



The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 1025A-001

Society and You

Fall 2022

Tuesday, 9:30 to 12:30, Room SSC-2050

Delivery Method: In person

Instructor: Sean Waite

Office Hours: Fridays 10:00am to 11:00am

Department of Sociology, Office: SSC 5401

Email: swaite3@uwo.ca

Course Description: The sociological imagination helps us see how society shapes our lives and how we, as individuals, can change society. It also helps us understand the relationship between problems we face as individuals and issues in society as a whole. We focus on three core issues: inequality, institutions, and social change.

Prerequisite(s): None

Anti-requisite(s): Sociology 1020, Sociology 1020W/X, Sociology 1021E

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

This course provides a foundational knowledge in the sociological theory, concepts and methods used by sociologists for studying the social world. In particular, students will:

- Use their sociological imaginations to demonstrate an understanding of the relationships between social structure and individual agency.
- Explain and apply core sociological terms, concepts, and theories.
- Understand the methodological tools used by sociologists to study the social world.
- Understand dimensions of social inequality in our society.
- Develop critical thinking, research, and writing skills.

Course Material:

1. Steckley, John. 2020. *Elements of Sociology*, 5th Edition. Oxford University Press, Don Mills Ontario.
2. Additional articles and/or book chapters listed on detailed reading list.

Communication: Office hours: Fridays 10am to 11am (SSC 5401). Email: swaite3@uwo.ca. Email is not suitable for questions requiring considerable exposition. These questions are suited for in-person exchange during office hours. Office hours are drop-in and first come, first serve. Students are responsible for checking the course OWL site (<http://owl.uwo.ca>) on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class.

Method of Evaluation:

The evaluation methods described in the course outline are essential requirements for the course.

Midterm examination	October 25, 2022	40%
Article summary	November 22, 2022	15%
Final Examination	Exam period	45%

Article Summary

Students will summarize a peer-reviewed sociology journal article (a list of articles will be provided in OWL). Article summaries are between **two and three double-spaced pages**. The summary should include the author(s) main point(s), whether the article used qualitative or quantitative methods, the specific methodology used (secondary data, semi-structured interviews, content analysis etc.), the main findings/results, and what you found interesting about the article, and why? Students must include a references page and use American Sociological Association (ASA) referencing style. This assignment is due in class.

Midterm / Final Examination

The examinations will consist of roughly 75 (midterm) and 100 (final) multiple-choice questions. The midterm will be written in class. The final examination will be written during the final exam period, with the date and location determined by the registrar's office. The final exam will be ***cumulative*** but there will be a far greater focus on material from the second half of the course. No electronic devices, books, cheat sheets, dictionaries or aids are permitted during the examination.

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.

Student Absences:

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to **illness** or other serious circumstances, please follow the procedures below.

Assessments worth 10% or more of the overall course grade

For work totaling 10% or more of the final course grade, students must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to their Home Faculty Academic Counselling Office as soon as possible.

Late assignments with accommodation

Any student receiving academic accommodation for an assignment will receive an extension. Students receiving academic accommodation for an exam will write a Special Exam, typically scheduled by the Department of Sociology. See 'absences from final examinations' below.

Late assignments without accommodation

Any assignment submitted after the deadline, without academic accommodation, will receive an automatic 10% penalty. If an assignment is submitted more than one full week late, an additional 10% penalty will apply.

Absences from final examinations

Students must provide valid medical or supporting documentation to their Home Faculty Academic Counselling Office as soon as possible. Academic Counselling will determine eligibility to write a Special Examination.

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a "Multiple Exam Situation" (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period). If you have a conflict with an exam dates, it is your responsibility to discuss it with Academic Counseling as soon as possible, but no later than one week before the regularly scheduled exam and provide documentation of the conflict.

Course professor or teaching assistant(s) may not be available to respond to questions during the Special Examination. Students should be aware that the make-up test will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test.

Department make-up exam dates: Friday November 11, 2022, 12pm to 3pm. Location TBA
Friday January 13, 2022, 12pm to 3pm. Location TBA

If a student misses a Special Exam due to sickness or another reason documented with the Academic Counselling Office, then the weight of the mid-term will be added to the weight of the final exam.

Note: missed work can *only* be excused through one of the mechanisms above. Being asked not to attend an in-person course requirement due to potential COVID-19 symptoms is **not** sufficient on its own. Students should check the Western website to see what directives for Covid are to be followed. Western has been and will continue to follow directives established by the Middlesex-London Health Unit. That directive will state whether students should or should not come to campus/class and any other requirements (e.g., masks are mandatory). Please check on your own and do not email the instructor, the Department Undergraduate Advisor/Coordinator or the Faculty of Social Science Academic Counselling Office.

Contingency plan for an in-person class pivoting to 100% online learning:

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, affected course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Important Policies

Recording devices are not permitted 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.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work: Students must provide valid medical or supporting documentation in order to receive accommodation for missed work worth 10% or more of the final grade in the course. All required documentation for absences must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty. Individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds or for other reasons.

Western's policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf. The student medical certificate is available at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Religious Accommodation: When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request accommodation for their absence in writing at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the course instructor and the Academic Counselling office of their Faculty of Registration. Please consult University's list of recognized religious holidays (updated annually) at <https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>.

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.

Accessibility Options: Students with disabilities or accessibility challenges should work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html), which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). 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: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

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.

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 (<https://www.turnitin.com/>).

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

Please visit the Social Science Academic Counselling webpage for information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters: [Academic Counselling - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#).

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.