



Sociology 1027B-001

Life is not Always Fair

Winter 2024

Delivery Method: In-Person

Course Instructor	Contact Information
Dr. Julie McMullin	mcmullin@uwo.ca

This is a DRAFT only. Please see the course site for the final version.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This introductory course challenges commonly held assumptions about individual success, talent and merit. Students will be introduced to underlying patterns and important debates about the nature of power and inequality, and how they shape issues such as work, family, education, the economy, and the pursuit of justice.

Anti-requisite(s): [Sociology 1020](#), [Sociology 1020W/X](#), [Sociology 1021E](#).

Prerequisite(s): None

Course Weight: 0.50

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Begin to understand how to think like a sociologist.
- Apply sociological explanations to different aspects of social

- inequality.
- Understand and explain foundational concepts in sociology.
 - Begin to understand different methodological approaches.
 - Understand and explain different theoretical approaches in sociology.
 - Begin to develop critical thinking, research, and writing skills.

TEXTBOOK AND OTHER RESOURCES

TBA

Print and e-book versions of the text are available at the bookstore.

Additional course material (e.g., videos, readings) will be posted on the OWL site.

COMMUNICATION

The best way to reach the teaching team is through email. My email and the Teaching Assistants emails will be posted to OWL.

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.

COURSE CONTENT AND SCHEDULE

Students should check the course OWL site frequently to access the online lessons, course material, and for key deadlines. Students are responsible for checking the OWL site on the morning of each class to determine whether the class will need to be conducted online.

Week	Dates 2024	Topics/Readings	Activity/Deadlines
1	Jan. 9	<i>Introduction and Course Overview</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the syllabus • Complete the online lessons • Complete getting to know you survey
2	Jan. 16	<i>Thinking Like a Sociologist</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the readings • Complete the online lessons
3	Jan. 23	<i>Research Methods</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the readings • Complete the online lessons
4	Jan. 30	<i>What is Culture and why do we care?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the readings • Complete the online lessons
5	Feb. 6	<i>In-class TEST</i> <i>What is socialization?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the readings • Complete the online lessons
6	Feb. 13	<i>Social Construction of Deviance</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the readings • Complete the online lessons
7	Feb. 20	READING WEEK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rest and get caught up on readings and study for the mid-term
8	Feb. 27	Mid-term Exam Multiple Choice Examination held during the first 1.5 hours of class.	

9	Mar. 5	<i>Social Class and Inequality</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the readings • Complete the online lessons
10	Mar. 12	<i>Gender</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the readings • Complete the online lessons
11	Mar. 19	<i>Race and Ethnicity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the readings • Complete the online lessons
12	Mar. 26	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the readings • Complete the online lessons
13	April 2	Families and Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the readings • Complete the online lessons

ONLINE LESSONS

This course requires students to complete online lessons.

Answering the questions in the online lessons is required and will be evaluated as part of your participation grade.

These lessons and other course material are available on OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL. If you need assistance, support is available on the [OWL help page](#).

METHOD OF EVALUATION

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

Students are expected to attend all classes and to come to class prepared to critically discuss the readings and other course material.

Evaluation Component	Brief Description	Due Date	Percentage of Grade
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Participation	Attend class; complete critical writing assignments; discuss critical writing assignments in class; actively participate in group work Attendance will be taken using Iclicker.	On-going	30%
Test	Multiple Choice Held during the first 45 mins of class. There will be a lecture after the test	February 6	15%
Mid-term	Multiple Choice Examination held during the first 2 hours of class. There will not be a lecture after the mid-term.	February 27	25%
Final	Multiple Choice Examination (3 hour) Location TBA	April Exam Period	30%

Additional Test/Examination Information

No electronic devices will be allowed during the examinations.

Students with an approved absence from an in-class test/exam will be required to write a makeup exam. The 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 exam will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original exam.

The test and exams will be computer-marked. 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.

Student Absences/Academic Consideration for Missed Work

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

Assessments worth less than 10% of the overall course grade:

N/A

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. If your absence is excused, you will be able to write a make-up test or examination.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Please review the Department of Sociology "[Important Academic Policies](https://sociology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/courses/Academic_Policies.pdf)" document https://sociology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/courses/Academic_Policies.pdf for additional information regarding:

- Scholastic Offences
- Plagiarism
- Copyright
- Academic Accommodation
- Accessibility Options
- Mental Health

IMPORTANT DATES

Please refer to the [Western's academic calendar](#) for important dates.

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.

2023-2024