



The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 3320F- 001

“Youth and Society”

Fall 2022

Tuesday 9:30-12:30, UC 1225

In person delivery

Instructor: Dr. Amanda Zavitz

Office Hours: Tuesdays 12:30-1:30 pm

Department of Sociology, Office: SSC 5209

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): Registration in third year of above.

Unless you have either the prerequisites 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.

Anti-requisite(s): None

Course Objectives and 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

Course Material:

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

Communication:

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL site (<http://owl.uwo.ca>) on a regular basis for news and updates. Students are also responsible for coming to class, 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 exam: 25% October 18, 2022 (in class exam)

Final exam: 25% Final exam period: date to be announced (in person exam, during final December exam period)

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.

Students with **an approved absence** from an in-class test or exam will be required to write a makeup exam. Course professor or teaching assistant(s) may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup exam. 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.

Class Assignments: 30% To be assigned throughout the course. (Submit in the drop box before class). I will assign 6 assignments and the top 5 will count towards the final grade in the class. Late assignments will receive a 10% late penalty.

Essay: 20% Due November 22, 2022 (submit in the drop box before class). The essay should be approximately 5-7 pages and 3000 words. Essays must be submitted to the OWL dropbox and printed to submit in class.

Course Conditions:

To pass this course: you should plan to attend lectures. Lecture materials are not cited directly from the text and will not be posted on OWL for review.

Students **MUST** attend 80% of lectures.

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.

Fall 2022:

Thursday September 8, 2022: Fall Term classes begin.

September 16, 2022: Last day to add a full course, a first-term half course, a first-term full course, or a full-year half course on campus and Distance Studies

Monday October 10, 2022: Thanksgiving Holiday.

October 31 - November 6, 2022: Fall Reading Week.

November 12, 2022: Last day to drop a first-term half course without academic penalty

Thursday December 8, 2022: Fall Term classes end.

December 10-22, 2022: Examination period.

Department Makeup exams:

- Midterm; Friday November 11 12:00-3:00pm Location TBA
- Final: Friday January 13th 12:00-3:00pm Location TBA

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.

Students who have documentable absences will be able to make-up assignments or tests, but they may be different than the original assignment or test.

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 (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

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).

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.

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Course Schedule and Readings:

Date	Topic	Readings/Assignments
Week 1 September 13, 2022	Course Introductions Sociological Imagination and Identity Politics	No readings this week Assignment #1 C.W Mills, the Promise
Week 2 September 20, 2022	Sociological Theory and Youth	Assignment #2
Week 3 September 27, 2022	Part 1: Identity and Purpose in Modern Societies	The Meaning of Youth in Identity Societies

	Youth Identity and the Choice Paradox	Chapter 1- The Principal Paradox: Prosperity Without Purpose
Week 4 October 4, 2022	Youth Identity and the Choice Paradox	Part II: Coming of Age Struggles in Identity Societies Chapter 2- From Roles to Identities: The Crisis of Purpose in a Sea of Choice Assignment #3
Week 5 October 11, 2022	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 6 October 18, 2022	Midterm exam	Midterm exam- October 18, 2022, IN CLASS
Week 7 October 27, 2022	Youth and Education	Chapter 5- The Paradoxes of Universal Higher Education: Students Misdirected by Credentialism
October 31- November 6, 2022	Fall Reading week	Fall Reading week
Week 8 November 8, 2022	Youth and Mental Illness	Chapter 6- The Student Mental Health Crisis: The Perfect Storm for Identity Confusion
Week 9 November 15, 2022	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 22, 2022	Youth, Gender, Sexuality, and Identity	Readings TBA
Week 11 November 29, 2022	Youth and Race Identity	Readings TBA Essay DUE- November 22, 2022, IN CLASS

Week 12 December 6, 2022	The Brave New Youth	Chapter 8- The Brave New Adult of Identity Societies: A Brave New World? Chapter 9. Conclusion: Purpose as a Mutual Project
Final exam Period December 10-22, 2022	Final examination	Final Exam- date TBA

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Important Policies

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 https://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.