

COURSE OUTLINE - Fall 2026

SO1000(D2&VC2): 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	PHONE:	780-539-2021
OFFICE:	C203	E-MAIL:	mbegg@nwpolytech.ca
OFFICE	By Appointment	VENUE:	E303 Wed & Fri @ 13:00

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: The following textbook will be used in this course and is available in the bookstore. Cumming, Sarah. 2024. *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.transferralberta.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 (1 pts each *10)	10 pts	10%
Reflection papers (*4; 5 pts each)	20 pts	20%
Midterm	30 pts	30%
Final Exam	40 pts	40%
Total	100 pts	100%

Chapter Quizzes

A weekly quiz will have to be completed before the start of the new week. There will be a total of 10 quizzes.



Reflection Papers

At the end of each unit, students will complete 4 short individual reflections based on the content for each unit (1-2 pages, double-spaced). Each reflection assigned will be graded based on the quality of reflection 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 reflections. More specific instructions for these reflections will be given in class on the date on which they are assigned. Students have 1 week to finish the reflections, which are to be submitted on myClass before the start of class (see below for schedule of these times). Students must complete all 4 reflections 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:	Sep 2	Introduction to Course, What is Sociology?	Chapter 1	
Week 2:	Sep 9	Sociology and Theory	Chapter 2	Quiz 1 Due
Week 3:	Sep 16	Sociological Methods	Chapter 2	Reflection Paper 1 Due Quiz 2 Due
2: Culture and Socialization				
Week 4:	Sep 23	Culture	Chapter 3	Quiz 3 Due
Week 5:	Sep 30	No Class on 30 th (TRC Day)		
Week 6:	Oct 7	Socialization and Social Interaction	Chapter 4 & 5	Reflection Paper 2 Due Quiz 4 Due
3: Institutions and Organizations				
Week 7:	Oct 14	Groups and Social Structure Midterm	Chapter 5	Quiz 5 Due
Week 8:	Oct 21	Race and Racialization	Chapter 9	Quiz 6 Due
4: Stratification and Inequality				
Week 9:	Oct 28	Gender and Gender Inequality	Chapter 7	Quiz 7 Due Reflection Paper 3 Due
Week 10:	Nov 4	Education	Notes on MyClass	Quiz 8 Due

Week 11:	Nov 9, 13	Winter Break	Reading Week	
Week 12:	Nov 18	The Family	Chapter 8	Quiz 9 Due
Week 13:	Nov 25	Health and Medicine	Chapter 12	Reflection Paper 4 Due Quiz 10 Due
Week 14:	Dec 2	Religion	Notes on MyClass	
Week 15:	Dec 9	Revision		

Important Dates

September 2 – First day of classes
 September 7 – Labour Day
 September 30 – National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
 October 12 – Thanksgiving
 November 9-13 – Fall Break
 November 27 – Last day to withdraw
 December 9 – Last day of classes

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:

- 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.
- Note: extensions will be given only when students notify the instructor prior to the deadline and present valid evidence excusing lateness.

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.