



Course Outline

UNIVERSITY STUDIES

**Sociology 100A
Introductory Sociology
Fall, 2012**

**3 CREDITS
3 HOURS PER WEEK**

INSTRUCTOR: Laura Roberts

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OFFICE NUMBER: S211A

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday	2:00 – 2:50 PM
Tuesday	10:00 –11:50 PM
Wednesday	3:00 – 4:00 PM
Thursday	11:00 –11:50 AM

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:

Monday	3:00 – 3:50 PM	Room 228
Thursday	12:00 –12:50 PM	Room 228
Friday	3:00 – 3:50 PM	Room 224

PRE-REQUISITE(S):

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

As an introduction to the discipline of sociology, this course will discuss and attempt to answer a number of fundamental questions about societies in general and Canadian society in particular. Some of these questions are: What is culture and how it is transmitted? How rules of social behaviour are established and maintained? What are the sources of inequality and how does society deal with inequality? What roles social institutions such as family, economy, education and polity play in society? How do population change, urbanization, social and political movements change the nature of society?

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Development of the rudiments of sociological imagination - the ability to comprehend the intricate connections which exist between individual experiences and the historical, political and social forces - is the primary objective of this course. By the time they complete this course, students are expected to have a broad understanding of the various ideas and issues sociologists commonly deal with. Development of research and writing skills is another objective of this course.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

This course will be largely taught by applying participatory learning tools and techniques, incorporating activities geared towards different learning styles and adhering to the main principles of Adult Education. Therefore, the class will incorporate a variety of learning activities, such as large and small discussion groups, reflection papers, review of documentary films, in-class examinations, and online quizzes. The variety of learning tools applied in this course will enrich student learning and also appeal to a wide variety of different learning styles.

You will be expected to critically engage yourself in the course materials, lectures, and discussions (both online and in class). You might ask yourself, what does “critical engagement” mean? Well, this means that you will be actively processing what you are learning from week to week, by actively comparing the various perspectives and concepts you will be introduced to, by challenging what you think you know, and expanding on previous ideas.

In addition, to your “critical engagement” in the class, the following practices will make for a better classroom environment and go a long way towards building and deepening your understanding of the course materials:

- ✓ Read the assigned chapter(s) before class. When you do your readings, focus on understanding the key concepts, try to link examples to ideas, to understand differences and debates in approaches to sociology, to think about knowledge in context, and to ask probing questions about social life. Take notes. Read each chapter twice.
- ✓ Be present, listen, and think. *Turn off your cell phone* (or put it on ‘vibrate’ if necessary) and *turn off the wireless connection on your laptop*. Also be sure to *take notes* on main and supporting points during class.
- ✓ Make sure you attend all classes and contribute positively to the class environment. Engage with lecture material, ask questions, listen to what others have to say, respectfully add to discussion.

EVALUATION:

Assignment	Percentage	Due Date
Quizzes and Written Assignments	10%	Throughout the course
Mid-term – I	20%	October 1, 2012
Mid-term - II	20%	November 5, 2012
Term Paper	20%	November 23, 2012
Final Examination	30%	TBA

1) QUIZZES AND WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS (10%)

Students will be expected to complete regular short reflection papers and quizzes (both online and in class) throughout the course.

2) *IN-CLASS MID-TERM EXAM I (20%) – Monday, October 1st*

The mid-term exam I will consist of 25 multiple choice questions, 5 fill in the blank questions and 5 true/false questions. The exam will be administered in class for the full period, and will cover materials from Chapters 1-5.

3) *IN-CLASS MID-TERM EXAM II (20%) – Monday, November 5th*

The mid-term exam II will consist of 25 multiple choice questions, 5 fill in the blank questions and 5 true/false questions. The exam will be administered in class for the full period, and will cover materials from Chapters 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 14.

4) *TERM PAPER (20%) – Friday, November 23rd*

A detailed handout regarding the term paper, with potential paper topics, will be distributed in class and posted on Moodle after the first midterm. Students will be encouraged to consult the required textbook *A Guide to Writing Sociology Papers* to assist them with writing their term papers.

5) *FINAL EXAMINATION (30%) – Date TBA*

The final exam will consist of 45 multiple choice questions, 5 fill in the blank questions and 5 true/false questions. The exam will be administered in class for the full period, and will cover all course materials which emphasis on the later topics covered in class.

GRADING SYSTEM:

Letter Grade	Description	Grade Points
A+		4
A	Excellent	4
A-		3.7
B+		3.3
B	Good	3
B-		2.7
C+		2.3
C	Satisfactory	2
C-		1.7
D+		1.3
D	Minimal Pass	1
F	Failure	0

Students intending to transfer to other institutions must receive a minimum grade of ‘C-’ in order to have their courses tranfered for credit. Transfer information on each course is available at the [Alberta Council on Admission and Transfers](#).

MISSED CLASSES

Regular attendance is recorded for all classes and is essential for optimal performance in this course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or other legitimate reasons, notify your instructor by e-mail. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get notes from another student. The instructor will not provide notes.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments will be docked 0.3 points for each day (including weekends) that they are late. In cases of potentially excusable late assignment submissions due to illness or personal situation, notify your instructor by e-mail.

TEXT(S)/MATERIALS REQUIRED:

1. Macionis, J. J. and Gerber, L. M. (2011). *Sociology, 7th Canadian Edition* Toronto, ON.: Prentice Hall.
2. Giarrusso, R. et al. (2008) *A Guide to Writing Sociology Papers, 6th Edition* New York:Worth Publishers.

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 11, 2012	Last day to add course(s) for academic programs Fall semester fees due
September 18, 2012	Last day to drop course(s) for academic programs
September 21, 2012	Fall Awards Application Deadline
October 1, 2012	Mid-term examination - I
October 8, 2012	No Class – College Closed (Holiday for Thanksgiving)
October 12, 2012	Last day to withdraw from course(s) with 50% refund of tuition fees
October 26, 2012	Last day to withdraw from course(s) without academic penalty.
November 5, 2012	Mid-term examination - II
November 12, 2012	No Class – College Closed (Holiday in place of Remembrance Day)
November 23, 2011	Due date for term paper
December 7, 2012	Last day of classes
December 10-19, 2012	Final Exams

MOODLE

Go to <http://ilearn.keyano.ca>

This course is supported through Moodle. Assignments, readings, powerpoint presentations, and handouts will be posted on Moodle. Students will be expected to post all assignments on Moodle.

Access to Moodle

Go to <http://ilearn.keyano.ca>. Log in information will be provided by your instructor. For further instructions please see the Moodle handout. Go to Log In. Type in your student ID number with the dashes in the user name box (000-00-0000). Repeat the same ID number in the password box. A course syllabus will be posted in Moodle. Please check your Moodle frequently for announcements and additional required readings. Also, check the S-drive for detailed course outlines.

Equality, Equity and Respect

The Keyano College is committed to providing an environment of equality, equity, and respect for all people within the College community. All members of this community are considered partners in developing teaching and learning contexts that are welcoming to all. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to use inclusive language to create a classroom atmosphere in which students' experiences and views are treated with equal respect and valued in relation to their gender, ethnic and cultural background, and sexual orientation.

Students should consult:

http://www.keyano.ca/Committees/IRA/Individual_Rights_Policy.asp

Plagiarism and Cheating

Every student expects to be treated and evaluated fairly in a course. Plagiarism and cheating robs everyone of this right.

No student may submit words, ideas or data of another student or person as his or her own in any writing, project, assignment, quiz, electronic presentation, exam etc. Any work used that is not the student's own must be clearly cited as belonging to someone else. There are penalties for using other's work and not citing it. The Student's Rights & Responsibilities document clearly outlines these penalties and the appeal process.

- No learner can obtain information from another student during an exam.
- No learner can bring unauthorized information (paper or electronic) into an exam or quiz.
- No student can submit work done in another course for grading in this course without the written prior approval of the course instructor.
- No student can submit copyright protected or commercially produced materials as part or all of an assignment without proper citation & permission.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

Please Note:

This course outline may be modified to facilitate unforeseen time constraints. Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change. Additional readings, videos, relevant links and other resources will be posted to Moodle. Students are also encouraged to post relevant materials and resources to Moodle.

Topic	Reading
Week 1 I. Introduction to Sociology	Macionis, Chapter 1, 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- What is Sociology?- Historical Evolution of Sociology- Dominant Perspectives in Sociology- Uses of Studying Sociology	Sept. 6-14
Week 2 II. Introduction to Sociological Methodology	Macionis, Chapter 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Types and Techniques of Social Research- Collection of Social Data- Analysis of Social Data- Issues in Social Research	Sept.17
<u>Individual and Society</u>	
Week 3 III. Culture	Macionis, Chapter 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Meaning of Culture- Content of Culture- Culture and Other Related Concepts	Sept. 20, 21& 24
Week 4 IV. Socialization	Macionis, Chapter 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Importance of Socialization- Agents of Socialization- Problems in Socialization	Sept. 27-28
<u>MIDTERM I - Oct 1</u>	
Week 5 V. Deviance and Control	Macionis, Chapter 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- What is Deviance?- Types of Deviance- Theories of Deviance- Consequences of Deviance- Control of Deviance	Oct. 4, 5, 11
<u>NO CLASS- Oct 8</u>	

Week 6 VI. Social Groups & Organizations

- Types of Groups
- Formal Organizations – Bureaucracy

Macionis, Chapter 7

Oct. 12, 15

Society and Inequality

Week 7 VII. Social Stratification

- Social Inequality
- Systems of Stratification
- Theories of Social Stratification
- Consequences of Social Inequality

Macionis, Chapter 10, 11

Oct. 18, 19

Week 8 VIII. Global Inequality

- Nature and Extent of Global Inequality
- Determinants of Global Inequality
- Theories of Global Inequality
- Future of Global inequality

Macionis, Chapter 12

Oct. 22, 25, 26

Week 9 IX. Inequalities of Race and Ethnicity

- Race and Ethnicity
- Ethnic Groups as Minorities
- Prejudice and Discrimination
- Social Reactions to Ethnic Diversity

Macionis, Chapter 14

Oct 29 & Nov. 1, 2

MIDTERM II – Nov. 5

Week 10 X. Inequalities of Gender

- Emergence of Traditional Sex-roles
- Nature vs. Nurture
- Sexism in Social Institutions
- Consequences of Gender Differentiation

Macionis, Chapter 13

Nov. 9, 12, 15

NO CLASS – Nov. 12

Social Institutions

Week 11 XI. The Family

- Family as a Social Institution
- Types of Families
- Changing Nature of Family
- Problems of and Prospects for Family
- Aging and Family

Macionis, Chapter 18

Nov. 16 & 19

Week 12 XII. Education

Macionis, Chapter 20

- Functions of Education
- Education and Inequality

Nov. 22 & 23

Week 13 XIII. The Economy and Polity

Macionis, Chapter 16, 17

- Evolution of Economic Systems
- Types of Economic Systems
- Division of Labour
- Work and Alienation
- Power
- Political Systems
- International Political Trends

Nov. 26-30

Social Change

Week 14 XIV. Social Change and Modernization

Macionis, Chapter 24

- Meaning of Social Change
- Agents of Change (Factors)
- Resistance to Change

Dec. 3-7

Date of Final Examination TBA

Notes:

1. Weekly breakdowns are tentative.
2. Additional readings and/or other resources may be added to Moodle or distributed in class.