



Brescia University College
Department of Sociology
Introduction to Sociology
Sociology 1020 (530)
Spring 2017

Instructor: Rebecca Collins-Nelsen

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Class Times: Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9:00 am – 12:00 pm in BR-303

Office Hours: Tuesdays 12:00 – 1:00 pm or by appointment **Office:** UH-352

Antirequisite(s): Sociology 1020W/X, 1021E

Course Description

This course is designed to teach you fundamental sociological theories and concepts to help you think critically about the social world around you. Sociology helps to explain social life by analysing the ways in which individual and societal problems, accomplishments, and power intersect in complex ways. Specifically we will discuss important sociological topics related to social class, deviance, gender, race and ethnicity, sexuality, family, education and so on. We will also discuss significant sociological processes such as socialization, stratification and social construction. Throughout the class you will be challenged to develop and apply your “sociological imagination” as you use these new skills and analytical abilities to think through contemporary societal issues.

Learning Outcomes

When you have completed this course you should be able to:

- Apply sociological theories and concepts to a variety of social phenomena (Critical Thinking; Inquiry & Analysis)
- Use the sociological imagination to think critically about the social world (Critical Thinking)

- Describe the core sociological research methods (Inquiry & Analysis; Problem Solving)
- Explain the intersections between micro and macro social processes (Critical Thinking; Valuing)
- Critically reflect and discuss scholarly sociological literature and perspectives (Critical Thinking; Communication; Social Awareness & Engagement)
- Communicate sociological analyses in verbal and written form (Communication; Critical Thinking)

Required Reading Materials

Steckley, John. 2017. *Elements of Sociology: A Critical Canadian Introduction*. Toronto: Oxford University Press.

Article readings are alphabetized from A – G and can be found on OWL.

It is essential that readings are done prior to class as the lectures and class discussions are designed under the assumption that students have read the required material.

Grading Scheme

		Applicable Brescia Competencies
Attendance/Participation	10%	Communication, Critical Thinking, Self-Awareness and Development, Social Awareness and Engagement, Valuing
Mid Term Exam	30%	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness and Engagement, Communication, Inquiry and Analysis
Final Exam	30%	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness and Engagement, Communication, Inquiry and Analysis
Critical Reflection	15%	Critical Thinking, Communication, Inquiry and Analysis, Self-Awareness and Development
Presentation	15%	Critical Thinking, Communication, Inquiry and Analysis

Attendance/Participation

Attendance will be taken daily and participation will be graded based on student contributions to class discussions and group work. One of the advantages of Brescia generally, and intersession courses especially, is smaller classroom sizes so it is important that we take advantage of this

opportunity to engage with each other. There will be class discussion questions throughout lectures as well as activities that will require small group discussion. Participation grades will be based on a combination of your attendance and the frequency and quality of your participation in class and small group discussion.

Examinations

There will be two exams throughout this course. The mid-term exam will take place during class time on **Monday, June 5th**. The final exam will happen during the final exam period, therefore the date and location will be set by the registrar's office. All exams will be based on a combination of the required readings and anything that has been covered up until that time during class. This can include information that was learned through class discussion, a video shown in class, other students' presentations and so on. It should be evident that consistently coming to class, paying close attention, and taking effective notes will be extremely important for success in this class. If you must miss a class I would highly recommend acquiring the notes from a fellow class member or you risk missing information that may be on an exam. The exam may contain multiple choice, short answer and/or essay questions. More information will be given at least two classes before each scheduled exam.

Critical Reflection

The assignment will consist of writing a critical reflection on a hobby or interest of your choosing. The expectation is that you will engage your *sociological imaginations* in order to analyze your chosen topic through theories and concepts discussed in class. This is by no means an opinion paper and you will need to engage with relevant debates in sociology. Your paper should be 2 to 3 pages in length. All assignments must be submitted in the form of a hardcopy. The assignment can be handed in during class on **June 15th**. Further details about the assignment will be provided in class.

Presentations

Presentations will take place during the last hour of class starting on **June 6th** and ending on **June 22nd**. There can be no more than three presentations per class and times will be decided through a first come first serve sign-up process. Each presentation should be approximately 8 to

10 minutes with 10 minutes of discussion to follow. Presenters will be responsible for choosing a recent media story and analyzing it using sociological concepts and theories. Presenters will also be responsible for creating discussion questions and facilitating a discussion after the presentation. More details about the presentation expectations will be given during class.

Course Schedule

Note: This schedule is subject to minor changes

Interession Course			
Day	Topic	Readings	Presentations
May 15 th	Intro to the Sociological Perspective	Ch. 1	None
May 16 th	Sociological Investigation	Ch. 2	None
May 17 th	Culture	Ch. 3	None
May 18 th	Socialization	Ch. 4	None
May 22nd	Victoria Day – NO CLASS	NO READING	None
May 23 rd	Social Roles, Interaction, and Organization	Ch. 5	None
May 24 th	Deviance	Ch. 6	None
May 25 th	Social Inequality	Ch. 7	None
May 29 th	Race and Ethnicity	Ch. 8	None
May 30 th	Race and Privilege	Article A (MacIntosh) and B (Banks)	None
May 31 st	Gender	Ch. 9	None
June 1 st	Sexuality	Article C (Ward)	None
June 5th	Mid Term	STUDY	None
June 6 th	Family	Ch. 10	Presentations
June 7 th	Religion	Ch. 11	Presentations
June 8 th	Education	Ch. 12	Presentations
June 12 th	Health, Medicine and Aging	Ch. 13	Presentations
June 13 th	The Environment	Ch. 14	Presentations
June 14 th	Social Change and the Future	Ch. 15	Presentations
June 15 th	Politics and Government	Article D (Mann)	Presentations
June 19 th	Sociology of Technology	Article E (Winner)	Presentations
June 20 th	The Media	Podcast	Presentations
June 21 st	The Economy	Article F (Conor)	Presentations
June 22 nd	Collective Identity and Social Movements	Article G (Johnston and Taylor)	Presentations
Final Exam during final exam period – Date and Location set by Registrar’s Office			

2016-17 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated. Documentation shall be submitted as soon as possible to the student's Academic Advisor indicating the period of illness and when the student should be able to resume academic responsibilities. Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg117.html> The student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg130.html>)

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg113.html>

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Student Academic Appeals under Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg112.html>)

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for information including a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.