



The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 3341F-001
The Social Construction of Gender
Fall 2024

Delivery Method - In-person

Instructor: Dr. Lina Sunseri

Office Hours: by appointment

Department of Sociology

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

Course Description: The course will consider the ways in which our view of gender has changed from one that saw gender as an attribute of individuals to one that sees gender as a social construction that shapes social life. Implications of this change for gender inequality will also be explored.

Prerequisite(s): Registration in third year or above.

Unless you have either the prerequisites or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in the course, 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:

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- *Analyze how gender interacts with race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, and other dimensions of identity.
- *Examine the nature and content of gender inequality, particularly in North American societies.
- *Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of varying theories of gender development and feminist theories.
- *Demonstrate competency in oral and written communication skills.

Course Material:

The following texts are required and can be purchased at the Western's Bookstore.

1. Michael S. Kimmel & Jacqueline Holler. *The Gendered Society*. Second Canadian Edition. Oxford University Press. 2017.
2. Amy Kaler (ed.). *Gender in Society Reader*. Oxford University Press. 2022.

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.

Students are responsible for attending classes, read weekly assigned material ahead of class, and to actively participate in class discussions/activities. If you missed a class, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor and/or a classmate to enquire what you missed (for example, any videos shown in class).

Emails should be professionally prepared, spell and grammar-checked and must be written from your UWO account.

Method of Evaluation:

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

Midterm Examination October 10th, 2024. From 9:30-11:30 am. In-person during our regular class time in our classroom location. Worth 30% of final mark. No electronic devices allowed during examination.

The midterm exam will cover all course readings, lectures, and any videos covered from first class until October 10th 2024. It will be a mixed format, constituting of multiple-choice questions and two short essay questions.

Instructors are permitted to designate one assessment per course per term as requiring supporting documentation to receive academic consideration. For this course the following assessment has been designated as requiring supporting documentation: MIDTERM EXAMINATION HELD ON OCTOBER 10TH 2024 FROM 9:30-11:30 AM IN-PERSON, WORTH 30% OF FINAL MARK.

Final Exam: TBA. Worth 35% of final mark. Two-hour exam. It will be held in-person during final examination period. It will be a cumulative exam, covering all course material. It will be a mixed format, constituting of defining and explaining key concepts and one long essay question. No electronic devices allowed during examination.

Essay Assignment: Due November 21, 2024th. To be submitted on online on OWL as a Word document. Worth 35% of final mark. It must be double-spaced, of a minimum 2500 words count (approximately 10 pages), 11-font size, plus additional bibliography page and title page. More details on essay instructions, topics, and guidelines will be distributed to the class at beginning of term, on OWL.

Please note that this is an essay-designated course. As per Western academic regulations as set out in the Academic Calendar, for a student to pass a designated course (an E, F, or G course) they must demonstrate competence in essay writing. That is, to pass this course, you **must** pass the essay component.

Students are expected to submit the assignment by the deadline listed above. 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 5% per day will be subtracted from the assessed grade. As flexible deadlines are used in this course, requests for academic consideration will not be granted. Students with an Accessible Education Plan who require additional supports are encouraged to speak with their instructor.

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.

Course Schedule and Readings:

Weekly course schedule and readings will be posted in the final version of the course outline on OWL.

Artificial Intelligence:

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

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

2024-2025