



The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 2279A-001

Unequal Cities

Fall 2023

Delivery Method: In-person

Instructor: Dr. Lora A. Phillips

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Course Description: This course examines inequality by exploring how it occurs across cities and how different social groups experience cities unequally by examining class, race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender, and sexuality. It also examines how urban social problems, such as poverty, homelessness or gentrification reflect and generate urban inequality.

Prerequisite(s): None

Anti-requisite(s): None

Communication:

Office hours: Tuesdays from 12:30pm to 1:30pm or by appointment (SSC 5401). Email: lphill33@uwo.ca. Emails received after normal business hours (i.e., 8:30am to 4pm) may not be replied to until the next business day, and students should plan accordingly ahead of evaluation dates. Additionally, 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 24, 2023	35%
Apply It!	Throughout term*	30%
Final Examination	Exam period	35%

*See below for additional information regarding due dates and grading.

Midterm and Final Exam

This course will consist of two examinations (midterm and final). 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. 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 both assigned readings and in-person instruction. No electronic devices, books, cheat sheets, dictionaries or aids are permitted during the examination.

Apply It!

Students will select **three (3)** Apply It! options. These assignments may be submitted early; however, they must be submitted by their respective due dates (see below). Submissions are worth **10% each** of the final grade, thus totaling 30% of the final grade for Apply It! evaluations. If students elect to complete all four Apply It! options, the submission with the lowest grade will be dropped.

Apply It! Option 1: **Due** Tuesday, October 3, by 9:30am, for materials covered in Weeks 1 – 3

Apply It! Option 2: **Due** Tuesday, October 24, by 9:30am, for materials covered in Weeks 4 – 6

Apply It! Option 3: **Due** Tuesday, November 21, by 9:30am, for materials covered in Weeks 9 – 10

Apply It! Option 4: **Due** Tuesday, December 5, by 9:30am, for materials covered in Weeks 11 – 12

Students are expected to select a course concept and (a) thoroughly and accurately define, summarize, and explain that concept (based on course lecture and readings), and (b) thoroughly and accurately apply that concept to a real-world scenario. Responses should be **at least one page, double-spaced**, and include **at least two separate paragraphs**. Students are free to use a wide range of application material, including their own direct observation of the world, news articles, podcasts, videos, or social media postings. If students elect to use materials beyond their own direct observation, these materials **must** be publicly available. Students must also include a references page and use American Sociological Association (ASA) referencing style, and this references page **does not** count toward the assignment length requirement. Assignments will be submitted online.

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 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 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.

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.

Academic Policies:

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 infringement of copyright is an academic offence.

Recording Lectures

Recording lectures is not permitted. 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.

Electronic Devices

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 another student, you will be asked to put it 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.

Extra Credit

Extra credit will be offered at my discretion. In the rare event that extra credit is offered, it will never be offered on an individual basis; all extra credit opportunities will be offered to the entire class.

Additional Important Policies

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

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