



The University of Western Ontario
SOCIOLOGY 3320G- 001
Youth and Society
Summer 2024
Delivery Method - Online

Instructor: Alyssa Holden

Office Hours: Tuesday's from 2-3pm, over Zoom

Department of Sociology

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

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.

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:

Gain sociological understanding of the social processes behind identity making

Engage critically with sociological theories to investigate youth social issues such as education, employment, and mental health

Understanding of how identities are produced within systems of power and inequality

Explain how social structures, institutions, and culture influence youth experiences

Critically examine neoliberal policies that have impacted youth trajectories

Critically apply knowledge to deconstruct stereotypes about youth

Analyze how social, economic, and cultural factors impact youth's transitional period from adolescence to adulthood

Course Material:

For this course, we will use the textbook “Youth Development in Identity Societies: Paradoxes of Purpose”, which is available to students for free online, using the Western Library system. Additional academic articles will also be posted to the course site.

Cote, J.E. (2018). Youth Development in Identity Societies: Paradoxes of Purpose (1st ed.). Routledge.

Communication:

Students are responsible for checking the course Brightspace site 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.

If students have any difficulties with accessing or understanding course materials, they should email Professor Alyssa Holden at aholden5@uwo.ca It is essential that students communicate any issues ASAP. Emails will receive a response within 24 hours.

Method of Evaluation:

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

Exams: 50%

Two exams, one midterm and one during the final exam period. Exams will take place online using OWL BrightSpace. Students will be given a 24-hour period in which to complete the exam online.

Exams will be a mix of multiple choice questions, as well as some short answer and essay questions. Students will have 2 hours to complete the exam. As exams are online, they will be open-book.

Midterm exam (20%): Tuesday, July 9th

Final exam (30%): Tuesday July 30th

Class Assignments (25%): Due throughout the semester

5 assignments will be assigned throughout the semester. Assignments will include reflections on course materials, as well as assignments that will help students prepare for the final essay. More details about the assignments will be provided on the course site. Students may drop the lowest grade out of the 5 assignments. Late assignments will receive a penalty of 10% per day.

Essay (25%): Due July 23rd

Students will write a 2,500-word essay. More details about the essay will be provided on the course site. To successfully pass the course, students must complete the essay component. Essays must be submitted to OWL before July 23rd at 11:59pm. Essays will be subject to plagiarism review by Turnitin.com

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 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:

Please see OWL for the course schedule and readings

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