

McMaster University
Department of Sociology
Sociology 1Z03 Introduction to Sociology
April 2018- June 2018

Lecture: Monday and Wednesday 6:30pm-9:30pm
Class Location: BSB 106

Course Instructor: Dr. Lina Samuel

Email: lsamuel@mcmaster.ca

Office: KTH-632

Office Phone Number: ext. 23617 (best to contact me by email)

Office Hours: Monday 5:30-6:30pm, please make an appointment first

Course Description:

This course offers an introduction to the study of sociology. Sociology is the systematic study of human groups and their social interactions (Ravelli and Webber, 2015: 3). Through the course students will gain an understanding of many of the key areas of social research in this discipline. After beginning with an understanding of both the classical and contemporary sociological theories, we then move on to gain an appreciation for the ways in which social research is conducted. With this grounding in theory, students will be introduced to some of the key substantive areas of sociological research: social inequality, gender, race and racialization, families, education, crime and deviance, and work and occupations. The strength of sociology as an academic discipline is its ability to not only expose us to the social world, but also understand our particular positioning with that world. Sociology brings attention to the connections between individuals, groups, institutions, states, civil society organizations and the larger social world. Through this course, students will not only gain an understanding of the discipline and important sociological concepts, but also what it means to *be* a sociologist.

Course Objectives:

This course addresses three University Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations (see, <http://cill.mcmaster.ca/COU/degree/undergraduate.html>). Through this course, students will:

- Debate and apply dominant sociological theories in understanding the social world
- Recognize the diversity in the different subfields within the discipline of sociology
- Be familiar with some of the classical and contemporary research in the field of sociology
- Identify how culture, socialization, social institutions and social structure influence personal behaviour, ideas, choices, and social opportunities
- Demonstrate an awareness of social justice and social inequality, and recognize our role as sociologists in working for social change

Course Format: 2- lectures twice a week (Monday and Wednesday) plus 50 minute tutorials.

Course Texts

Ravelli, Bruce and Michelle Webber. 2019. *Exploring Sociology: A Canadian Perspective 4th^d Edition*. Toronto: Pearson Publishing. (REVEL on-line version or loose-leaf available)

For the tests you will be responsible for both the required readings as well as lecture material.

Grading:

The grades are based on 3 Term Tests and tutorial participation. Tests will consist of multiple choice questions only.

Evaluation:

Term 1 Test: 20%

Term 2 Test: 25%

Term 3 Test: 25%

Attendance and Participation: 10% (you must attend the lecture to receive a grade. I will take attendance at the start of every lecture)

REVEL Submissions: 20% (due by 11pm following the lecture. There are 10 topics covered in the course and you must submit the on-line MCQs at the end of each lecture. Each submission will be worth two marks for a total of 20. We will work through these questions during our tutorial period after our lecture.)

Procedures and Rules

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.

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.

1. Missed tests

Students who miss a term test will be assigned a mark of zero for that test unless their absence is supported by university approved documentation, and the student has written an accommodated make-up test.

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 lectures or 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.

If your Request is **APPROVED** and a make-up test is required, you will write the make-up test on the **designated date selected by the instructor**. No student is automatically entitled to a second make up test. It is your responsibility to write the tests on the day in which they are scheduled. **I do not reweight any tests**. You must make sure you have written all the required tests to obtain a grade.

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, 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.

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.**

2. Electronic communication and electronic learning technology: Email communication is rapid, convenient, and efficient—and you are encouraged to use it to enhance your learning and experience in the course. With that said, it is essential that you follow a few rules:

- All emails must include the course code (Soc. 1Z03) in the subject line.
- All emails should be signed with the student's full name and student number.
- Emails from students will generally be answered within 24 hours of receipt.
- Treat emails as you would any other professional communication.
- All general questions about the course that are NOT addressed on the syllabus and course website should be asked in class. If you cannot figure something out, chances are your inquiry will be useful for the entire class.
- Any offensive emails with inappropriate language will not receive a response, but will be forwarded immediately to the Chair.

Emails that do not follow these guidelines will not receive a response.

3. Classroom etiquette

Students are expected to arrive at class on time. Laptops are allowed in class and should be used for taking notes. Other uses, emailing, web surfing will result in the student's being required to turn off the laptop and it may affect your final grade.

Coming to lectures late, leaving early, not attending tutorials will impact your final grade.

Videotaping and recording lectures is strictly forbidden without written permission from the instructor.

Lecture Schedule: (Subject to adjustments as we progress through the course)

Monday April 30 Lecture 1 Introduction to the course, course expectations, course assessments
Chapter 1 Understanding the Sociological Imagination Pages 2- 29 (First part of lecture)
Plus presentation by REVEL publisher on how to use and submit the On line exercises! (20 minutes)

Wednesday May 2 Lecture 2

Chapter 2 Classical Social Theories Pages 30-65

Monday May 7 Lecture 3

Continue with Chapter 2 Classical Social Theories

Wednesday May 9 Lecture 4

Chapter 3 Contemporary Social Theories pages 66-91

Monday May 14 Test 1 (Chapters 1,2, 3)

Wednesday May 16 Lecture 5

Chapter 7 Social Inequality pages 166-197

Monday May 21 VICTORIA DAY NO CLASSES

Wednesday May 23 Lecture 6

Chapter 8 Gender pages 198-223

Chapter 10 Race and Racialization pages 252-283

Monday May 28 Test 2 (Chapter 7, 8,10)

Wednesday May 30 Lecture 7

Chapter 11 Families pages 284-307

Monday June 4 Lecture 8

Chapter 12 Education Pages 308-332

Wednesday June 6 Lecture 9

Chapter 14 Crime, Law and Regulation pages 362-385

Monday June 11 Lecture 10

Chapter 16 Work and the Political Economy

Wednesday June 13 Test 3 (Chapters 11, 12, 14, 16)