



**Western University
SOCIOLOGY 1025A**

**Society and You
Fall 2018
Thursday 10:30-12:30, UCC 56**

Instructor: Dr. Sean Waite

Office Hours: Fridays, 9am-11am
Department of Sociology, Office: SSC 5401
Email: swaite3@uwo.ca

Course Description

In this course we will explore how our individual choices are shaped by larger social structures. Students will learn how to use their *sociological imaginations* for investigating the social world and seeing the connections between their own lives and the larger society we all live in. Students will see how their own personal troubles are connected to larger social problems.

Course Organization

Class time will combine lectures, structured class discussions, tutorials and possibly short films.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Use their sociological imagination to demonstrate an understanding of the relationships between social structure and individual agency.
2. Explain and apply different sociological theories and concepts.
3. Understand the methodological tools used by sociologists to study the social world.
4. Understand different dimensions of inequality in our society.
5. Develop critical thinking, research and writing skills.

Required Text

1. Symbaluk, Diane G and Tami M. Bereska. 2013. *Sociology in Action: A Canadian Perspective*. 3rd Edition Nelson Publishing.
2. Articles or book chapters assigned in the detailed reading list, excluding those marked optional.

Methods of Evaluation

Midterm Exam:	October 18, 2018	30%
Final Exam:	During April exam period	35%
Tutorial attendance and participation:	Throughout term	10%
Tutorial quizzes:	Throughout term	15%
Article Summary:	November 8, 2018	10%

Evaluation Breakdown

Midterm and Final Exam

This course will consist of two in class examinations (midterm and final). Both will consist of predominantly multiple-choice questions but they may also contain true or false, fill-in-the-blank or short answer questions. The detailed format of the examination, including the number of questions, will be provided prior to the exam date. The final exam will be cumulative but there will be a ***greater focus*** on material from the second half of the course. The material on the exams will cover lectures, discussions, films, documentaries and readings.

Tutorials

There will be mandatory weekly tutorials for this class. You are expected to participate in tutorial discussions. Tutorials will be organized and facilitated by the teaching assistants. All questions regarding the tutorials should be directed to the teaching assistants. More information will be provided in class. There will be four pop quizzes consisting of short answer questions and/or multiple choice questions throughout the year. There is no way to makeup missed tutorial quizzes; however, the lowest tutorial quiz will be dropped. Therefore, students can miss one tutorial quiz with no repercussions.

Tutorial Time Slot 1: Thursdays 12:30pm to 1:30pm Room 3010

Tutorial Time Slot 2: Thursdays 12:30pm to 1:30pm Room 3014

Tutorial Time Slot 3: Thursdays 1:30pm to 2:30pm Room 3014

Tutorial Time Slot 4: Thursdays 2:30pm to 3:30pm Room 3014

Tutorial attendance and participation

You will be evaluated based on your attendance and participation in tutorials. The teaching assistants are responsible for facilitating discussion, tracking attendance, and evaluating tutorial participation. You are expected to participate and contribute to tutorial discussion. If you attend all tutorials but fail to participate you will receive a failing grade.

Clickers

As a way to maximize student engagement and participation during class, we will be using iClickers. This is a ***free app*** (Western has purchased a university subscription) that can be downloaded on your smart phone, tablet or laptop. There are ***no marks attached*** to the use of iClicker. This is simply a fun way to engage and participate with the class. Please create an iClicker account by visiting <https://www.iclicker.com/>. You can also download the app for your smart devices. Again, this is free and you do not need to purchase anything to use this software. Your participation is voluntary and all responses will be anonymous. The data will not be used for evaluation purposes.

Article Summary

Students will provide a two-page double-spaced summary of one peer-reviewed sociology journal article (a list of suitable articles will be provided by teaching assistants). This summary should include the author(s) main point, whether the article used qualitative or quantitative methods (interviews, focus groups, secondary data analysis etc.), the main findings/results, and what you found interesting about the article. These summaries should demonstrate

that you have read more than just the abstract and have thought about how this article relates to the topics we are discussing in class. More information about the article summary will be provided in class and during tutorials.

How to Contact Me

- In person: during office hours
- By telephone: 519-661-2111 87689
- By email: swaite3@uwo.ca

If you have questions regarding the course, material, readings, assignments or general evaluation please ask during class. There will likely be other students who have the same question. I am typically available for 10 minutes after each class for quick questions. If you have more substantive or private questions please come to my office hours.

Email Etiquette

Your emails to me should be formal. For example, Dear Professor Waite or Dr. Waite; Dear Mr. / Ms. <Teaching Assistant's last name>. I respond to emails within 24 hours but I will not respond to questions where the answer can be found on the course outline. Similarly, I will not respond to questions that require a considerable amount of detail to answer. These are questions that should be asked in class or during office hours. Please consider the following before emailing me (or the teaching assistants):

- Will other students have the same question? If so, ask during class.
- Have I looked for the answer on the course outline?
- Have I looked for the answer on OWL or the posted slideshows?
- Have I asked a fellow student?
- Am I asking a question about material that was covered when I was absent from class? If so, you need to speak with a fellow student. I do not "let you know what you missed" via email.
- Is my question better suited for a face-to-face discussion? For example, if you are asking for my thoughts or to brainstorm ideas. If this is the case, you must come to my office hours.

It's better to talk about complex sociological issues in person; therefore, **I will not respond to questions via email that require a considerable amount of detail to answer.** You must come to my office hours for these questions.

How to Contact Your Teaching Assistants

- TBD
- TBD

How to get important information

Make sure to check the course OWL site regularly for course updates, cancellations, and other course-related postings. You are also responsible for any emails I send to your Western email account. Please be sure that you can receive and access emails from this account.

Important Policies

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 in-text citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence (the [Scholastic Offence Policy](#) can be viewed in the Western Academic Calendar).

Missed Exams

Make-up exams will be granted with approved documentation only. If you have a conflict with one of the exam dates, it is your responsibility to discuss it with the *Academic Counseling office* at least one week before the regularly scheduled exam and provide documentation of the conflict. If approved, you will be allowed to schedule a make-up exam.

If you miss an exam (or assignment due date) due to illness or for any other unforeseen reason, you must provide notification of and documentation for the reasons for your circumstances to your *Academic Counselor* within 48 hours. If your problem is medical in nature, you should be seen by your doctor on the date of the exam or on the date an assignment is due. If your Academic Counselor agrees that your reasons are legitimate and are supported by your medical doctor's documentation, you will be allowed to write a make-up exam (or hand in your assignment at a later date).

Missed Tutorial Quizzes

You cannot make-up missed tutorial quizzes. There will be four quizzes but only three will be counted. In other words, we drop the lowest marked quiz. If you miss a quiz, you will receive zero but this quiz will be dropped for the calculation of your total quiz mark.

Make-up Exams

There will be one makeup date set by the Department for students needing to write a make-up exam (with approved accommodation from your academic counseling office). This makeup exam may or may not be in the same format as the original exam.

If a student misses a make-up exam due to sickness or another documented reason, then the weight of the mid-term will be added to the weight of the final exam. In cases where there is no approved justification for the absence, the student will receive a grade of zero on the exam.

Late Assignments

All assignments are ***due in class***. Late assignments can be emailed to me (swaite3@uwo.ca). If I receive your assignment by email, it is considered late. Only under the rarest of circumstances do I accept none late assignments via email. For each day your assignment is late you will be deducted 1% from the final grade, i.e. 1/10 each day for the article summary. If you are unable to complete your assignment on time because to medical reasons, please see the Academic Counselling for accommodation.

Scantron 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.

Laptops, Phones and Tablets

All types of technology are welcome in my class but **they must not interfere with my lecture or distract other students.** Please note, research suggests students do better when taking notes by hand. If your electronic device distracts me or other another student (Twitter, Facebook, movies, games etc.) you will be asked to put them away and not permitted to use them for the remainder of the class. Cell phones should be turned to silent at the beginning of class.

Recording Devices

No recording devices can be used in class. Some of the topics we discuss may be sensitive. If students choose to share personal stories or experiences they should not worry that they are being recorded. If you require a recording device for medical or other reasons, please see me.

Lectures and Course Materials

Instructor generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions, etc.) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright is an academic offence.

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

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.

Western Campus Resources

Psychological Services WSSB Room 4100 519-661-3031 Mon - Fri 8:30am - 4pm	Wellness Education Centre UCC Room 76 519-661-2111 x.87127 Mon – Fri 10am - 6pm	Peer Support Centre UCC Room 256 Mon – Fri 10am - 4pm	Student Health Services (SHS) UCC Room 11 Mon – Thu 9am-7pm Fri 9am – 4:30pm, some Sat
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Off Campus Resources

Good2Talk, 24/7 phone support	1-866-925-5454
First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line	1-855-242-3310
MentalHealthHelpLine.ca	1-866-531-2600
DrugandAlcoholHelpline.ca	1-800-565-8603
ProblemGamblingHelpine.ca	1-888-230-3505
LGBT Youthline	1-800-268-9688
ReachOut247.ca	519-433-2023 or 1-866-933-2023

Compassionate Grounds

Serious Illness of a Family Member: Inform your instructor as soon as possible and submit a medical certificate from the family member's physician to your home faculty's Academic Counseling office.

In Case of a Death: Inform your instructor as soon as possible and submit a copy of the newspaper notice, death certificate or documentation provided by the funeral director to your home faculty's Academic Counseling office.

Grade Guidelines

The Department of Sociology has grade distribution guidelines that all instructors are required to follow. For Sociology courses at the 1000 level, the number of A's is not to exceed the number of B's, and class means are expected to fall in the range of 66% to 72% with a standard deviation of approximately 10. This means that your final grade depends on your ranking relative to other students.

Disputed Grades

Student who wish to dispute the grading of an assignment must write a one-page explanation and justification for having their work re-evaluated. Work will not be re-evaluated on the basis that students were sick or under stress when writing.

Extraordinary Circumstances

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University or instructor's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

Course Schedule and Readings

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	September 6, 2018	<p>Meet the Nelson representative</p> <p>Course Overview</p> <p>Seeing and Acting Through the Lens of Sociology</p>	<p>Lindsay Shipman outlines the textbook and online options. First two weeks online version for free.</p> <p>Course outline</p> <p>Course outline scavenger hunt</p> <p>Chapter 1</p>
2	September 13, 2018	<p>Applying Sociological Research Methods</p> <p>Tearoom Trade</p>	<p>Chapter 2</p> <p>Humphreys, Laud. 1975. <i>Tearoom Trade: Impersonal sex in public places</i>. New York: Aldene De Gruyter. Chapters 1 and 2.</p>
3	September 20, 2018	<p>“I am Canadian”: What is “Canadian” Culture?</p> <p>Socialization: The Self and Social Identity</p> <p>Concerted Cultivation vs. Natural Growth</p>	<p>Chapter 3</p> <p>Chapter 4</p> <p>Lareau, Annette. 2002. “Invisible Inequality: Social Class and Childrearing in Black Families and White Families.” <i>American Sociological Review</i>. 67.5: 747-776.</p>
4	September 27, 2018	<p>Social Inequality in Canadian Society</p> <p>Nickel and Dimed</p>	<p>Chapter 5</p> <p>Ehrenreich, Barbara. 1999. “Nickel-and-Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America.” <i>Harper Harper’s Magazine</i> January.</p>

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
5	October 4, 2018	Mass Media: Living in the Electronic Age	Chapter 6 Ellison, Nicole, Rebecca Heino, and Jennifer Gibbs. 2006. "Managing Impressions Inline: Self-Presentation Processes in the Online Dating Environment." <i>Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication</i> 11: 415-441.
6	October 11, 2018	Reading Week	Catch-up on readings
7	October 18, 2018	Midterm Examination	Roughly 75 multiple choice questions.
8	October 25, 2018	Sex, Gender, and Sexualities: Deconstructing Dualisms As Nature Made Him. The David Reimer	Chapter 7 Colapinto, John. 2000. <i>As Nature Name Him: The boy who was raised as a girl</i> . Harper Collins. Toronto. Chapter 1
9	November 1, 2018	Race and Ethnicity: Defining Ourselves and Others	Chapter 8
10	November 8, 2018	Article Summaries Due Canadian Families: Past, Present, and Future Learning what is "True": Religion, Science, and Education	Chapter 9 Chapter 10
11	November 15, 2018	Social Control, Deviance and Crime The Saints and the Roughnecks	Chapter 11 Chambliss, William. J. "The Saints and the Roughnecks." <i>Society</i> . 11(1): 24-31.
12	November 22, 2018	Health and Illness: Is it "Lifestyle", or Something More? Social Change: Collective Behaviour and Social Movements	Chapter 12 Chapter 13

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
13	November 29, 2018	“Going Green”: Environmental Sociology Globalization: The Interconnected World	Chapter 14 Chapter 15
14	<i>SCHEDULED BY WESTERN</i>	Final Examination	Roughly one hundred multiple-choice questions.