



The University of Western Ontario  
Department of Sociology

**SOCIOLOGY 2212B-650**

**Poverty and Gender**

**Summer 2026**

**Delivery Method – Online lectures and In-Person exams**

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

**Course Description:** This course explores global poverty, with particular focus on the diverse experiences of women across different contexts. It considers how political, economic, and environmental factors shape lived realities, while also examining how race, ethnicity, and sexuality intensify conditions of disadvantage. The course analyzes the relationship between gender and poverty, highlighting the role of structural inequalities in producing economic vulnerability among various social groups. Drawing on feminist theory, intersectional approaches, and policy debates, it engages perspectives from both the Global North and the Global South.

**Prerequisite(s):** None

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 will be able:

- Analyze key theories and concepts of poverty and gender.

- Apply intersectional frameworks to empirical cases.
- Understand policy responses to gendered poverty.
- Develop academic writing and research skills.

**Lecture format:**

- **Asynchronous** with a combination of recorded lectures, YouTube videos, documentaries, case studies, among others,

**Course Material:**

All other course materials can be downloaded from [scholar.google.com](https://scholar.google.com) or [www.lib.uwo.ca](http://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](mailto: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:

<b>Evaluation Components</b>	<b>Percentage of Course Grade</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Assignment/Quiz 1	30%	July 03, 2026
Mid-Term Exam	30%	July 06, 2026
Final Exam	40%	July 28, 2026

**Assignment/Quiz 1 (30%)**

Detail instructions will be provided.  
Assignment 1 is due **July 03, 2026**.

**Mid-Term Exam (30%)**

The midterm will take place on **July 06, 2026**, on the campus of the University of Western Ontario for **two hours**. It will cover material from previous classes, including lectures and assigned readings. It will be **40** multiple choice and five short answer questions. This is a paper and pen exam. Please remember to bring your own pencils to the exam.  
This is a closed book exam, and no electronic aids are permitted.

**Tentative Date: July 06, 2026**

**Location. TBD**

**Final Exam: (40%)**

The final exam will be the same format as the midterm but longer (**60 multiple choices and 10 short answer question**). The final exam will take place on the campus of the University of Western Ontario. It will cover all materials and will be three hours. If you miss the final exam, you will require supporting documentation for a makeup exam.

**Tentative Date: July 28, 2026**

**Location. TBD**

### **Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI):**

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

### **TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE**

#### **LECTURE 1 (June 15): Introduction: Gender and Society**

Risman, B. J. (2018). Gender as a social structure. In *Handbook of the Sociology of Gender* (pp. 19-43). Cham: Springer International Publishing.

West, C., & Zimmerman, D. H. (1987). Doing gender. *Gender & Society*, 1(2), 125-1.

Isaksson, A. (2020). Classical sociology through the lens of gendered experiences. *Frontiers in Sociology*, 5:1–8. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsoc.2020.532792>.

#### **LECTURE 2 (June 18): Poverty and Society**

Desmond, M. (2012). Eviction and the reproduction of urban poverty. *American Journal of Sociology*, 118(1), 88-133.

Chant, S. (2008). The “feminisation of poverty” and the “feminisation” of anti-poverty programmes: Room for revision? *The Journal of Development Studies*, 44(2), 165–197. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220380701789810>

Marwell, N. P., & Morrissey, S. L. (2020). Organizations and the governance of urban poverty. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 46(1), 233-250.

#### **LECTURE 3 (June 22): Gendered Labour Markets**

Kowalewska, H. (2023). Gendered employment patterns: Women’s labour market outcomes across 24 countries. *Work, Employment and Society*, 37(2), 363–382. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09589287221148336>

Jaspers, E., Mazrekaj, D., & Machado, W. (2024). Doing genders: Partner’s gender and labor market behavior. *American Sociological Review*, 89(3), 456–482.

Lorenti, A., Nisén, J., & Mencarini, L. (2024). Gendered parenthood-employment gaps from midlife: A demographic perspective across three welfare systems. *European Journal of Population*, 40, Article 16. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10680-024-09699-2>

#### **LECTURE 4 (June 25): Women, Household, and Survival Strategies**

Heltberg, R., Hossain, N., Reva, A., & Turk, C. (2013). Coping and resilience during the food, fuel, and financial crises. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 49(5), 705-718.

Ranucci, I., Romano, D., & Tiberti, L. (2025). Weather shocks and resilience to food insecurity: Exploring the role of gender and kinship norms. *World Development*, 188, 106847.

Niemann, J., El-Mahdi, M., Samuelsen, H., & Tersbøl, B. P. (2024). Gender relations and decision-making on climate change adaptation in rural East African households: A qualitative systematic review. *PLOS Climate*, 3(1), e0000279.  
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pclm.0000279>

#### **LECTURE 5 (June 29): Women and Political Participation**

Krook, M. L., & Norris, P. (2014). Beyond quotas: Strategies to promote gender equality in elected office. *Political Studies*, 62(1), 2-20.

Liu, S. J. S. (2022). Gender gaps in political participation in Asia. *International Political Science Review*, 43(2), 209-225.

Bawa, S., & Sanyare, F. (2013). Women's participation and representation in politics: Perspectives from Ghana. *International Journal of Public Administration*, 36(4), 282-291.

#### **LECTURE 6 (July 02): Gender, Migration, and Inequality**

Bastia, T., & Piper, N. (2023). Gendered migration in the Global South: An intersectional perspective on inequality. In *The Palgrave handbook of South–South migration and inequality* (pp. 393-411). Cham: Springer International Publishing.

Ferrant, G., & Tuccio, M. (2015). South–South migration and discrimination against women in social institutions: A two-way relationship. *World Development*, 72, 240-254.

Bailey, A., & Mulder, C. H. (2017). Highly skilled migration between the Global North and South: Gender, life courses and institutions. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 43(16), 2689-2703.

#### **MID-TERM (July 06): Mid-Term Examination**

### **LECTURE 7 (July 09): Women, Welfare States and Social Policy**

Nguyen, M. T., Rydstrom, H., & Mao, J. (2024). Reconfiguring labour and welfare in the global south: How the social question is framed as market participation. *Global Social Policy*, 24(2), 149-165.

Herbst-Debby, A., & Achouche, N. (2023, September). Double jeopardy: Gendered social policy for two risky life periods in six welfare state contexts. In *Women's Studies International Forum* (Vol. 100, p. 102814). Pergamon.

### **LECTURE 08 (July 13): Globalization and Gendered Poverty**

Koopman, J. E. (2009). Globalization, gender, and poverty in the Senegal River Valley. *Feminist Economics*, 15(3), 253-285.

Sassen, S. (2002). Global cities and survival circuits. *American studies: An anthology*, 185-193.

Kabeer, N. (2004). Globalization, labor standards, and women's rights: dilemmas of collective (in)action in an interdependent world, *Feminist Economics*, 10:1, 3-35.

### **LECTURE 09 (July 16): Health, Reproduction, and Women**

Short, S. E., & Zacher, M. (2022). Women's health: population patterns and social determinants. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 48, 277-298.

de Haas, B., Kabagenyi, A., & Diennabila, S. (2025). Reproductive Autonomy in Fertility Research in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Scoping Review. *Studies in Family Planning*, 56(2), 243-273.

Michael, T. O., & Naidoo, K. (2025). Education, economic autonomy and digitalization as factors associated with married women's ability to make sexual and reproductive health decisions in sub-Saharan Africa: a multi-level analysis of 16 countries. *BMC Women's Health*, 25(1), 407.

### **LECTURE 10 (July 20): Violence, Vulnerability, and Women**

Heise, L. L., & Kotsadam, A. (2015). Cross-national and multilevel correlates of partner violence: an analysis of data from population-based surveys. *The Lancet Global Health*, 3(6), e332-e340.

Duvvury, N., Erten, B., & Ramnarain, S. (2024). Feminist perspectives on conflict, disaster, and violence against women: Introduction to the special issue. *Feminist Economics*, 30(4), 1-15.

Okeke-Ihejirika, P., Yohani, S., Muster, J., Ndem, A., Chambers, T., & Pow, V. (2020). A scoping review on intimate partner violence in Canada's immigrant communities. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 21(4), 788-810.

### **LECTURE 11 (July 23): Resistance, Agency, and Women**

Ramasar, V., Caretta, M. A., & Cote, M. (2026). Women's organized resistance against extractivism: A systematic review. *The Extractive Industries and Society*, 27, 101909.

Rydzik, A., & Anitha, S. (2020). Conceptualising the agency of migrant women workers: Resilience, reworking and resistance. *Work, Employment and Society*, 34(5), 883-899.

Hume, M., & Wilding, P. (2020). Beyond agency and passivity: Situating a gendered articulation of urban violence in Brazil and El Salvador. *Urban Studies*, 57(2), 249-266.



Department of Sociology  
Revised May 29, 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, at the following web site: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_offences.pdf](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 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 The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<https://www.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.

The use of cellphones or other information transmitting electronic devices are prohibited during exams. Students who are caught, regardless of intent, with an electronic device during any part of an exam will receive zero on the exam in question.

**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.

**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](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf).

Students missing 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](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](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.

Once the request and supporting documentation have been received and reviewed, appropriate academic consideration, if granted, shall be determined by the instructor in consultation with the academic advisor, in a manner consistent with the course outline. Students with an approved absence from an in-class test or exam will be required to write a makeup exam, unless otherwise specified in the course outline. 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.

**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. Students who fail to write a make-up test or special examination will receive a grade of zero on that assessment. No other make-up opportunities will be provided unless further academic consideration is granted by the student's Home Faculty Academic advising office.

Students who fail to write a make-up test or special examination will receive a grade of zero on that assessment. No other make-up opportunities will be provided unless further academic consideration is granted by the student's Home Faculty Academic advising office.

**Religious Accommodation:** Students should review the policy for Accommodation for Religious Holidays [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_religious.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_religious.pdf) . Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but not later than two weeks prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm.

**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.

**Guidelines for Grades/Marks:**

**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%

**Code of Student Conduct:** 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](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/code_of_conduct.pdf) . Sanctions for non compliance range from a warning or reprimand to expulsion from the University.

**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, that all course prerequisites have been successfully completed, and that they are aware of any anti-requisite course(s) they may have taken. Students must familiarize themselves with the following policies:

**Student Responsibility for Course Selection policy**

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/general/academic\\_counselling.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/general/academic_counselling.pdf)

**Registration and Progression policy**

[https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/registration\\_progression\\_grad/registration\\_progression.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/registration_progression_grad/registration_progression.pdf) .

Students are responsible for the successful completion of the **Graduation Requirements** for their degree program [https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/registration\\_progression\\_grad/graduation.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/registration_progression_grad/graduation.pdf).

**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](https://registrar.uwo.ca/faculty_academic_counselling.html) .
- **USC services** offers information about the student health/dental plan, LTC bus pass, food support services, Peer support Center 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/) <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> . Additional on-campus services are also available <https://www.uwo.ca/health/shs/services/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](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/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html)
- **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 available <https://www.lib.uwo.ca/research/index.html> .
- **Writing support** – Online writing resources, writing support and writing modules are available <https://writing.uwo.ca/undergrads/>
- **Bookstore:** Search for Textbook availability and cost <https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search>