



Introduction to Sociology

School of Behavioural and Social Sciences

General Information

Course: SOC 1020, Section 534

Term: Fall/Winter 2021-2022

Meetings: Monday 6:30-9:30PM on Zoom via Owl

Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Roberts E-mail: srober7@uwo.ca

Course Location

Due to the pandemic, no element of this course will take place in person. Video lectures, assisting lecture notes, and video commentary for all chapters are posted on owl to meet diverse scheduling needs.

Class Meetings:

I will meet with you via Zoom weekly (Mon 6:30PM) to discuss any elements related to the course including materials covered in the recorded lectures.

Course Description:

An examination of the major theoretical perspectives in the field of Sociology, methods of empirical investigation of social phenomena, socialization, group structure, principles of social organization, community structure, population and social change.

Antirequisite(s): Sociology 1020W/X, Sociology 1021E, Sociology 1025A/B, Sociology 1026F/G, Sociology 1027A/B.

Required Course Materials:

Macionis, John J., Gerber, Linda M., & Colovecchia, Sandra. (2021). *Sociology*. Tenth Canadian Edition. Toronto, Ontario: Pearson Prentice Hall.

There is also an electronic version of the textbook available from the bookstore.

Earlier versions of this textbook are not suitable due to the change in chapters.

Learning Objectives:

This full-credit course provides students with a fundamental grounding in sociological perspectives, theories, and methods to help us understand the social world. What is sociology, and why does it matter? How is sociology different from common sense? How do structural divisions, such as SES, race, ethnicity, or gender affect us as collective groups and as individuals, and how do sociological

theories contribute to our understanding of social issues? These are the types of questions that students should be able to answer by the end of this course.

At its conclusion, the student should have:

- acquired a new sociological language that will permit her/him/them to take more advanced courses in sociology
- gained a fundamental knowledge of the many areas explored through sociological research and theory
- apply key sociological concepts to everyday circumstances
- possess the tools to critically examine her/his/their own world through a sociological lens
- to raise consciousness about our social world—the role we play and the opportunity it affords us to contribute

Evaluation:

Component	Weight	Date/ Deadline	Brescia Competencies (reviewed below)
Forum Posts	15%	Weeks run Monday to Sunday. Forum posts are due at the end of the week by Sunday 11:59pm. Grades are posted at the end of the year.	All
Test 1	20%	October 25	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness
Test 2	20%	During December Exam Period	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness
Test 3	20%	February 7	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness
Course Reflection	5%	Course Reflections Due Sunday, March 20, 11:59PM	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness
Test 4	20%	During April Exam Period	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness

Lectures:

To ensure maximum flexibility for students, recorded lectures will be posted online with accompanying commentary. You should read the textbook first and then review the slides. I have included video recordings and lecture notes to help you out. The PPT slides will review some, but not all, of the material in the textbook, and sometimes the ppts will include material that is not in the textbook at all. You are responsible for all of the material in the textbooks and in the lectures—it is all “fair game” for the test.

Weekly Meetings:

I am available to meet with you weekly, Monday 6:30pm on zoom, to discuss any elements related to the course including materials covered in the recorded lectures.

Zoom:

Zoom is a webconferencing app that is free to Western students. Instructions for downloading and running Zoom can be found at: <https://wts.uwo.ca/zoom/>. IMPORTANT: When logging in to Zoom, select Sign In with SSO. On the Sign In with SSO screen, enter westernuniversity, then click Continue. You will login to Zoom using your Western user ID and password.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Chapter
1	Sept 13	Course Introduction	
2	Sept 20	Sociological Perspectives	1
3	Sept 27	Society	4
4	Oct 4	Culture	3
5	Oct 11	Thanksgiving (No Class on Monday)	
6	Oct 18	Socialization /Social Interaction in Everyday Life	5, 6
7	Oct 25	Test 1 (20%)	
8	Nov 1	Media	7
	Nov 8-12	Reading Week	
9	Nov 15	Groups and Organizations	8
10	Nov 22	Sexuality	9
11	Nov 29	Deviance	10
12	Dec 6	Social Stratification	11
		Test 2: December Exam Period (20%)	
13	Jan 3	Social Class	12
14	Jan 10	Gender	14
15	Jan 17	Race	15
16	Jan 24	Aging	16
17	Jan 31	Work	17
18	Feb 7	Test 3 (20%)	
19	Feb 14	Politics	18
	Feb 21-25	Reading Week	
20	Feb 28	Education	21
21	March 7	Health	22
22	March 14	Demography/Course reflections due Sunday March 21, 11:59PM	23
23	March 21	Social Movements	24
24	March 28	Social Change	25
		Test 4: Final Exam During April Exam Period (20%)	

Weekly Forum Posts 15%:

Each week, discussion questions related to the assigned chapters will be posted in the forum. You are expected to engage in the discussion posts by 11:59PM Sunday (the week begins on Monday, so this is at the end of the week). This hopefully will allow you to process the information better and to apply the text information to the world around you. These discussions will be *graded at the end of the term* and are a way to approximate an attendance/engagement grade. My hope is that you will interact with each other on the forum.

Course Reflection Paper 5%

Your reflection paper should detail your educational journey through the course material. This paper should **not** be a review of course content. For example, the papers should NOT include definitions of terminology or written descriptions of theories. Do NOT write things like "I liked studying gender, which is defined as the "personal traits and social positions that members of a society attach to being male or female" (Macionis & Gerber, 2017, p. X). You are expected to reflect on the material and find connections to your own lived experiences. How did you see your world sociologically as a result of taking this course? What stuck out to you? What challenged the way that you thought? The paper is about YOU and your learning. It does not require any references. The paper should be 500-700 words.

Test Information (4*20%)

The tests will be a mix of both text and recorded lectures. Materials from the weekly discussions will support learning but not be directly testable. The format of the tests will be discussed during the weeks prior to the examination date. The final exam date is normally set by the Registrar's Office. Exam dates, once they have been set by the Registrar's Office, are firm and will not be changed. More information about the exams will be provided during the term. Software designed to detect cheating may be run on the final exam, where computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or written exams will be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. There is zero-tolerance for cheating, and any member(s) of the class caught cheating may receive an F and may fail the course. Cheating is a serious academic offense that will be dealt with severely. You are expected to work on your tests by yourself and not consult materials outside of the course. However, they are open book tests, and you may consult your lectures and textbook. Late penalties may be assessed if necessary.

Turnitin similarity review software may be used for elements of this course.

IMPORTANT: Copyright and Intellectual Property

PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction or use of audio-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on/downloading from course-sharing websites outside of OWL is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions. Forged notes and certificates will be dealt with severely. To submit a forged document is a scholastic offence and you will be subject to academic sanctions.

Academic Accommodation: For course components worth 10% or more of the total course grade, please see the Academic Policies and Regulations section at the end of this course outline or consult the Academic Calendar.

Make-Up Exams for this Course: Make-up exams, if granted with proper documentation and support from an academic counselor, will be set by me (date). The format of the make-up exam may be the same or different as the one written by the class.

Policy on Make-Up Exams: Make-up exams are offered only in the most compelling of circumstances, such as serious illness or a death in the family. You should understand that academic accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. Requests will only be considered on medical or compassionate grounds. For term tests, you must demonstrate to me that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds that **must be documented** before academic accommodation will be considered (see documentation rules). Be advised that if you miss an exam, you run a serious risk of getting a zero on that component of your grade.

In all cases, action must be taken at the earliest possible opportunity, preferably prior to the scheduled examination or test. If you are unable to contact me, have someone do it for you. Make sure you leave your full name, student number and a number I can reach you at in the message. If you decide that you are able to write the test or examination at its regularly scheduled time, you should be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations or having the value of the test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis is not permitted.

Grades and Grading

Grades will be posted on OWL as soon as they become available. Often, final grades are posted by the Registrar's office first.

2021-22 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

The complete policy regarding [Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students](https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12) can be found at https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12.

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services (https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

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.

Students who experience an illness or extenuating circumstance sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

1. Submitting a **Self-Reported Absence** form provided that the conditions for submission are met;
2. For medical absences, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)** signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;
3. For non-medical absences, submitting **appropriate documentation** (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Portal

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance of 48 hours or less that is sufficiently severe to render them unable to meet academic requirements should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours. Note that the excused absence includes all courses and academic requirements within the up to 48 hours, it is not intended to provide an excused absence from a single course while students fulfill their academic responsibilities in other courses during that time.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

1. Students will be allowed a **maximum of two self-reported absences** between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;
2. The duration of the absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
3. The excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period if the student undertakes significant academic responsibilities (writes a test, submits a paper) during that time;
4. Self-reported absences will **not** be allowed for scheduled final examinations; midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;
5. Self-report absences may **not** be used for assessments worth more than 30% of any course;
6. Any absences in excess of 48 hours will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), or appropriate documentation;
7. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24** hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

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 their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) 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. An SMC can be downloaded from http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf ;
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;
3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;
4. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;
5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty.

The [full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness](#) can be viewed at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge 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 are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor

(https://www.brescia.uwo.ca/enrolment_services/academic_advising/index.php). If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please refer to <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

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.*

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.

Please note that for asynchronous online courses, attendance or participation requirements maybe different than for synchronous or in-person courses.

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 and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic 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/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68).

4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence at: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. 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 Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, 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.

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 (<http://www.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 is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls

within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written Special Permission from the 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).

7. SUPPORT

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Skills Services at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>)

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Health & Wellness at Brescia** (https://brescia.uwo.ca/student_life/health_and_wellness/index.php) and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at https://brescia.uwo.ca/safe_campus/sexual_violence/index.php .

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.
