The University of Western Ontario

Sociology 2229B: Global Inequality
UWO, Section 001
Winter 2018

Prof. Tess Hooks
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Class Session:
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. to 1:20 p.m., SSC 3028

Office Hours:
Thursdays 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Course Description:
This course introduces students to the issue of inequality on a global scale both between and within nations. It examines the causes and consequences of this inequality.

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 from Sociology 1020, 1021E, 1025A/B, 1026F/G, 1027A/B.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The 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 prerequisites.

Learning Outcomes:

When students have successfully completed this course, they should be able to:

✓ To develop an appreciation for why global inequality matters.
✓ To examine the extent of inequality between and within nations.
✓ To identify and evaluate the possible explanations for the inequality between rich and poor countries.
✓ To identify and evaluate the possible explanations for the inequality that exists within nations.
✓ To survey the nature and scope of global inequalities related to the environment, distribution of work, urbanization, overpopulation, income disparities and poverty, and human rights, etc.
Required Text(s):


Also there will be readings posted on the OWL course site.

Evaluation:

Class participation 10%
Blog 20% due on March 8
Mid-Term Exam 35% February 15
Final Exam 35% per UWO exam schedule

Class Participation:

Participation is an important facet in the learning process. It helps students digest new concepts, apply those concepts to real world situations, and interject their own perspectives on the topic under discussion. For this reason, a significant component of your evaluation is tied to class participation. Participation will be based on a combination of attendance and class participation. Attendance alone, however, is not enough to achieve an above average mark. You will also be evaluated on your level of participation in group and class discussions as well as the relevance and quality of your participation.

On those occasions in which you miss class because of illness or other valid reasons, you may still earn participation credit for those absences by writing a response to an instructor selected discussion question (one double spaced page per hour of class time missed). It is your responsibility to make arrangements with me on the first day you return to class after an absence or you forfeit the right to make up for your absence. The response will be due within one week of your return. If you miss more than 50% of class sessions without offsetting participation credits, your participation mark will be zero (0).

Because class participation is an important component of your evaluation it is important to create a safe environment for everyone to participate. So the first rule is: people are sacred, ideas are not. This means that we need to be respectful of each other and give each other space to participate. In line with this, if you are bringing a cell phone to class, make sure that it is turned off before coming in to class.
**Global Inequality Blog:**

For this assignment, you will choose a development related issue or event that is currently receiving media attention. Select several (3-4) articles that cover the issue from a variety of perspectives. Your sources may include mainstream media reports (such as the CBC, the Guardian, the Globe and Mail), alternative sources (such as Alternet, Rabble.ca, Global Voices), blog posts (such as The Guardian’s Poverty Matters, UN Dispatch, from Poverty to Power, Huffington Post’s Development Unplugged). Use these resources to write your own blog post. Your blog post should set the context through inclusion of an overview of the event or issue and provide critical analysis of the issue. Consider the historical factors, what individuals and groups are impacted and the challenges they face, who has power in the situation, potential solutions and barriers to resolution. A list of sources using APA format should be included. Your blog post should be between 1500-2000 words (not including sources).

The blog posts will be due on Thursday, March 8th. All assignments will be submitted to Turnitin.com on the OWL site for the course and submitted to me in hard copy format.

Late reports will be penalized 5% beginning at 10:30 a.m. on March 8th and 2% per day for each additional day of lateness. No assignments will be accepted after April 11th.

**Exams:**

The exams for this class will be a combination of multiple choice (70% of the exam grade) and essay (30% of the exam grade). Computer-marked multiple choice exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. No electronic devices will be allowed during exams.

**How to Contact Me:**

Please feel free to speak to me after class or during class breaks. If you are not in class, the best way to contact me is to stop by during my office hours. Otherwise I can be reached by email or by leaving a voice mail message.

**How to get important information:**

Please check the announcements for the course and check the OWL site for the course regularly.
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:
All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for 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 (www.turnitin.com).

Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class:
Laptops are permitted in class at the discretion of the professor for note taking or any other purpose approved by the professor. If, however, they are used for personal purposes during class time (Facebook, e-mail, web surfing, gaming, etc.) the privilege of using laptops may be withdrawn. Using laptops is a privilege, not a right.

Cellphones, Blackberries, and similar devices, must be turned OFF (not just vibrate) during classes unless specific permission is sought for emergency purposes in a given class. Text messaging and Twittering are not permitted during class.

Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness
Western’s policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at 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

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 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar’s website: 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: 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://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html) for a complete list of options how to obtain help
# General Course Outline

*PLEASE NOTE: Ideally, reading assignments should be done before you come to class in order to get the most out of lectures. Any additional readings will be posted on the OWL site for the course.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 11</td>
<td>An Introduction to Global Inequality</td>
<td>No Assigned Readings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 18</td>
<td>The Rise of the Global Middle Class</td>
<td>Milanović, Introduction and Ch. 1: 1-45</td>
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<td>Jan 25</td>
<td>Inequality Within Countries</td>
<td>Milanović, Ch. 2: 46-117</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 1</td>
<td>Inequality Among Countries</td>
<td>Milanović, Ch. 3: 118-154</td>
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| Feb 8  | Colonialism and Its Legacy                 | Oxfam 2016: *An Economy For the 1%: How Privilege and Power in the Economy Drive Extreme Inequality and How This Can Be Stopped.* Oxfam Briefing Paper.  
| Feb 15 | Mid-term Exam                               |                            |
| Feb 22 | Reading Week                                |                            |
| March 1| Global Inequality in This Century and the Next | Milanović, Ch. 4: 155-211 |
| March 8| What Next?                                  | Milanović, Ch. 5: 212-239 |
|        |                                             | Inequality. Org (website) Facts: Global Inequality |
### March 29  **Work and Global Inequality**

**READING:**
- Sarah White  
  2002  
- Denise Ferreira Da Silva  
  2014  
- Sylvia Chant  
  2014  
- Sally Lloyd Evans  
  2014  
- Katie D. Willis  
  2014  

### April 5  **Inequality and the Environment**

**READING:**
- The Lancet Commission of Pollution and Health  
  2017  
- Oxfam  
  2015  
  “Extreme Carbon Inequality: Why the Paris Climate Deal Must Put the Poorest, Lowest Emitting and Most Vulnerable People First.” Oxfam Media Briefing.

### April 14-30  **Final Examination Period**