods, and secondary data analysis.

Example #3: Compare family life in foraging society, pre-industrial society, and industrial society.

Example #4: Describe two different types of socialization and use examples in your description.

Example #5: Describe two labour market trends that impact university graduates.

### **Assignment**

**Description:** Select a topic that interests you and has been studied by sociologists. Find 3 peer-reviewed sociological articles using Sociological Abstracts database (available through McMaster University library). You will need to identify a specific issue or question to narrow your scope. For example, the general topic of families is too broad a topic, however a more

specific topic of ‘boomerang’ children (adult children who return to live with their parents) would be doable.

***Includes:***

1. Submission of paper copy and electronic copy to turnitin.com. (If you require assistance with turnitin.com please contact our Instructional Assistant Gerald Bierling).

**Part A: Requirements for Selection of Sources (20 marks)**

**Requirement #1: All 3 articles must be closely-related reflecting a narrow focus.**

You must use Sociological Abstracts database to locate these articles.

**Requirement #2: All 3 articles must be sociological.**

Not all articles within Sociological Abstracts database are sociological. There are various ways of determining whether your article is sociological. First, check the journal name. Sometimes these explicitly include “Sociology” or “Sociological”, however there are sociological journals that don’t have “sociology” in their name (i.e. Journal of Marriage and Families). Additionally, sometimes sociological research is published in related or interdisciplinary fields, such as criminology. Thus you shouldn’t necessarily exclude an article because it is published in a non-sociological journal. A second way of determining whether the article is sociological is to check the author’s institutional affiliation (whether they are working in a sociological department or not). The best way of ensuring that the article is sociological is to read the article and make this determination based on the content of the article. If you are uncertain about whether an article is sociological meet with your Teaching Assistant during their office hours and bring your article.

**Requirement #3: All 3 articles must be peer-reviewed**

To ensure that your articles are peer-reviewed select the “peer-review” option when searching for articles.

**Requirement #4: 2 out of the 3 articles must have been published after Jan 1 2006.**

Deduction of 5 marks if one article is not recent. Deduction of an additional 5 marks if two articles are not recent.

**Requirement #5: Length of articles must be acceptable.**

Deduction of 5 marks for each article that is deemed to be of insufficient length. Do not include short research notes which tend to be less than 8 pages in length.

**Part B (50 marks)**

For **each** article, answer questions 1 and 2 below.

Answer each of the following questions in your own words and in sentence format. No point form is allowed. You are expected to paraphrase others' words and are discouraged from using any direct quotations in each of the following answers (with the exception of short phrases or terms that may appear in quotations, i.e., Colavecchia uses the term "moneywork" to describe the labour involved in managing family finances).

Answer Questions 1 and 2 for each of your 3 articles

1. In 2 or 3 sentences outline the key research questions of this study.
2. In 4 to 6 sentences describe the key findings of the study.

Format: Provide full bibliographic information for the article using APA (author, year of publication, article title, journal name, volume number, page numbers) followed by your answers.

**Part C (30 marks)**

3. In 6-10 sentences compare the research questions that are pursued in your 3 articles. You need to make explicit connections across the 3 articles. You must use in-text citations to indicate the specific articles you are referring to, or comparing.
4. In 6-10 sentences draw connections between the findings of your studies. Again, you must use in-text citations to indicate which articles you are referring to.

**Referencing:** You must use APA (American Psychological Association) referencing format. It is important that you are careful about your referencing in order to avoid plagiarism. We will be using Turnitin.com to detect plagiarised assignments. In the event that there is plagiarism the student will receive a zero for the assignment. Further consequences might also arise as plagiarism constitutes academic misconduct at McMaster University. Presenting someone else's words as your own is plagiarism. Presenting someone else's ideas as your own is also plagiarism. When using someone else's words, the student must put the words in quotation marks and cite the source (author, year of publication, page reference). When using someone else's ideas (and the student's own words) the student must cite the source (author and year of publication). If you are unclear about what plagiarism is please speak to Professor Colavecchia.

**Turnitin.com:** In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to Turnitin.com and to submit a paper copy in lecture.

**Format:** Double-spaced, title page needed (with name of your TA), list of references needed, number your pages.

### Calendar of Topics and Readings

Date	Topic	Readings
Tuesday Sep 5	Introduction	No readings assigned
Thursday Sep 7	The Sociological Imagination and Sociological Theories	Ch 1 New Society
Tuesday Sep 12	Research Methods and Ethics	Ch 2
Thursday Sep 14	Culture	Ch 3
Tuesday Sep 19 (week beginning Sep 18 quiz 1 in tutorial)	Socialization	Ch 4
Thursday Sep 21: <b>Deadline for Academic Integrity and Library Quiz</b>	Mass Media	Ch 6
Tuesday Sep 26	Families	Ch 11
Thursday Sep 28	Families	Ch 11
Tuesday Oct 3 (week beginning Oct 2 quiz 2 in tutorial)	Education	Ch 13
Thursday Oct 5	Review	No assigned readings
Mon Oct 9-Oct 15	Mid-term Recess	
Tuesday Oct 17	Gender and Sexualities	Ch 5
Thursday Oct 19	<b>Mid-term in Lecture</b>	
Tuesday Oct 24	Gender Inequality	Ch 8
Thursday Oct 26	Social Stratification <b>Assignment Due in Lecture</b>	Ch 7
Tuesday Oct 31	Social Stratification	Ch 7
Thursday Nov 2	Race and Ethnic Relations	Ch 9
Tuesday Nov 7 (week beginning Nov 6 quiz 3 in tutorial)	Globalization	Ch 20
Thursday Nov 9	Globalization	Ch 20

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
Tuesday Nov 14	Work and The Economy	Ch 12
Thursday Nov 16	Work and The Economy	Ch 12
Tuesday Nov 21 <b>(week beginning Nov 20 quiz 4 in tutorial)</b>	Deviance and Crime	Ch 15
Thursday Nov 23	Health and Aging	Ch 18
Tuesday Nov 28	Health and Aging	Ch 18
Thursday Nov 30	Review	No assigned readings
Tuesday Dec 5	Return of Graded Assignments	No assigned readings
Dec 8-21 Final Exam Period	Final Exam	

### ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicIntegrity.pdf>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

In this course we will be using a software package designed to reveal plagiarism. Students will be required to submit their work electronically and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

### **DEPARTMENTAL/UNIVERSITY POLICIES:**

Do NOT fax assignments. Please see your instructor for the most appropriate way to submit assignments.

The Sociology staff do NOT date-stamp assignments, nor do they monitor the submission or return of papers.

The McMaster Student Absence Form (<http://www.mcmaster.ca/msaf/>) is a self reporting tool for Undergraduate Students to report absences that last up to 3 days and provides the ability to request accommodation for any missed academic work. Please note, this tool cannot be used during any final examination period.

You may submit a maximum of 1 Academic Work Missed request per term. It is YOUR responsibility to follow up with your instructor immediately regarding the nature of the accommodation.

If you are absent more than 3 days, exceed 1 request per term, or are absent for a reason other than medical, you MUST visit your Associate Dean's Office (Faculty Office). You may be required to provide supporting documentation.

This form should be filled out when you are about to return to class after your absence.

Students should check the web, the white board and the Undergraduate Bulletin board outside the Sociology office (KTH-627) for notices pertaining to Sociology classes or departmental business (eg. class scheduling information, location of mailboxes and offices, tutorial information, class cancellations, balloting, TA job postings, etc.).

Computer use in the classroom is intended to facilitate learning in that particular lecture or tutorial. At the discretion of the instructor, students using a computer for any other purpose may be required to turn the computer off for the remainder of the lecture or tutorial.

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff,

must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.