The University of Western Ontario

Department of Sociology

SOCIOLOGY 3314F-001

Family and Work

Fall 2026

Delivery Method –In-Person

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

Course Description: A study of changes in family and work, and their interrelationship. The focus is on paid and unpaid work, its division by gender, and the accommodation made by families, workplaces and social policy in terms of the needs to earn a living and care for family members. This course examines the sociological relationship between family and work through a comparative global lens. The first half of the course focuses on the Global South, exploring how uneven development, informal economies, gender relations, migration, and global capitalism shape family life and labour arrangements in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The second half focuses on the Global North, examining transformations in family structures, labour markets, welfare states, care regimes, gender relations, and contemporary work arrangements in North America, Europe, and other advanced industrial societies.

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

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

Upon successful completion of this course, students should:

- Demonstrate a sociological understanding of dominant theories, policies, trends, and issues pertaining to the family and work.
- Understand and evaluate empirical approaches to examining the family and work.
- Comprehend family-work relationships between Global South and Global North contexts.
- Work independently and collaboratively to synthesize, analyze, and evaluate theoretical perspectives, empirical debates, and key concepts in published research.
- Apply course knowledge while engaging in critical scholarly discussions to analyze how social structures, institutions, policies, and processes shape the family and work.

Lecture format:

- **Lectures** with a combination of activities, including YouTube videos, documentaries, case studies, group discussions, among others.
    - 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm: Lecture
    - 4:10 pm - 5:10 pm: Class Discussions/Group Discussion

Course Material:

All other course materials can be downloaded from scholar.google.com or www.lib.uwo.ca. Note that I will also bring additional news articles that will be of relevance to the topics.

Communication:

Students are responsible for checking the course Bright Space site on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students enrolled in the course. The best way to reach the instructor will be via e-mail (skutor@uwo.ca). Please allow 24 hours during the week and 72 hours during weekends. You must provide your full name and the purpose of your email. If these are not included, I will not respond. Your message to

your professor is a formal correspondence and not to be written as a social media message. Office hours are by appointment only via Zoom.

Expectations and Criteria for Success:

Follow the strategies below if you intend to complete this class with a strong and stress-free grade:

- Be active in your own learning.
- Read ahead and complete all assignments on time. Late assignments would attract a penalty.
- Ask relevant questions and make use of office hours if you need extra help. The instructor will not be able to help you with your course requirements unless you inform him of your circumstances.
- Do not plagiarize.

Method of Evaluation:

The evaluation methods described in the course outline are essential requirements for the course. The final grades for this course will be awarded based on the following:

Evaluation Components	**Percentage of Course Grade**	**Due Date**
Class Participation	10%	Entire Semester
Weekly Reflection: • **My Thinking Changed?**	20%	
Assignment 1 • **Take-Home Essay**	20%	
Mid-Term Exam	20%	
Final Exam	30%	

Class Participation: (10%)

Participation is an important aspect of this course. Student **must** fill out the weekly participation sheet. There is no set amount the student needs to speak to receive a good grade. Nevertheless, active listening is an important element of participation. If a student seeks to dominate class discussion, I reserve the right not to call on the student when they raise their hand. The student will earn no marks for irrelevant points. To get the full mark you need to attend and actively participate in 10/12 classes, excluding reading week and mid-term exam week.

Weekly Reflection (20%): My Thinking Changed?

Prompt: Before completing the week's reading, **what did you believe about this topic?**

After the reading:

- What idea challenged your assumptions?
- Which author influenced your thinking the most?
- What remains confusing or unresolved?
- What evidence from the reading changed (or failed to change) your opinion?

Write a 450-word reflection note on these issues.

Due: Every Wednesday at 11: 59 PM.

Assignment 1 (20%): Take-Home Essay

Detail instructions will be provided.

Due: October 08, 2026

Mid-Term Exam (20%)

The midterm will take place in the classroom for two-half hours. It will cover material from weeks 1- 5 and including lectures and readings. It will be **one long-essay question and 5 short answer questions**. This is a paper and pen exam. Please remember to bring your own pen to the exam. This is a closed book exam, and no electronic aids are permitted.

Tentative Date: **Thursday, October 22, 2026**

Final Exam: (30%)

The final exam will be the same format as the midterm but longer (**one long-essay question and 10 short answer questions**). It will cover materials from week 1 to 12. It will be in person and will be **three hours**.
Location and date. TBD

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI):

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

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Department of Sociology
Effective September 1, 2026.

Academic Policies

Scholastic Offences: Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the Scholastic Offences Policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_offences.pdf .

Plagiarism: Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and Turnitin.com

Students are expected to retain all research notes, rough drafts, essay outlines, and other materials used in preparing assignments. In the unlikely event of concerns being raised about the authenticity of any assignment, your instructor may ask you to produce these materials; an inability to do so may weigh heavily against you.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Prior to any examination, students must turn their cellphones off and store them in their bags/coat at the front of the room. The use (or possession) of cellphones or other communications technologies during examinations is strictly prohibited. Those caught using a cell phone or other communication technologies, or even the physical possession of these technologies during an examination, will result in a zero on the examination in question. Similarly, the use (or possession) of these technologies during examination breaks (bathroom breaks during an exam) will also result in a zero. Intent does not matter. Forgetting to put away your cellphone or other communication technologies, whether during the examination or on examination breaks (bathroom breaks), are not justifications. It will result in a zero on the examination in question. In sum, your cellphones should never be seen or heard during an examination and should always be stored in your bags/coats at the front of the room.

Copyright: Students may not record or distribute any class activity, including conversations during office hours, without written permission from the instructor, except as necessary as part of approved accommodations for students with disabilities. Any approved recordings may only be used for the student's own private use.

Code of Student Conduct: Every student is expected to comply with the provisions of the Code of Student Conduct. Sanctions for non-compliance range from a warning or reprimand to expulsion from the University. It is the responsibility of every student to read the Code and familiarize themselves with its contents. The Code is available at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/code_of_conduct.pdf .

Student Responsibility: Students in a degree program must select courses in accordance with the published requirements. Students are responsible for ensuring that their selection of courses is appropriate and accurately recorded. Students must ensure course prerequisites have been completed successfully or special permission from the Dean is obtained. Students who fail to so do will be removed from the course without adjustments to fees. The decision may not be appealed.

Student Responsibility for Course Selection:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/general/academic_counselling.pdf

Registration and Progression:
https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/registration_progression_grad/registration_progression.pdf

Graduation Requirememts:
https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/registration_progression_grad/graduation.pdf

Absence from Course Commitments: Students must familiarize themselves with the Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf.

Students missing regularly scheduled course work for medical, compassionate or extenuating circumstances can request academic consideration by completing a request using the Student Absence Portal (SAP) https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html. 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 scheduled 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 in the course outline. Supporting documentation for academic considerations for absences due to illness must include the completed Western Student Medical Certificate (SMC) https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/pdfs/student-medical certificate.pdf or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation by a health care practitioner. Students must request academic consideration as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

Procedure on makeup assessments for Social Science students and for courses offered by the Faculty of Social Science (Effective September 1, 2026):

If academic consideration is granted, students should consult the course outline for information regarding how the missed assessment will be addressed and follow any instructions provided by the instructor. At the instructor's discretion, the weight of a missed test/quiz or mid-term may be transferred to another assessment in the course, including the final exam, rather than requiring a makeup assessment. Reweighting is not available for missed final exams.

Students are entitled to **one makeup assessment opportunity** for a missed test/quiz, mid-term, or final exam supported by approved academic consideration. **No additional makeup opportunities will be provided**. Makeup assessments represent the final opportunity to complete a missed course assessment. The course instructor or teaching assistant(s) may not be available to respond to questions during the makeup text/exam. Students should be aware that the make-up test/exam will not necessarily be in the same format, be of the same duration, or cover the same material as the original test/exam.

What happens if I miss a makeup assessment as a Social Science student or in a course offered by the Faculty of Social Science?

Students who miss a makeup assessment are not eligible for an additional makeup opportunity. Depending on their circumstances, they may:

1. Remain enrolled in the course and accept a grade of zero on the missed makeup assessment. Students should consult the course outline and calculate whether they can still achieve a passing grade in the course.
2. Withdraw from the course through Student Center before the published drop deadline. A course dropped before the deadline will result in a withdrawal (WDN) without academic penalty. Part-time students should consult the Registrar's Office refund schedule to determine whether a tuition refund is available. Students enrolled full-time in 4.0-5.0 courses are generally not eligible for tuition refunds when a course is dropped.
3. If the published drop deadline has passed and the missed makeup assessment is supported by appropriate documentation, students may submit their documentation through the Student Absence Portal to request a **WDN (withdrawal without academic penalty)**. Approval is not automatic and remains subject to Faculty review. Requests for a second makeup assessment will not be considered.

Students are encouraged to carefully consider their ability to complete a makeup assessment as scheduled, as no further opportunities to complete the missed work will be available.

Note: missed work can only be excused through one of the mechanisms above. Being asked not to attend an in-person course requirement due to potential COVID-19 symptoms is not sufficient on its own. Students should check the Western website to see what directives for Covid are to be followed. Western has been and will continue to follow directives established by the Middlesex-London Health Unit. That directive will state whether students should or should not come to campus/class and any other requirements (e.g., masks are mandatory). Please check on your own and do not email the instructor, the Department Undergraduate Advisor/Coordinator or the Faculty Academic Advising Office.

Contingency plan for an in-person class pivoting to 100% online learning: In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, affected course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL Brightspace for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Guidelines for Grades/Marks:

The Department of Sociology has grade distribution guidelines that all instructors are expected to follow. Generally, and with few exceptions, this means that the number of A's in a course cannot exceed the number of B's, and class means are expected to fall within a prescribed percentage range. This means that your final grade depends on your ranking relative to your peers. Courses with grades falling outside this range may be adjusted, up or down. These guidelines do not prohibit a student achieving 95% or higher in all their courses, but it does mean that an entire course cannot be made up of students receiving 95%. This policy combats grade inflation, contributing to higher standards, and ensuring uniformity across all courses of the same level. Motivated and hard-working students receive grades well above the course averages. The use of grade guidelines, including any adjustments of grades, either up or down for this purpose, cannot be used as the basis of an appeal.

Sociology 1000-Level
A's not to exceed B's
Means in the range of 68-72%

Sociology 2000-Level
A's not to exceed B's
Means in the range of 70-75%

Sociology 3000-Level
Means in the range of 73-80%

Sociology 4000-Level
Means in the range of 78-82%

Support Services:

- **Office of the Registrar Services** http://www.registrar.uwo.ca
- **Faculty Academic Advising** - Please visit your Home Faculty Academic advising webpage for information regarding adding/dropping courses, important dates, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters https://registrar.uwo.ca/faculty_academic_counselling.html .
- **USC services** – information available regarding student health/dental plan, LTC bus pass, food support services, Peer support Centre etc http://westernusc.ca/services/ .
- **Mental health** – Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western https://www.uwo.ca/health/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

- **Health & Wellness Services** – Registered part-time and full-time students can book a physical health appointment at https://www.uwo.ca/health/shs/index.html.
- **Accessible Education** provides support and services to students with disabilities at Western, in all programs and faculties. Students with disabilities or accessibility challenges should work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing.
- **Gender-Based and Sexual Violence** – Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experience GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts on the Wellness and Wellbeing website https://www.uwo.ca/health/gbsv/index.html. To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.
- **Western Libraries** – Visit the many library locations on campus. Western Libraries provide access to material in physical and digital formats https://www.lib.uwo.ca/catalogue/index.html. Research support is also available https://www.lib.uwo.ca/research/index.html.
- **Writing Support Centre** – Online writing resources, writing support and writing modules are available to undergraduate students https://writing.uwo.ca/undergrads/.
- **Bookstore:** Search for Textbook/course material availability and cost https://bookstore.uwo.ca/course-materials-textbooks/course-materials-and-textbooks.