

The University of Manitoba

Sociology 77.120, "Introduction to Sociology"

September - April, 2001 - 2002

Sections L07 & L13

Instructors: Dr. Susan Prentice (First term)

Dr. Gregg Olsen (Second term)

Offices: Prentice: 329 Isbister Building

Olsen: 314 Isbister Building

Telephone: Prentice: 474-6726

Olsen: 474-9199

emails: Susan_Prentice@umanitoba.ca

olsen@cc.umanitoba.ca

website: <http://www.umanitoba.ca/webct>

Office Hours: Posted on instructors' doors, and by special appointment

Meeting Times: Section L07: Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 - 11:30

Room 206 Tier

Section L13: Tuesday and Thursday, 1:00 - 1:30

Room 306 Tier

Teaching Assistants: _____

Required Textbooks:

* Henslin, J., D. Glenday, A. Duffy and N. Pupo, 2001. *Sociology: A*

Down-to-Earth Approach (2nd Canadian edition). Pearson Education:

Toronto.

* Olsen, G. and S. Prentice, 2001. *Custom Reader for Introduction to*

Sociology (77.120). Pearson Education: Toronto.

Recommended Textbooks:

* *Study Guide to accompany Sociology: A Down-to-Earth Approach*

Course Objectives:

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the

"sociological imagination" and to show how it helps us to understand

recurring features and patterns of social organization and social

relations. This objective will be accomplished through presenting

students with some of the major theoretical perspectives, concepts,

findings and methods of the discipline of sociology, and

demonstrating how they illuminate central aspects of society.

The focus of this course is Canadian and comparative . The

material we cover ranges from the economy and the labour market to the family and childhood, covering what sociologists term "production" and "reproduction." Students will be also introduced to the ideas and theories of the founders of the discipline (Marx, Weber and Durkheim) , as well as contemporary theoretical approaches. Other topics addressed by the course include economic development, the sociology of work, social stratification and inequality, poverty, unemployment and power and politics.

Overall, the objective of this course is to help students develop an analytic and informed approach to social life. To accomplish this, class time will be spent in a variety of ways. Much of our time together will be spent in lectures or watching (then discussing) films, or working together in pairs or small groups.

Although this will be a large class, students are expected to get to know other students and to work with them. Students are encouraged to question the instructors, their texts, the films and each other.

Students are warmly invited to introduce themselves to the instructors, and to drop by during office hours or by special appointment.

Grading Scheme:

First Term: Total = 50%

Test 1 10%

Test 2 10%

Test 3 10%

Test 4 15%

Participation 5%

Second Term: Total = 50%

Test 5 10%

Test 6 10%

Test 7 10%

Test 8 15%

Participation 5%

Tests:

Tests will consist of multiple-choice questions covering lecture material, films, and assigned readings from both texts.

Within each term, tests may be cumulative.

Participation:

Participation grades will be a cumulative score from a range of sources. On some days, there may be 'pop quizzes' covering that day's assigned reading. On other days, students may be asked to

hand-in answers to questions following a film. On still other days, small group or pair work may be assigned. There will be at least six such participation grade opportunities, and the lowest score will be dropped. Since the lowest grade will be dropped, students can assume that a perfect grade is still achievable if one day is missed.

Students who attend class on the day when these unscheduled events occur, who have done their readings in advance and who have been attentive during films are very likely to get full marks for participation. If a student is absent, for any reason, they cannot make up that day's work.

Policy on Grades & Tests:

Generally speaking, the following letter/percentage/GPA/descriptive scale will be used, however students should note that these are guidelines only and that different percentage cut-offs may be used in the course, depending on final grade distribution. Senate Policy #1307 requires "a post-examination review of final grades in multi-sectioned courses that will ensure an equitable correspondence between grades and level of performance in all sections." Accordingly, the final grade

distribution in this course may be raised or lowered to achieve such equity, and therefore your final grade may be changed.

Letter Grade Percentage GPA

Description

A+ 90 - 100% 4.5 Exceptional

A 80 - 89% 4.0 Excellent

B+ 75 - 79% 3.5 Very Good

B 70 - 74% 3.0 Good

C+ 65 - 69% 2.5 Satisfactory

C 60 - 64% 2.0 Adequate

D 50 - 59% 1.0 Marginal

F 49% or less 0 Failure

Only documented reasons will be accepted for missing a test.

Deferrals may be granted for disability or compassionate reasons. If

you miss a test for a health-related reason, you must get in touch

with the instructor as soon as possible to present a signed medical

certificate and to arrange a make-up test. It is a student

responsibility to take the initiative to make arrangements with the

instructors. Ordinarily, arrangements must be made within one week

of the missed test; requests made later than one week will normally

be denied. Students should note that all make-up tests will be short-answer essay-format questions.

The University of Manitoba acknowledges the right of all students to observe recognized holy days of their faith. Please inform the instructors of your intended absence(s) at least three weeks in advance of the test date. Failing to give adequate advance notice will result in the denial for rescheduling.

Students with special learning needs (who, for legitimate reasons, require extra time to write an exam, or who require aids or other supports) should introduce themselves to the instructor during the first week of the course in order to arrange suitable testing arrangements.

Student and Instructor Responsibility

Our responsibility as instructors begins with the University's ROASS Policy (see the General Calendar), and extends to creating a safe, cooperative and stimulating learning environment for students. We encourage a participatory and dialogic classroom environment. As instructors, we have selected texts and organized classroom time to meet the objectives of this course. Lectures are designed to help you understand and extend the concepts and ideas

discussed in your texts and in the films.

Students have responsibilities, too. First, students are responsible for their own learning. You are expected to do readings in advance of class and are required to come prepared. You will often need to independently cover material in the textbooks (since not everything in the textbooks will be addressed in class). You will be tested on all aspects of assigned readings, as well as on lectures and films. Occasionally, you will be given a 'pop quiz' on readings or other classroom activities. It is in your personal and collective best interest to attend class regularly.

Second, if you are unclear about material or have academic concerns or questions, it is your responsibility to ask for help: we will be pleased to schedule extra time with you outside of class to help you succeed in this course.

Third, if you miss a film, you will need to arrange to view it at an alternate time. Making this arrangement is a student responsibility, and must be undertaken in ways that don't inconvenience the Communications Department.

Fourth, you are responsible for complying with the policies on grades and tests, including missed tests.

Finally, please be considerate and respectful of the needs

and rights of other students in the class. Disruptions due to excessive talking, late arrivals, early departures, or other behaviour deemed inappropriate or distracting by the instructor will not be tolerated. Students should be aware that such disruptions may result in debarment from the course. Any student who has a legitimate reason for leaving class early should inform the instructor at the beginning of the class and sit in a seat near the door to minimize disruption.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense, with grave consequences. Students should acquaint themselves with the University of Manitoba's academic regulations and policy, especially its policies on plagiarism, cheating and exam impersonation found in the University General Calendar.

Last day for voluntary withdrawal without academic penalty is March 18, 2002. Students will have returned grades from several tests before that date.

Website:

This course has a website. Registered students can visit the website and do a variety of things; for example, send mail

to other classmates, contribute to a bulletin board discussion of issues, communicate with the instructors via email, etc. Importantly, it will also allow you to securely review your grades (which are private, and cannot be accessed by other students.)

No previous experience is required to use the website; you do not need a personal account or email address to visit the course's site. Not every student has access to a personal computer and so the University provides free access to nearly one hundred computers in various labs located around the campus. We will be pleased to help you locate a computer terminal.

The TA will be available to assist students in learning how to navigate the course website

Schedule:

A schedule of topics, lectures, readings, films and test dates will be handed out the first day of each term. The schedule is subject to change without notice.

--