

COURSE OUTLINE - Winter 2026

SO1000(A3 & VC): Introductory Sociology - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Rashid Begg

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OFFICE: C203

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OFFICE By appointment

CLASS VENUE: D308 MON & WED 8:30 – 9:50

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):

None

COREQUISITE(S):

None

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Cumming, Sarah. 2020. *Sociology Unlocked*. Oxford University Press.

DELIVERY MODE(S): On-Campus & Synchronous

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students in Introduction to Sociology should concentrate on how to:

1. Define Sociology
2. Comprehend the relationship between structure and agency
3. Understand the difference between common sense and sociological research
4. Outline the major theoretical perspectives in sociology
5. Describe the different features of culture
6. Understand the role of socialization
7. Outline the elements of social structure
8. Understand the different systems of stratification
9. Distinguish between sex and gender
10. Be able to explain the structure and functions of family
11. Recognize the defining features of minority, racial, and ethnic groups
12. Explain the difference between crime and deviance
13. Be able to explain the importance of demography in world issues
14. And be able to discuss how health and illness are influenced by income level, minority status, and gender.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>

**** For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a 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**

EVALUATIONS:

Assessment	Total Point	Weight
10 Chapter Quizzes (2 pts each *10)	20 pts	20%
Reflection papers (*4; 5.00 pts each)	20 pts	20%
Midterm	25 pts	25%
Final Exam	35 pts	35%
Total	100 pts	100%

Chapter Weekly Quizzes

At the end of week 2, you will complete chapter quizzes on our course webpage (myClass). There will be 10 questions (multiple choice). These quizzes serve to encourage you to consistently read the chapters and to test your knowledge as we move forward in the course. At the end of week 2 of the class (See below), quizzes will open on Friday at midnight and close the following Sunday at 11:59 PM. It is your responsibility to ensure that you complete these quizzes on time. No exceptions will be made for lateness.

Reflection Papers

At the end of each unit, students will complete 4 short individual assignments based on the content for each unit (1-2 pages, double-spaced). Each application assigned will be graded based on the quality of application of content, demonstration of understanding, and ability to critically engage with the content discussed in the unit. No citations or outside sources are necessary for these assignments. More specific instructions for these assignments will be given in class on the date on which they are assigned. Students have 1 week to finish the assignments, which are to be submitted on myClass before the start of class (see below for schedule of these times). Students must complete all 4 assignments for complete marks.

Midterm and Final Exam

The Midterm and Final Exam will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions with choice. There will be a brief review in class before the midterm and final exam respectively. These will test your knowledge and application of concepts, theories, and perspectives on the course material (textbook chapters, classroom lectures, discussions, and video clips). The final exam is non-cumulative but with an emphasis on 'big picture ideas' covered throughout the semester.

GRADING CRITERIA:

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

Grading Chart

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94		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	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Unit and Date	Class Date	Topic	Readings	Assignments
1: Foundations of Sociology				
Week 1:	Jan 5	Introduction to Course, Meet and Greet	Chapter 1	
Week 2:	Jan 12	Sociological Theories	Chapter 2	Quiz 1 Due
Week 3:	Jan 19	Sociological Methods	Chapter 2	Reflection Paper 1 Due Quiz 2 Due
2: Culture and Socialization				
Week 4:	Jan 26	Culture	Chapter 3	Quiz 3 Due
Week 5:	Feb 2	Socialization and Social Interaction	Chapter 4 & 5	Quiz 4 Due
Week 6:	Feb 9	Families Midterm	Chapter 8	Reflection Paper 2 Due Quiz 5 Due
3: Institutions and Organizations				
Week 7:	Feb 16	Winter Break	Reading Week	
Week 8:	Feb 23	Deviance and Crime	Chapter 10	Quiz 6 Due
Week 9:	March 2	Education	Notes on myClass	Quiz 7 Due
4: Stratification and Inequality				
Week 10:	March 9	Health and Illness	Chapter 12	Quiz 8 Due Reflection Paper 3 Due
Week 11:	March 16	Class Inequality	Chapter 6	Quiz 9 Due
Week 12:	March 23	Race and Ethnicity	Chapter 7	Quiz 10 Due
Week 13:	March 30	Gender	Chapter 8	Reflection Paper 4 Due
Week 14:	April 6	Religion	Notes on myClass	
Week 15:	April 13	Revision		



OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:

Jan 5 – Classes Start
 Jan 15 – Last day to add/drop.
 Feb 16 – Family Day
 Feb 17 – 21 – Winter Break
 March 31 – Last Day to Withdraw
 April 3 – Good Friday
 April 13 – Last day of classes
 April 16 – 23 – Final Exam Period

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

VC Student Requirements

Technology	A stable internet connection sufficient to meet the class requirements. Webcam, microphone, speakers.
Class Participation	Camera on and showing your face during class. An appropriate screen name.
Test/Exam Supervision These are requirements essential to maintaining the academic integrity of the course. The dual camera option is available to VC students only	Dual camera setup. During the exams you must have a webcam showing your face and a camera behind you showing your work surface with your computer. If you are unable to meet the dual camera setup requirement VC students can pay to write the exams at an independent proctor location approved by me. Note: the proctor cannot be a friend/family member, etc. If neither of the above two options work for you, another option is to come to the NWP campus in person and write the exams with the other students during the scheduled time.



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

Your grades are posted to myClass, so please be sure you are tracking them there. If you believe there is an error, please let your instructor know.

Submission, Late Policies, & Issues of Intellectual Concern:

- 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 assignments received will be deducted 5% for every late day (including weekends!).
- 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.
- In cases where submitted work exhibits concerning patterns or raises questions for the instructor about its creation and the student's intellectual effort involved, students may be required to submit to an oral examination regarding the work at the discretion of the instructor. Failure to participate in the oral examination will result in an assigned grade of 0 for the assessment. If, following the oral examination, the instructor still has concerns about the work, the academic misconduct provisions of the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy (linked below) may be applied.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/polytechnic-leadership/policies-directory>.

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.