



The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 1025A-001

Society and You
Fall 2024

Delivery Method: In-person

Instructor: Dr. Lora A. Phillips

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

Course Description: This course introduces the sociological imagination to help understand how underlying social forces shape our lives and how we, as individuals, can change society. The course explores key social problems, and how they shape our life courses and shift the demographic makeup of our society.

Prerequisite(s): None.

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

Communication:

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL Brightspace site (<https://westernu.brightspace.com/d2l/login>) 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.

Email

All emails should be sent to the course email address: **soc1025f2024@gmail.com**. Emails received outside of normal business hours (i.e., 9am to 4pm, Monday through Friday) 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

Office hours are drop-in and first come, first serve. All students are welcome to attend the office hours held by Dr. Phillips, which occur on Mondays from 12pm to 1pm or by appointment (SSC 5401). Teaching Assistants will also hold weekly office hours, to be posted on OWL.

Method of Evaluation:

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

Midterm	October 21, 2024	35%
Attendance/Participation	Throughout term*	10%
Apply It! Essay	November 18, 2024	20%
Final	Exam period	35%

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

Attendance/Participation

In-class attendance is vital to your success in this course. The assigned readings serve as a common point of reference for establishing your knowledge and understanding; lectures are designed to provide you with tools and explanations for solidifying your grasp of the material. You will need both in order to successfully pass the exams.

To incentivize your engagement in this vital aspect of the course, there will be numerous **in-class activities** during each class period that lecture occurs, totaling nine (9) weeks. To receive participation marks, a student must complete **at least 50%** of the in-class activities administered during a given week. The activities will be administered and marked using iClicker.

Students are permitted to miss up to two (2) weeks of attendance/participation without penalty. If a student misses more than two (2) weeks of attendance/participation, they will receive a grade of zero on each additional missed week. If a student attending class experiences a technological issue with iClicker that prevents them from completing a reading check, the student **must** speak to the instructor prior to the end of the same class period. No other academic consideration will be granted for missed reading checks.

Midterm

The midterm will be administered **during the first 90 minutes of class on October 21**. The test will consist of 90 questions, predominantly in a multiple-choice format (with four response options per question). The Midterm may also contain true or false questions, not to exceed one-fourth of all questions. Course material from Weeks 1-5 will be eligible for testing, with 70% of questions coming from lectures and 30% of questions coming from readings. No electronic devices, books, cheat sheets, dictionaries or aids are permitted during the examination.

Per university policy on academic considerations (found [here](#)), requests for academic consideration related to the midterm **must** follow the procedures enumerated in the Student Absences section of this syllabus. Instructors are permitted to designate one assessment, per course, per term as requiring supporting documentation to receive academic consideration. For this course, the Midterm has been designated **as requiring supporting documentation**. Students with an approved absence from the Midterm will be required to write a makeup exam during the departmental Midterm make-up exam period (location and date TBD).

Final

The final will be administered **during the Final Exam period**, with the date and location determined by the registrar's office. Students will have 90 minutes to answer 90 questions, predominantly in a multiple-choice format (with four response options per question); however, the exam may also contain true or false questions, not to exceed one-fourth of all questions. The Final will be cumulative, but there will be a greater focus on material covered after the Midterm, with 70% of questions coming from lectures and 30% of questions coming from readings. No electronic devices, books, cheat sheets, dictionaries or aids are permitted during the examination.

Per university policy on academic considerations (found [here](#)), requests for academic consideration related to the midterm **must** follow the procedures enumerated in the Student Absences section of this syllabus. Please note that: “Requests for examinations scheduled by the Office of the Registrar during official examination periods . . . **ALWAYS** require formal supporting documentation.” Students with an approved absence from the Final will be required to write a makeup exam during the departmental Final make-up exam period (location and date TBD).

Apply It! Essay

The Apply It! Essay requires students to select a **minimum of two (2)** course concepts and (a) thoroughly and accurately define, summarize, and explain those concepts (based on course lecture and readings), and (b) thoroughly and accurately apply those concepts to **observations made by the student on the Western campus this term**. If a student chooses to select more than the minimum required course concepts, the two (2) with the strongest summary and application will be marked. Typed responses should be between two and three (2-3) double-spaced pages, using 12-point font, with one-inch margins and standard line and paragraph spacing. 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 must be submitted via OWL Brightspace in either Microsoft Word or .pdf format.

Students are expected to submit the Apply It! Essay on **Monday, November 18, 2024, by 1:30pm**. Early submissions are encouraged. Should illness or extenuating circumstances arise, students are permitted to submit their assignment up to 72 hours past the deadline without academic penalty. Should students submit their assessment beyond 72 hours past the deadline, a late penalty of five percent (5%) per day will be subtracted from the assessed grade, beginning after the 72 hours grace period. As flexible deadlines are used in this course, requests for academic consideration will not be granted.

Student Absences:

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

University policy on academic considerations are described [here](#). This policy requires that all requests for academic considerations must be accompanied by a self-attestation. Further information about academic considerations, and information about submitting this self-attestation with your academic consideration request may be found here. Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline.

Students must familiarize themselves with the [Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#). Students missing course work for medical, compassionate or extenuating circumstances can request academic consideration by completing a request at the central academic consideration portal. Students are permitted one academic consideration request per course per term without supporting documentation. Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g. December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests typically schedule during the last week of the term. Students should also note that the instructor may designate one assessment per course per term that requires supporting documentation. This designated assessment is described elsewhere in this document. Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor of this course, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course outline. Supporting documentation for

academic considerations for absences due to illness should use the [Student Medical Certificate](#) or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation by a health care practitioner.

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:

Artificial Intelligence

All assignments must be completed independently, without the aid of artificial intelligence (AI).

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
- Course Selection
- Absence from Course Commitments
- Missed Tests and Exams
- Religious Accommodations
- Accessibility Options
- Mental Health
- Gender-Based and Sexual Violence statement