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"The sociological imagination enables us to grasp history and biography and the relations between the two within society. That is its task and its promise."
C. Wright Mills.

Learning objectives and outcomes:

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Use their sociological imagination and demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between individual experience and societal reality
2. Demonstrate clear understanding and the ability to apply sociological theory
3. Research and write critical methodological and theoretical papers on a selected topic
4. Communicate with clear critical reading, thinking and analytical skills.

Accessing the Class Homepage via SAKAI

Much of the material for this course has been placed on the class homepage established on SAKAI and students are expected to log in to their OWL account (and the class homepage) during the first week of class in order to insure that everything is working properly. The homepage for this course will contain a number of different folders that will contain things like the course outline, lectures, grades, instructions for assessments, a link for uploading to Turnitin.com, etc.

Required Text(s)

☐ Online articles posted online as PDF files
Method of Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSESSMENT</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Posted Discussion Question #1: 5%</td>
<td>May 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam: 25%</td>
<td>Mid June - TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posted Discussion Question #2: 5%</td>
<td>July 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay: 25%</td>
<td>July 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation: 10%</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam: 30%</td>
<td>End of July - TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Assessment Overview:

**Posted Discussion Questions:** Part of your grade in this course will be based on two separately posted formal discussion questions. These questions will be posted in the Discussions section of the course under a separate topic category (eg. Discussion #1, Discussion #2).

The question will be posted one week before the discussion question is due. The due date of the discussion questions is noted above in this course outline. Once the question is posted, students will have one week to contribute to the discussion.

There will be no excuses accepted for late submissions as everyone has an entire week in which to log on and overcome any difficulties that may unexpectedly arise.

It is clearly indicated on the course outline when these discussions will take place therefore, holidays, other school/ work commitments will not suffice as excuses.

There are no make-up assignments. If you do not post a response, you receive a zero to be fair to your classmates.

**Participation Grade:**

Your grade for class participation will be based on your submissions to the participation section of the discussions areas. You will be assessed for both the frequency and the quality of your participation.

Examples of things you may want to discuss:

- respond to one of the questions asked in the course notes
- share your academic thoughts or ideas on the readings
• Apply aspects of the course material to current events or life experiences
• Respond to a comment of another student

To receive marks for this section, it is NOT enough to merely say that you liked or disliked a reading, topic, point in the lecture notes, etc. – you must explain your position using the course content to support your position.

Vigorous academic debate is encouraged. However, students are reminded that in any classroom, courtesy and mutual respect are vital elements of a collegial atmosphere. **Hateful remarks, unscholarly examples, or personal attacks are unacceptable and will not be tolerated.**

**Class Question and Answer Section:**

There will be a separate section included online to ask questions about assignments, exams, etc. I encourage students to respond to one another in this section. I am constantly reading your questions but I do not always respond if I feel you have answered each other adequately. It is important in an online course for you to ‘get to know one another’ and this is most often seen in your help for each other.

If you have a personal question about grades or assignments, please send me an email rather than posting in this section.

**Midterm and Final Exams:**

Exams will be based on the material covered in the online material and assigned readings. Both exams will be 2 hours in length. Each of the exams could consist of multiple choice, true and false and written questions.

Note: Both the midterm and final exams for this course must be taken in person at a designated exam location. The specific location will be provided by distance studies closer to the exam date.

**Essay:**

Sociology 1021E is a designated essay course and as such, each “student is required to demonstrate competence in essay writing to pass the course.” [http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg108.html](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg108.html).

Furthermore, as stated in the academic calendar, “[t]he structure of the essay course must be such that in order to pass the course, the student must exhibit some minimal level of competence in essay writing and the appropriate level of knowledge of the content of the course.”
It is imperative that you submit an essay in order to pass. You must receive 50% or above on your essay in order to pass the course.

Complete essay guidelines concerning topic, essay format, expectations, etc. will be posted on the course site in the evaluations (assignment) section. Your essay (2000 words, 6-7 pages) will examine an important topic of sociological concern. You will be graded on both form and content. Your essay must be submitted on time. You will be using the assignment submission feature of OWL to submit your essay (Note: Do not email me your paper). Your essay must be submitted no later than 23:59 (Eastern Time Zone) on the due date. Assignments submitted to OWL are date and time stamped.

Late Essays: There is a 3% deduction, per day (including weekends), for essays submitted past the deadline (for example, if you received 76% on your essay, but it was 2 days late, you would receive a 70%). After 14 days, no essay will be accepted and will automatically receive a 0.

Course Schedule and Readings: will be posted on OWL at the beginning of class

Sociology is a fascinating subject that can change the way you look at the world. I hope you enjoy the content and I look forward to getting to know you.

Important Policies

A Note on Plagiarism: 
Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea 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 scholastic offence (the Scholastic Offence Policy can be viewed in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking: 
Students may be required to submit their assignments to turnitin.com on the class WebCT website after they are completed. These papers will be subject to submission for textual originality.

Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness 
Western’s policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf). Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: [http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html](http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html)
Accessibility Options
Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar’s website:
http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

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 the following web site:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Mental Health
Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.