



**The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 3320F-200**

Youth in Society

Fall 2021

Tuesday 4:30–7:30, SH 3307

Instructor: Dr. Amanda Zavitz

Office Hours: TBA

Department of Sociology, Office: TBA

Email: azavitzg@uwo.ca

Course Description:

This course surveys issues related to the study of the transition to adulthood. Sociological perspectives on the nature and relevance of youth are reviewed, along with historical and cultural variations in coming-of-age socialization contexts, and current institutional influences on the timing and prospects of youth-adult transitions. This course also examines the politics of youth in identity societies as well as the politics of identity. 3 lecture hours, 0.5 course

Prerequisite(s): *Third or fourth year standing in a module in Sociology or Criminology.*

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.

Antirequisite(s): *N/A*

Learning Outcomes:

- understanding the origin and perpetuation of stereotypes about youth
- knowing the difference between critical and conservative approaches
- grasping the connection between institutional re-structuring the transition to adulthood, including the education system, workplace, and family
- developing an appreciation of the risks associated with the transition to adulthood and the role of youth culture and new technologies in the transition
- gaining insights into how consensus is manufactured, especially through popular culture
- understanding the politics of identity development and race as well as gender and sexuality
- acquiring an understanding of how political engagement and public policy could enhance the lives of youth

Required Text(s):

Côté, James (2018). *Youth Development in Identity Societies*. Routledge. ISBN 9781138353312

Method of Evaluation:

Midterm exam: 25% October 19, 2021

Final exam: 25% Final exam period: Date to be announced.

Class Assignments: 30% To be assigned throughout the course.

Essay: 20% Due November 23, 2021

- Please NOTE: Since this is a blended class, I will teach each week in the classroom for approximately two hours and then you will have one hour of work to complete online or at home. This work will be assigned weekly.

Evaluation Breakdown:

Tests: Each test will consist of multiple choice, definitions, fill in the blank and essay questions. The tests are not cumulative in nature.

Essay- This is an essay course. Thus, you are required to write a formal academic essay in this course. Your essay is **DUE Tuesday November 23, 2021**. Late papers will be penalized at 10% per day.

Class assignments- there will be class assignments assigned throughout the term. Some of the assignments will be completed in class, others will be given to take home and complete. These class assignments are “pop” assignments that are meant to encourage class attendance and participation.

How to Contact Me: contact me via email at azavitzg@uwo.ca

I can best be reached via email at azavitzg@uwo.ca. Please email me to set up an appointment or come to see me during my scheduled office hours.

How to get important information:

Important course information will be delivered in class. It is your responsibility to get to class. Please come to class.

Important Policies***Policies for Assignment Deadlines:***

There are no make-up class assignments. You must be in class to receive the assignment and in class to submit the assignment. These “pop” assignments are meant to encourage active participation and regular attendance. Your essay must be submitted at the beginning of class the

day that it is due. All late papers will be penalized ten percent per day and no papers will be accepted a week after the due date.

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).

Policies on Examinations

There are no electronics allowed during examinations. Considerations for make-up examinations will only be made with academic counselling.

“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.”

Found on page 2 of the academic handbook under outlines

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/courseoutlines.pdf

Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class:

Laptops are permitted in class, but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter, they will be told to close the lid and they will not be permitted to use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cell phones are turned off at the beginning of 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: counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/academic_consideration.html.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a *Self-Reported Absence (SRA)* form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the [Senate policy](#) are met. Two important exceptions to this rule: SRAs will NOT be allowed for final

examinations or assessments worth more than 30% of a given course. Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a [Student Medical Certificate](#) (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds) to your Home Faculty Academic Counselling office.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.

www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

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/academics/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 (www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

Please NOTE: This is a blended class; I will teach each week in the classroom for approximately 2 hours and then you will have one hour of work to complete online or at home.

Course Schedule and Readings:

| Date | Topic | Readings/Assignments |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Week 1 September 7, 2021 | Orientation day | Orientation Day |

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| Week 2 September 14, 2021 | Course Introductions Sociological Imagination and Identity Politics | No readings this week |
| Week 3 September 21, 2021 | Part 1: Identity and Purpose in Modern Societies Youth Identity and the Choice Paradox | Chapter 1- The Principal Paradox: Prosperity Without Purpose Chapter 2- From Roles to Identities: The Crisis of Purpose in a Sea of Choice |
| Week 4 September 28, 2021 | Part II: Coming of Age Struggles in Identity Societies The Meaning of Youth in Identity Societies | Chapter 3- Finding Direction and Forming Identities: The Meaning of Purpose and the Purpose of Meaning Chapter 4- Growing Up in Identity Societies: The Cross-Purposes of a Prolonged Youth |
| Week 5 October 5, 2021 | Youth and Higher Education | Chapter 5- The Paradoxes of Universal Higher Education: Students Misdirected by Credentialism |
| Week 6 October 12, 2021 | Reading Week | Reading Week |
| Week 7 October 19, 2021 | Midterm exam | Midterm exam- October 19, 2021, IN CLASS |
| Week 8 October 26, 2021 | Youth and Mental Health | Chapter 6- The Student Mental Health Crisis: The Perfect Storm for Identity Confusion |
| Week 9 November 2, 2021 | Part III: Purpose, Agency, and Generativity: New Forms of Adulthood | Chapter 7- Adulthood in Identity Societies: Agency and Generativity in a Sea of Confusion |
| Week 10 November 9, 2021 | Youth, Gender, Sexuality, and Identity | Readings TBA |

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| Week 11 November 16, 2021 | Youth, Gender, Sexuality, and Identity | Readings TBA |
| Week 12 November 23, 2021 | Youth and Race Identity | Readings TBA Essay DUE- November 23, 2021 IN CLASS |
| Week 13 November 30, 2021 | Youth and Race Identity | Readings TBA |
| Week 14 December 7, 2021 | Youth: A Brave New World | Chapter 8- The Brave New Adult of Identity Societies: A Brave New World? Chapter 9. Conclusion: Purpose as a Mutual Project |
| Week 15 Final exam period | Final exam: Date to be announced | Final exam: Date to be announced |