



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2018

SO1000 (B3 & C3): INTRODUCTORY SOCIOLOGY - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

INSTRUCTOR: Esayas Geleta, Ph.D **PHONE:** 780.539.2973
OFFICE: C410 **E-MAIL:** EGeleta@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: 11:30-1pm Tuesday and Thursday; by appointment; drop-ins welcome

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)/COREQUISITE(S): none

REQUIRED TEXT(S)/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Macionis, J. and Gerber, L (2017). Sociology, 9th Edition. North York, Ontario: Pearson Education Canada.

I may name additional recommended readings in class. The course will also make use of sociological journal articles, which I will post on Moodle. Such readings are important to deepen your understanding of the lecture topics beyond the foundational understanding gleaned from your priority reading.

DELIVERY MODE(S): lectures, class discussion, group work, and class presentations

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Introduce students to the essential sociological concepts and their historical foundation
- Help students understand the reciprocal relation between individual behavior and society
- Appreciate the ‘sociological imagination’ view-point
- Learn to apply the theories and methodologies of sociology as a social science in their everyday lives.
- Provides students with an understanding of the work of contemporary sociologists and with strong foundational knowledge in preparation for further sociological study
- Familiarize students with the key sociological concepts, theories and debates

- Demonstrate, using illustrative materials, the uses and continued importance of sociological analysis in the modern and postmodern world.
- Promote and develop students' skills in critical thinking, writing, referencing and research

LEARNING OUTCOMES: On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Define a range of sociological concepts used within substantive fields of sociology
- Explain everyday life using sociological concepts
- Illustrate the applicability of sociological concepts to everyday life
- Explain the wider introductory sociological literature
- Identify and explain the research tools used by sociologists
- Explain key ethical principles employed in sociological practice.

TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, AU, UL, AF, CU, CUC, GMU, KUC

***Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca> or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at <http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlineSearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2>

**** 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:

Attendance and participation	10%
Exam 1	15% (week six)
Exam 2	20% (week ten)
In class group work	20% (week three, eight, eleven and thirteen)
Final exam	35% (Scheduled by the Registrar Office)

Submission & Late Policies: It is very important to complete your assignments on time. Late and/or incomplete assignments will receive a grade of 0%, unless you have a valid reason supported with appropriate documentation (i.e., medical note from an M.D.) and you discuss it with me.

For written and take-home assignments – you will be penalized -20%/day up to the maximum of -100% = a ZERO. No Exceptions.

Grade Description & Notification: All efforts will be made to return graded assignments promptly. Final exams and essays will not be returned and will be kept by the University Studies. If you complete an assignment (i.e., present, hand in a paper), you cannot—after the fact—claim that extenuating circumstances affected your work and request a grade adjustment. If you are having difficulty with an

assignment or there are serious extenuating circumstances affecting your work, please speak with me as soon as possible.

GRADING CRITERIA:

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

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	66-69
A	4.0	90-94		C	2.0	63-65
A-	3.7	85-89		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	80-84		D+	1.3	54-59
B	3.0	75-79		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-74		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE

Week 1	Introduction to the course What is sociology and what do sociologists do?	
Week 2	Chapter 1 The sociological perspective Sociological approaches	
Week 3	Chapter 2 Sociological Investigation How to do research: Research methods	In class group work (5%)
Week 4	Chapter 3 Culture The theories and major components of culture Hookimaw-Witt, "Any Changes since Residential School?" (PDF)* Video: Kuper Island	
Week 5	Chapter 4 Society: Marx, Weber and Durkheim Society and technology Society and conflict Tradition and rationality society as system	
Week 6	(Exam 1) Introduction to essay writing: Announcement of essay topics	Exam 1, 15%: Chapter 1, 2, 3 and 4

Week 7	Chapter 5 Socialization Watch: 14 min about Genetics, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=36HquPzdx4 Matthews, “The Body Beautiful” (PDF) Video: <i>Sext Up Kids</i>	
Week 8	Chapter 7 Groups and organizations, ‘social organization as soft technology’, family society primary organization	In class group work (5%)
Week 9	Chapter 9 Deviance, ‘alternative’ behaviors and actions? Thornberg, “Distressed Bullies, Social Positioning and Odd Victims...” Video: <i>Faking the Grade</i>	
Week 10	Exam 2	Exam 2 20%: Chapter 5, 7 and 9
Week 11	Chapter 10 Social stratification, inequality, class structure Watch 10 min on, Why Some countries are Poor and others are... https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-4V3HR696k	In class group work (5%)
Week 12	Chapter 12 Global stratification, global poverty and inequality Measuring inequality Klein, “The Discarded Factory....” Eglitis, “How Economic Inequality Benefits the West” * (optional) Video: <i>NO LOGO</i>	
Week 13	Chapter 14 Race and Ethnicity Watch 35 min, Remember Africville. *Access through GPRC Library to watch NFB Films	In class group work (5%)
Week 14 Final Exam	Course review and wrap-up You will be required to write and submit a critical report that summarizes what you have learned. That will be your final exam.	Final 35% Chapter 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, and 14 Final Exams are Scheduled by the Registrar Office

Please note that I may alter or add a reading assignment, a reference list or a topic of investigation. You will be notified in class and in writing through Moodle.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

ATTENDANCE AND EXAM POLICIES:

Attendance at lectures is strongly encouraged, as are your participation in class discussions and group discussions.

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). *Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.*

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes by asking fellow students for the material covered, and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and / or notes that may be due.

PLEASE NOTE:

A missed exam won't be accommodated *unless* the situation is an unexpected personal or family emergency, and unless you can provide documentation.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments.

Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.

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

Additional Information

While lectures form the backbone of this module, various learning strategies will also be utilized such as group work, group and class discussions. Through the preparation of thought-provoking questions, students will be encouraged to think critically about a range of social circumstances. In your lectures, you will receive guidance as to the areas of knowledge on which you should concentrate. You will receive an overview of key points of learning relevant to these topics. It is expected that you will deepen your understanding of lecture contents, group discussions and class discussions through independent reading.

If at any point in the semester you feel you are struggling with the module or with your course work, please don't hesitate to ask for assistance. Come and see me during my drop-in office hour, and I will assist you or point you towards other suitable sources of support. If you are scheduled to attend lectures or have other commitments during my office hour, please contact me by e-mail for an appointment. My email address is EGeleta@gprc.ab.ca

Moodle

This course will make extensive use of a dedicated Internet site on Moodle to support your learning. You are expected for keeping current with the content of the site and I advise you to log on at least once a week.

Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating)
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the GPRC credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

Specialized Supports

Counselling and Disability Services

Counselling Services provides a wide range of specialized counselling services to prospective and registered students, including personal, career and academic counselling.

Students with Disabilities

It is the College's goal that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on a disability, please let your instructor know immediately so options can be discussed. You are also welcome to contact Accessibility Services to establish reasonable accommodations. <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/services/accessibility/>

Learning Support Centre

The Learning Support Centre is accessible though the Library at the Main campus of GPRC, where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff.

The Learning Support Centre, through a variety of delivery methods, provides assistance in skill development to GPRC students. Assistance is provided by instructors, staff and student tutors.

Individuals wishing to improve their mathematics, writing, grammar, study, or other skills, can take advantage of this unique service.

Email

Please be considerate when using email to communicate with your instructor.

- Questions are best addressed in person – following class, or during office hours.
- Email is a poor substitute for actual instructor/student conversations.
- If you are implored to send an email you need to include the course number and your full name (as you are known by the college) in the subject heading. ***If you do not include the course number and your name in the subject line I will not respond.***

Professional Conduct

- Please be aware that I respect that everyone's time is precious and valuable, please afford me the same courtesy.
- Instead of preoccupying your mind with the question – “how do I get an ‘A’?” Instead, ask yourself how can I work to expand my knowledge, perspective and outlook on the world?