

Sociology 1021E  
Section 550  
**Introduction to Sociology**  
Tuesdays 2:30 – 3:30  
Thursdays 2:30 – 4:30  
Room: HCV208

Instructor Professor Darlene Balandin  
Office A304  
Office Hours Tuesdays, 1:00 – 2:00 (or by appointment)  
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WebCt <http://webct.uwo.ca/>

The discipline of sociology investigates the relationship between societal structures and human agency. This full-credit essay course is designed to present an overview of various sociological perspectives with a goal of understanding the dynamics of the interaction(s) between structural forces and the individuals / groups that comprise society, within the general context of North America and more specifically – Canada. You will be exposed to a variety of standpoints with the expectation that this knowledge can (and will) be utilized in an ongoing effort to develop your 'sociological imagination'.

**Course Goals and Learning Outcomes:**

During this course and upon completion, you can expect to:

- \* Differentiate between an opinion and an argument and construct compelling arguments utilizing a sociological lens and your sociological imagination
- \* Build your writing skills
- \* Use course concepts to explain / analyze / understand non-textbook material (i.e. films, documentaries, current events, newspaper articles etc.)
- \* Develop 'five habits of mind' (Deborah Meier, 2002)
  1. Evidence – How do we know what we know?
  2. Point of view – Whose perspective does this represent?
  3. Connections / cause and effect – How is this related to that?
  4. Conjecture / supposition – How might things have been otherwise? How could things be?
  5. Relevance – Why is this important? Is it important?

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**ANTIREQUISITE:** Sociology 1020 (former Sociology 020)

**COURSE TEXT BOOK:** *Sociology Your Compass for a New World*  
(Third Canadian Edition),  
Robert J. Brym, John Lie and Steven Rytina (2010)

## **PROFESSOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Be organized and well prepared for class
- Create a supportive and learning environment
- Be available to provide additional explanation or feedback
- Actively seek students' input in class and take students' arguments seriously
- Return students' assignments within a reasonable time (in most cases, 2 weeks) and provide feedback to help
- Assist students with developing transdisciplinary skills – critical *and* creative thinking and analysis, writing, argument formation
- Use a variety of teaching methods and strategies to accommodate different learning styles

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

As a participant in this class, you should:

- Read and reflect upon the assigned chapter BEFORE each class
- Attend each class ready to engage with the course material
- Participate respectfully with class and/or group discussions
- Take seriously (and reflect upon) the opinions / arguments presented in your text, by your fellow students and your professor
- Submit your assignments on time and pick them up to receive feedback
- Thoughtfully examine everyday ('commonsense') ideas through a sociological lens

**ATTENDANCE:** Regular attendance is critical as many classes will address material not found in the text and / or will involve thinking outside the book. If you miss a class, please make arrangements with *another student* to obtain her / his notes. For logistical reasons, films cannot be shown out of class.

**POLICY ON LAPTOPS IN CLASS:** Huron University College at The University of Western Ontario acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of laptop computers can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. However, the instructor may choose to limit the use of electronic devices. Therefore, the use of laptops in class is not permitted unless there is a very good reason for such and permission has been given. Students who require permission are to contact and meet with Professor Balandin to review and sign the 'Terms and Conditions of Laptop Use' document.

**CELLPHONES, BLACKBERRIES, AND SIMILAR DEVICES:** Cellphones, Blackberries, and similar devices, must be turned **OFF** (not just vibrate) during classes unless specific permission is sought for emergency purposes in a given class. Text messaging / 'twittering' / 'face booking' etc. are **not** permitted during class.

## **EVALUATION:**

FALL MIDTERM:	10%
WINTER MIDTERM:	10%
FINAL EXAM:	30%
CHAPTER QUIZZES:	10%
WRITING ASSIGNMENTS	15%
FINAL ESSAY	25%

## **EXAM INFORMATION:**

The fall midterm will be held during class time on Thursday, NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> and the winter midterm on Thursday, FEBRUARY 10<sup>th</sup>. There will be no exam for this course during the Christmas examination period. The final exam will be held during the final examination period; the date and time will be determined by the Registrar's Office. Although an early date has been requested, the final schedule is established by the Registrar and therefore, **you should not finalize your travel plans until the exam schedule has been posted and you are certain about the date and time of your final exam.** Exam dates, once posted by the Registrar's Office, are firm and will not be changed.

**Fall Midterm Exam:** will be multiple choice and short answer questions and contain questions drawn from the lectures, text readings and classroom discussion material covered from September 13<sup>th</sup> up to and including November 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Winter Midterm Exam:** will be multiple choice and short answer questions and contain questions drawn from the lectures, text readings and classroom discussion material covered from November 16<sup>th</sup>, up to and including February 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Final Exam:** is cumulative and you are responsible for all the material in the assigned chapters of the textbook, even if this material is not discussed in lecture. Additionally it will address the lecture and classroom discussion material from February 15<sup>th</sup> up to and including April 7<sup>th</sup>. It will be multiple choice and essay. Due to the challenge of a cumulative exam, students are well advised to actively review course material throughout the school year.

More information will be provided during lecture in the weeks prior to the exam dates.

**Chapter Quizzes:** There will be weekly (total of 21) chapter quizzes throughout the course, made up from objective questions (i.e. multiple-choice / fill in the blank / true or false). I drop your 4 lowest quiz scores when I compute your quiz average. With this safety margin, there are **NO make-up quizzes** if you are absent. A missed quiz is 0%.

**Writing Assignments:** Three (3) short papers (500 – 600 words each / approximately 1 ½ to 2 pages in length, double-spaced, 2.5 cm. margins) will be submitted throughout the course, worth 5% each. Due dates are October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010, and January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

**Final Essay:** This paper is worth 25% of your final grade and is due on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Length is to be a minimum of 1800 words.

All assignments and essay are due **in class at the beginning of class**. No provisions will be made for students whose computers malfunction or whose printers run out of ink. If you are not in class to submit your assignment, your assignment will be considered one day late (less 10% of the total possible grade) unless alternate arrangements are made in advance.

All late assignments for which appropriate medical or other documentation is not submitted to the Dean's Office will lose 10% per day (of the total possible grade) unless appropriate prior arrangements are made.

**Further details and instructions for the writing assignments and final essay will be addressed in class.**

**Scholastic Offences:** Software designed to detect cheating will be utilized on every exam. *Cheating is a grave academic offence and will not be tolerated.* Any class member(s) caught cheating will receive an F on the exam and may fail the course.

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 The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

**Electronic devices in tests and exams:** No books, notes, or electronic devices will be permitted during the midterms or final exam.

**Policy on Make-Up Exams and Late Assignments:** Each student should understand that **academic accommodation is not automatically granted upon request.** If, due to **medical illness**, you cannot write a test or exam, or submit an assignment by the due date, it is your responsibility to follow the University's "Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness" found at <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>.

**Compassionate Grounds:** Accommodation for Non-Medical absences must be discussed with the instructor (sooner, rather than later) and will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

**This outline is subject to change with sufficient prior notice. It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of changes announced in class. The updated version will be posted on Webct and the Huron University College website.**

Have Read in Text	Week of / specific date	Topic
	September 14, 2010	Course Introduction
	September 16, 2010	Introduction to the Sociological Perspective and the Sociological Imagination
'McDonaldization of Society' (Ritzer) posted on webct and Chapter 1	Sept. 20 – 24	McDonaldization A Sociological Compass
Chapter 2	Sept. 27 – October 1	How Sociologists do Research
Chapter 3	Oct. 4 - 8	Culture
Chapter 4	Oct. 11 – 14	Socialization
Chapter 15	Oct. 18 - 22	Families
Chapter 11	Oct. 25 – 29	Sexuality and Gender <b>1<sup>st</sup> writing assignment due October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010</b>
Chapter 17	November 1 - 5	Education
	<b>November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010</b>	<b>Fall Midterm</b>
Chapter 18	Nov. 15 - 19	The Mass Media
Chapter 16	Nov. 22 - 26	Religion
<i>FINAL DROP DATE FOR A FULL YEAR COURSE IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010</i>		
Chapter 7	Nov. 29 – December 3	Deviance and Crime <b>2<sup>nd</sup> writing assignment due Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010</b>
Chapter 7 (cont.)	December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Deviance and Crime
<b>ALL THE BEST IN YOUR MIDTERM EXAMS and HAPPY HOLIDAYS!</b>		
Chapter 6	January 3 – 7, 2011	Networks, Groups and Bureaucracies
Chapter 13	Jan. 10 - 14	Work and the Economy
Chapter 19	Jan. 17 - 21	Health and Medicine
Chapter 12	Jan. 24 - 28	Sociology of the Body <b>3<sup>rd</sup> writing assignment due January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011</b>
Chapter 14	Jan. 31 – February 4	Politics
	<b>February 10, 2011</b>	<b>Winter Midterm</b>
Chapter 8	Feb. 14 - 18	Social Stratification
<b>February 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 READING WEEK</b>		
Chapter 10	Feb. 28 – March 4	Race and Ethnicity
Chapter 9	Mar. 7 - 11	Globalization, Inequality and Development
Chapter 5	Mar. 14 - 18	Social Interaction
Chapter 21	Mar. 21 - 25	Collective Action and Social Movements
Chapter 22	March 28 – April 1	Technology, and the Global Environment <b>Final Essay due March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011</b>
	April 4 - 8	Course Wrap-Up and Review
<b>FINAL EXAM DURING THE APRIL EXAM PERIOD</b>		

## Appendix to Course Outlines

### **Prerequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This 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.

### **Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars**

Membership in the community of Huron University College and the University of Western Ontario implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. The academic and social privileges granted to each student are conditional upon the fulfillment of these responsibilities. In the classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Students can avoid any unnecessary disruption of the class by arriving in sufficient time to be seated and ready for the start of the class, by remaining silent while the professor is speaking or another student has the floor, and by taking care of personal needs prior to the start of class. If a student is late, or knows that he/she will have to leave class early, be courteous: sit in an aisle seat and enter and leave quietly.

Please see the *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities* at:

[http://www.huronuc.ca/students/student\\_life/student\\_policies](http://www.huronuc.ca/students/student_life/student_policies)

### **Technology**

It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited to, laptops, PDAs, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

### **Academic Accommodation for Medical/Non-Medical Grounds**

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)

[downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading]

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the instructor.

**For non-medical grounds or for medical grounds when work represents less than 10% of the overall grade for the course**, students seeking academic accommodation must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the instructor.

### **Statement on Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf) .

### **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is an academic offence and will be treated as such. Students who are in doubt as to the nature of this offence should consult their instructor, Department Chair or the Dean, as well as the Huron University College Statement on Plagiarism, available at the reference desk in the HUC Library and at <http://www.huronuc.ca/library/Citing/>. In addition, students may seek guidance from a variety of current style manuals available at the Reference Desk in the HUC Library. Information about these resources can be found in LibGuides on the main page: <http://www.huronuc.ca/library>.

**Students found guilty of plagiarism will suffer consequences ranging from a grade reduction to failure in the course to expulsion from the university. In addition, a formal letter documenting the offence will be filed in the Dean's Office, and this record of the offence will be retained in the Dean's Office for the duration of the student's academic career at Huron University College.**

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 The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

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.

Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

### **Policy on Special Needs**

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: [http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting\\_acc](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc)

### **Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

### **Class Cancellations**

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post that information on the Huron website.

### **Accessibility**

Huron University College strives at all times to provide its goods and services in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. We are also committed to giving people with disabilities the same opportunity to access our goods and services and allowing them to benefit from the same services, in the same place as, and in a similar way to, other customers. We welcome your feedback about accessibility at Huron. Information about how to provide feedback is available at: <http://www.huronuc.ca/accessibility>

### **Program and Academic Counselling**

Students registered at Huron who require advice about their modules and should contact Debbie Chadwick or Kent Robinson, Academic Counsellors. See the Academic Counselling website for information on services offered.

[http://huronuc.ca/students/service\\_centre/academic\\_counselling/](http://huronuc.ca/students/service_centre/academic_counselling/)