

The University of Manitoba  
SOC 1200 Introduction to Sociology  
Mondays 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Department of Sociology  
Section A14, CRN 15063  
Fall/Winter 2012-2013 Rm. 215 Tier

Instructor: Karen Kampen  
Phone: 474-8903  
Office: 308 Isbister

Credit hours: 6  
Email: [Karen.Kampen@ad.umanitoba.ca](mailto:Karen.Kampen@ad.umanitoba.ca)  
Office Hours: By appointment/drop-in\*

\* I am in the office daily, so please consider my door open at any time that I am in. Given my varied teaching schedule throughout the week, appointments are also very useful to arrange.

### Required Materials

Macionis, J, and Gerber, L. (2011). *Sociology* (Seventh Canadian edition). Toronto: Prentice Hall. (Students may feel free to use an earlier edition at their own risk.)

### Course Objectives and Description

"May you live in interesting times."

Dubious references to this phrase as an "ancient Chinese curse" have been made for decades, but they may have roots in a Chinese proverb that bemoans the difficulties of living in a period of chaos and change rather than the peace and stability valued by Confucians. These are indeed interesting and changing times for our world. Perhaps some of these changes are for the better, while others are for the worse.

Sociology is the systematic study of human society. This means that sociologists study various aspects of social life, such as groups, institutions, cultures, and relationships. In order to give you a broad familiarity with sociology, various disciplinary fields will be covered, such as the family and deviance. Students will be introduced to the core concepts, theories and methods of the discipline, and shown how these can be used to gain an understanding of the major issues facing societies and individuals.

Studying sociology helps us to acquire critical thinking skills and a broadened intellectual horizon that are not only useful in any career, but enhance our lives in general. I believe that we can study it in an enjoyable manner that is scientifically grounded yet free of pretension. I had an enormous amount of fun creating our course material. I really look forward to this year, and I hope that you do too.

## Class Format (tentative)

- A thematic lecture based upon on the relevant material, or occasional films
- During some weeks, we will gather into groups and conduct a small exercise
- During January, will set aside class time to work on our assignment

## Evaluation

1) Term Tests (75%): Students will write four tests based upon in-class material (lectures, exercises, films, etc.) Each test is worth 18.75% of your grade. The tests are not cumulative, although you will need to retain and utilize your knowledge of core sociological concepts, theories, and methods throughout the course. They will be primarily comprised of multiple choice questions, as well as short-answer questions, including fill-in-the-blanks or brief written answers. *Please note:* You will not be tested on material from our assignment (i.e. its film viewings and hand-outs.)

Test # 1: Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 - October 15

Test # 2: Chapters 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 - November 26

Test # 3: Chapters 12, 13, 14, 16, 17 - March 4

Test # 4: Chapters 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 - April 8

2) Assignment: Applying your Sociological Knowledge (25%): Many students like the opportunity to do something creative. You will get this chance via a 10-15 page written assignment based on a documentary series that movie critic Roger Ebert has declared to be "On my list of the ten greatest films of all time." Details will be provided in class. The assignment is due on April 8. **Assignment marks will be contingent upon in-class participation in discussion groups and film viewings**, with about 20-25% based upon notes taken during the in-class film showings (see below for absences policy.)

I have designed the above evaluative approach with three goals in mind: (1) To provide you with more than one way of being evaluated so that if your strengths tend to lie in written assignments rather than test questions, or vice versa, you are not subject to only one or the other method; (2) To take the pressure off of you so that an inordinate amount of course weight is not riding on any particular test (i.e. everyone can have a relatively "bad day" at least once, without it destroying their mark in the course); and (3) To take the pressure off of you, where possible, by scheduling your tests on dates during which you are less likely to have several tests and items due in other courses.

## Policy on Missed Tests, Late Assignments, Missed Assignment Participation

Students who miss a test for documented medical or compassionate reasons will have the option of answering a series of essay questions in lieu thereof. To be eligible, students must contact me in writing within 24 hours of the missed test. I will arrange the dates, times and locations as necessary. Please note that vacations or automobile problems will not be considered reasonable justifications for absences of any sort. All other missed tests will result in a mark of zero.

Late assignments are accepted, but in fairness to fellow classmates, they are subject to a 10% (i.e. 2.5% of course mark) per day penalty. Students who request extensions for documented medical or compassionate reasons must submit to me their current assignment draft to me along with a written request for an extension, and may be required to apply to the Faculty of Arts for an Incomplete in the course.

If you miss class during one of our four Assignment dates (film viewing and group discussions) for documented medical or compassionate reasons, you are eligible to receive marks for that portion provided that you do the following: (1) make arrangements with me to view the film on campus and submit your work within one week of the missed film, and (2) submit appropriate documentation (e.g. Dr. note) covering your absence.

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 and at least three weeks' notice of absence should normally be given where special arrangements are sought.

### Grade Distribution

90-100%	A+
80-89%	A
76-79%	B+
70-75%	B
66-69%	C+
60-65%	C
50-59%	D
<50%	F

Please note that the *University of Manitoba 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 this equity and, therefore, your final grade may be changed.

## Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on "**Personation at Examinations**" (Section 5.2.9) and "**Plagiarism and Cheating**" (Section 8.1) found online under UManitoba Catalog 2012-2013>General Academic Regulations>Section 8. Academic Integrity. The Faculty of Arts also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism. While consulting one another about your assignments is acceptable, please bear in mind that you must submit original work. On the other hand, students are strongly encouraged to study together for tests; it makes all of this more enjoyable!

Disruptions due to excessive talking or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting to large classes, including ringing/talking on cell phones. Please be considerate and respectful of the needs and rights of others in the class. Students should be aware that persistent disruption may result in disbarment from the course. Any student who has a legitimate reason for leaving class early should inform the instructor at the start of class.

Other than these standard policies, please note the following:

- Class attendance is considered mandatory in order to receive credit
- Please read the relevant textbook chapter *before* coming to class
- To avoid disruptions, the use of electronic devices is prohibited during class

## Companion Website

I will try to make practice quiz questions and skeleton lecture notes available on Angel (<http://angel.cc.umanitoba.ca>). All marks and final grades will be posted there as well.

## Additional Considerations

If using email, please use the address provided on page 1 of this course outline. **I do not always receive emails sent via Angel and students do not always receive responses that I have sent them.** If you have sent me an email via Angel and not received a timely response, it is most likely because your message has become lost in transmission to me, or vice versa.

Students with special learning needs (who for legitimate reasons require extra time to write a test, or who require aids or other supports) should identify themselves to the instructor at the beginning of the term in order to arrange suitable accommodation.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR 2012-2013

### Term 1

September 10: The Sociological Perspective (Chapter 1)  
September 17: Sociological Investigation (Chapter 2)  
September 24: Culture (Chapter 3) and Society (Chapter 4)  
October 1: Socialization (Chapter 5) and review (time permitting)  
October 8: **No class** (Thanksgiving holiday observed)  
October 15: **Test #1**  
October 22: Social Interaction in Everyday Life (Chapter 6)  
October 29: Groups and Organizations (Chapter 7)  
November 5: Deviance (Chapter 9)  
November 12: **No class** (Remembrance Day (holiday observed))  
November 19: Social Stratification (Chapter 10) & Social Class in Canada (Chapter 11)  
November 26: **Test #2**  
December 3: In-class work on Assignment, Part 1

### Term 2

January 7: In-class work on Assignment, Part 2  
January 14: In-class work on Assignment, Part 3  
January 21: In-class work on Assignment, Part 4  
January 28: Global Stratification (Chapter 12)  
February 4: Gender Stratification (Chapter 13)  
February 11: Race and ethnicity (Chapter 14)  
February 18: **No class** (MID-TERM BREAK)  
February 25: The Economy and Work (Chapter 16) & Politics/Government (Chapter 17)  
March 4: **Test #3**  
March 11: Family (Chapter 18)  
March 18: Religion (Chapter 19) and Education (Chapter 20)  
March 25: Health and Medicine (Chapter 21)  
April 1: Population, Urbanization, and Environment (Chapter 22)  
April 8: **Test #4** and Assignment DUE

\*\*\* Voluntary Withdrawal Deadline: **March 20, 2013** \*\*\*