

University of Manitoba
Department of Sociology
SOC 3730 A01
SOCIETY and EDUCATION
Fall 2014 (3 Credit Hours)

Instructor: Jason Edgerton
Telephone: 474-8192
E-mail: J.Edgerton@ad.umanitoba.ca (include "3730" in the subject header)
Office: 323 Isbister Building
Office Hours: By appointment
Classroom: Fall: Room 215, Tier Building
Timeslot: Mon, Wed, & Fri 11:30 -12:20 AM

Required Textbook:

Wotherspoon, T. 2014. *The Sociology of Education in Canada* (4th ed.). Don Mills: Oxford University Press Canada Ltd.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course will provide an introduction to the sociology of education. The general emphasis will be on a critical sociological consideration of the various roles and impacts of education in society. The first part of this course will offer an overview of the various theoretical perspectives informing the sociological study of education; this includes classical sociological theories of education as well as critical and emerging perspectives. In the second part of this course, a number of contemporary educational issues will be critically considered, including: the changing structure and process of schooling, trends in teaching and curriculum, the multiple dimensions of educational inequality, the relationship between schooling and work, education in the era of globalization, and the balance of public/private interests in shaping the future of schooling.

TENTATIVE THEMATIC OUTLINE

What is the Sociology of Education?

Thinking Sociologically about Education

Sociological Theories of Education

The Uses of Theory

The Purposes of Education

Theoretical Perspectives

Structural-Functionalism and Liberal Theory

Conflict and Critical Theories

Interactionist and Interpretive Theories

Transformations in the structure and process of schooling
-stratification, accommodation, competition

Teaching and curriculum
-status of teaching profession, social influences on curriculum, assessment and testing

Dimensions of educational inequality
-gender, class, and ethnicity/‘race’

The relationship between schooling and work
-credentials and the transition from school-to-work, education and occupational attainment

The balance of public/private interests in shaping the future of schooling
-school choice and market reforms in education, corporatization in post-secondary education

COURSE EVALUATION

Component	% of final grade	Tentative date
Issue response paper #1	5%	Week 4 (Sept 26)
Test #1	15%	Week 5 (Oct 1 & 3)
Group Project	20%	Weeks 9-10 (Oct 27-Nov 7)
Issue response paper #2	5%	Week 12 (Nov 22)
Test #2	15%	Week 14 (Dec 1 & 3)
Term paper	30%	December 10
In class participation	10%	

Group Project

Details to be given in class.

Papers

Papers (issue response papers and final term paper) must be typed, double-spaced, with normal margins and numbered pages, and use the standard sociological referencing format. See articles published in the *Canadian Journal of Sociology* for examples of this format. <http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/CJS/>

Issue response papers (topics will be presented in class) are to be between 1 and 3 pages (including references) in length and are to be submitted to me at the beginning of class on the due date.

Final term papers are to be between 10 and 12 pages in length (including references) and are to be submitted to me in my office on **Wednesday, December 10th** (one week after the last scheduled class) between 10:00 am and noon. If I am not in the office, papers should be submitted to the main Sociology office on the 3rd floor of Isbister (room 318).

Grade Key:

Total Percentage	Letter Grade
90+	A+
80-89	A
75-79	B+
70-74	B
65-69	C+
60-64	C
50-59	D
0-49	F

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Policy Regarding Absence on Test days or Late Assignments:

Students who are absent on test days due to ill health, or for reasons of compassion or other exceptional circumstances (requiring a medical certificate or other appropriate documentation clearly indicating that you were unable to attend class) will be allowed to write make-up tests. However, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor as early as possible if there will be a need for such deferrals. With prior approval from the instructor, late submissions of written assignments due to exceptional circumstances will be marked without penalty.

Without prior approval, all late papers will be strictly subject to a penalty of a half-grade per day (e.g., from B+ to B, or B to C+). Students who are unable to complete and submit their final papers by the due date because of such circumstances will be required to submit their 'work in progress,' since it is expected that everyone will be working on their papers long before the due date.

Academic Integrity:

Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on plagiarism, cheating, exam personation, ("Personation at Examinations" (Section 5.2.9) and "Plagiarism and cheating" (Section 8.1)) and duplicate submission by reading documentation provided at the Arts Student Resources web site at <http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/student/index.html> .

Ignorance of the regulations and policies regarding academic integrity is not a valid excuse for violating them.

Unclaimed Term Work Disposal:

Any term work that has not been claimed by students will be held for four (4) months from the end of the final examination period for the term in which the work was assigned. At the conclusion of this time, all unclaimed term work will become property of the Faculty of Arts and be destroyed according to FIPPA guidelines and using confidential measures for disposal.

Conduct in Class:

Excessive talking, late arrivals, or early departures are impolite and distracting for both the instructor and classmates. Please be considerate and respectful of the needs and rights of others in the class. Students are required to silence all electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, pagers, PDAs, etc.). Persistent disruption will result in disbarment from the course. Any student who has a legitimate reason for leaving the class early should inform the instructor at the beginning of class.

Accommodations:

Special Needs: Special needs services are provided through Student Accessibility Services (474-6213). Students with special needs (who require aids, other supports, or require extra time to write a test) should introduce themselves to the instructor at the beginning of the term in order to arrange suitable testing times.

Holy Days: The university recognizes the right of all students to observe recognized holidays of their faith, which fall within the academic year. With instructor discretion, necessary arrangements can be made to ensure studies are not jeopardized. The instructor should be notified of a student's intended absence in advance. At least three weeks notice of absence should normally be given where special arrangements are sought.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Class will not be held on the following dates:

October 13 (Thanksgiving Day Holiday);

Voluntary Withdrawal Deadline Date:

November 12, 2014