



**Course Outline**

[UNIVERSITY STUDIES](#)

**Sociology 100A  
Introductory Sociology  
Fall, 2013**

**3 CREDITS  
3 HOURS PER WEEK**

**INSTRUCTOR: Laura Roberts**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Laura Roberts  
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**OFFICE NUMBER:** S211A

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday	11:00-11:50AM
Tuesday	5:00 – 5:50 PM
Wednesday	2:00 – 2:50PM
Thursday	9:00 – 10:50 AM

**HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Monday	12:00 PM - 12:50 PM	Room 224
Tuesday	3:00PM – 3:50PM	Room 233
Wednesday	12:00PM – 12:50PM	Room 233

**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 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.

## COURSE OUTCOMES:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the intricate connections which exist between individual experiences and the historical, political and social forces.
2. Analyze the social world of contemporary society through the main sociological theoretical perspectives.
3. Provide examples of social inequality in contemporary society through assignments and in-class discussion.
4. Demonstrate the ability to write an academic sociological essay which includes scholarly academic research and properly adopts APA referencing.

## 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 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
<b>Class Participation</b>	<b>15%</b>	Throughout the course
<b>Midterm – I</b>	<b>20%</b>	October 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2013
<b>Midterm - II</b>	<b>20%</b>	November 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2013
<b>Term Paper</b>	<b>15%</b>	November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2013
<b>Final Examination</b>	<b>30%</b>	TBA

**1) CLASS PARTICIPATION (15%)**

Class participation includes one short group presentation, regular quizzes and occasional written assignments and other in-class activities throughout the semester.

**2) IN-CLASS MID-TERM EXAM I (20%) – October 8<sup>th</sup>**

The mid-term exam will consist multiple choice questions, fill in the blank questions, true/false questions and short answer questions. The exam will be administered in class for the full period.

**3) IN-CLASS MID-TERM EXAM II (20%) –November 5<sup>th</sup>**

The mid-term exam II will consist of multiple choice questions, fill in the blank questions, true/false questions and short answer questions. The exam will be administered in class for the full period.

**4) TERM PAPER (15%) – November 18<sup>th</sup>**

A detailed handout regarding the term paper, with potential paper options, will be distributed in class and posted to Moodle.

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

The final exam will consist of multiple choice questions, fill in the blank questions, true/false questions, short answer questions, and short essay questions. The exam will be administered in class for the full period, and will cover ALL course materials with an 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 transferred 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:**

Macionis, J. & Gerber, L. (2014). Sociology, 8<sup>th</sup> Canadian Edition Toronto, Ont.: Prentice Hall

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

September 17, 2013	Courses dropped after this date will be designated "W". (A withdrawal (W) is not reflected in your GPA)
October 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	Mid-Term Examination I

October 25, 2013	Courses dropped after this date will be designated "WF". (A withdrawal failure (WF) counts as a 0 in your GPA)
November 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	Mid-term Examination II
November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	Due date for term paper
December 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	Last day of classes
December 9-18 <sup>th</sup> , 2013	Final Exams

## MOODLE

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

This course is supported through Moodle. Assignments, readings, and powerpoint presentations will be posted on Moodle. Students will be expected to frequently check the course Moodle platform for updates, extra readings and assignments. The instructor will use Moodle as the main form of communication with the students in this course; therefore it is the student's responsibility to check Moodle on a regular basis.

### Access to Moodle

Go to <http://ilearn.keyano.ca>. Login 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. For further instructions please see the Moodle handout. A course syllabus will be posted in the Moodle. Please check your Moodle frequently. 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/StudentLife/StudentConduct/IndividualRightsPolicy>

### 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.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>
<b>Week 1 I. Introduction to Sociology</b>  - What is Sociology? - Historical Evolution of Sociology - Dominant Perspectives in Sociology - Uses of Studying Sociology	<b>Macionis, Chapter 1, 4</b>
<b>Week 2 II. Introduction to Sociological Methodology</b>  - Types and Techniques of Social Research - Collection of Social Data - Analysis of Social Data - Issues in Social Research	<b>Macionis, Chapter 2</b>
<b><u>Individual and Society</u></b>	
<b>Week 3 III. Culture</b>  - Meaning of Culture - Content of Culture - Culture and Other Related Concepts	<b>Macionis, Chapter 3</b>
<b>Week 4 IV. Socialization</b>	<b>Macionis, Chapter 5,6</b>

- Importance of Socialization
- Agents of Socialization
- Problems in Socialization

**Week 5 V. Deviance and Control**

**Macionis, Chapter 9**

- What is Deviance?
- Types of Deviance
- Theories of Deviance
- Consequences of Deviance
- Control of Deviance

**Week 6 VI. Social Groups & Organizations**

**Macionis, Chapter 7**

- Types of Groups
- Formal Organizations – Bureaucracy

**Society and Inequality**

**Week 7 VII. Social Stratification**

**Macionis, Chapter 10, 11**

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

**Week 8 VIII. Global Inequality**

**Macionis, Chapter 12**

- Nature and extent of Global Inequality
- Determinants of Global Inequality
- Theories of Global Inequality
- Future of global inequality

**Week 9 IX. Inequalities of Race and Ethnicity**

**Macionis, Chapter 14**

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

**Week 10 X. Inequalities of Gender**

**Macionis, Chapters 13**

- Emergence of Traditional Sex-roles
- Nature vs. Nurture



- Sexism in Social Institutions
- Consequences of Gender Differentiation

### **Social Institutions**

#### **Week 11 XII. Education**

**Macionis, Chapter 20**

- Functions of Education
- Education and Inequality

#### **Week 12 XIV. 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

### **Social Change**

#### **Week 13 XVI. Population, Urbanization and Environment**

**Macionis, Chapter 22**

- Demography
- Population Growth
- Urbanization
- Environmentalism

#### **Week 14 XVII. Collective Behaviour, Social Movements & Social Change**

**Macionis, Chapter 23, 24**

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

**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.



