

The University of Manitoba
Sociology 1200, “Introduction to Sociology”
September 2014 - April 2015
Section A02 • 6 credit hours

Instructor	Dr. Susan Prentice
Office	329 Isbister Building
Telephone	204-474-6726 (with voice mail)
Email	Only through D2L, the course website <i>Note:</i> This is the <u>only</u> e-mail account that can be used for course communication. Please note that correspondence sent from any other email address will not receive a reply.
Office Hours	Announced in-class and posted on the course website – will vary by week.
Meeting Times	Monday-Wednesday-Friday, 9:30 – 10:20, Room 240, University College
CM	9780176641771-0000027
Teaching Assistant	_____

Required Textbook

• Brym, Robert, Lance Roberts, John Lie, Steven Rytina, 2013. *Sociology: Your Compass for a New World*. 4th Canadian Edition. Nelson Education: Toronto
ISBN: 9780176582357 (Cost \$151.95) – CM 9780176641771-0000027

NB: If you are buying a used textbook, please note that you will need the 4th edition. You will also need an access code (which you can buy separately) to access the online course website (which also includes participation quizzes as well as an online study guide materials -- so keep the code safe!)

Other Required Teaching Supports

- iClicker -- You will need to have an iClicker (new or used, version 1.0 or version 2.0) for use in the course. The iClicker is used in assigning participation marks, and should be brought with you to class every time we meet.
- Coursemate – the website of the textbook, *Sociology: Your Compass for a New World*.

Required Readings

You may need to download and/or print supplementary readings and related materials every week, and bring the digital or print copies to class. This way, you avoid the estimated \$60 - \$110 charge for a custom reader, although it creates some work for you.

Course Objectives

The goals of this course are to introduce you to the “sociological imagination” and to show how it helps us to understand recurring features and patterns of social organization and social relations. As an introductory course, we will range widely over major theoretical perspectives, concepts, findings and methods of the discipline of sociology.

Overall, the aim of this course is to help you develop an analytic and informed approach to social life. To accomplish this, class time will be spent in a variety of ways. About a third of

our time together will be spent in lectures; about one-third will be spent working together in pairs and/or small groups; and about one-third of our time will be dedicated to watching (then discussing) film and digital materials. Although this will be a large class, you will get to know other students and will work with them. Together, we will be learning about, as well as practicing how to apply, a sociological imagination.

You are warmly invited to visit me during office hours or by special appointment.

Course Grades

Your grade in this course will be based on your mastery of the content of readings, presentations, exercises and discussions (in-class and on-line). Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Tests - 70%

Sociological Exercise – 15%

Course participation – 15%

There will be four tests, worth a total of 70% of your final grade. There is no final exam. Each test will take two class periods to write. Details about the tests, including test dates, will be provided in-class and posted to the website.

The sociological exercise, worth 15% of your final grade, is a small group assignment and each student in the small group will (usually) earn the same grade: students will evaluate each others' work, and students who do not fully participate will receive a reduced grade. The project will require students to work together to produce a short (4 minute) video that analyzes a sociological theme and findings. The video and supporting documents must be submitted through the course website. Details about the assignment will be provided in-class.

Course participation: 15% of your final grade is earned through participation. Participation grades are a combination of your performance on an open-ended number of unannounced in-class exercises and quizzes (paper and/or iClicker) and your performance on an open-ended number of website assignments. Students who attend on the day when unscheduled events occur, who have done their readings, who have been attentive during classes, and who are up-to-date with the website are very likely to get full marks for in-class work. A student who is absent, for any reason, cannot make up that day's in-class work. Further details about the participation grade will be discussed in-class.

Grades will be posted on the course's Desire2Learn website. Students must consult the course website to learn their marks for tests, exercises, and course participation. Students should be aware that failing to complete an element of term work will result in a grade of zero for that element.

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

Tests, Missed Tests, and Make-up Tests

Tests will consist of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. They cover theoretical, conceptual and empirical material addressed in lectures, readings, films and class exercises. You will be tested on materials contained in the textbook, the assigned readings, lectures & discussions, film and digital materials, and on the course and textbook website. Tests will require you to accurately recall facts as well as apply concepts. You are welcome to review your test results during office hours with me or the TA.

You are expected to meet class requirements, which include class attendance at lectures, discussions and tests, unless you have acceptable documented reasons. To request accommodation for late assignments, missed tests or religious holy days, you need to submit a written request and provide appropriate documentation. Students who have provided appropriate documentation for missing a test will be given an opportunity to write a make-up test. For the first term, the make-up test is scheduled on December 5, 2014 at 9:30 am. For the second term, the make-up test is scheduled on April 13, 2015 at 9:30 am. Please note that if you are granted a make-up test, you are responsible for making whatever adjustments are necessary to write at the scheduled date and time. The test format may vary from the original term test, and makeup tests may vary from student to student.

The University of Manitoba acknowledges the right of all students to observe recognized holy days of their faith. Please send me an email through the course website about your intended absence(s) at least one week in advance, so I can make arrangements.

Students with special learning needs should introduce themselves to me during the first two weeks of the course by sending me an email. I will be pleased to make accommodation, including suitable testing arrangements, to assist you. Disability Services (204-474-6213) is a resource to help students with learning or other special needs. If you are uncertain if you can or should take advantage this opportunity, please feel free to consult me.

Unclaimed Term Work Disposal

As per Faculty of Arts policy, “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 will be destroyed according to FIPPA guidelines and using confidential measures for disposal.”

Student and Instructor Responsibility

My responsibility as instructor begins with the University policy (see the University of Manitoba's Undergraduate Calendar) and extends to creating a safe, cooperative and stimulating learning environment for you and all the other students. I encourage a participatory and dialogic classroom. As instructor, I have selected materials and organized classroom time to meet the objectives of this course. I comply fully with all University of Manitoba policies regarding teaching.

Students have responsibilities, too:

(1) Students are responsible for their own learning. You are expected to do readings *in advance* of class and to come to class prepared. You will need to independently cover assigned readings (note that much of the content in the textbook will not be addressed in class). You will be tested on all aspects of assigned readings -- including theory and empirical data -- as well as on lectures & discussions, films and other classroom activities. Please participate actively in class discussions and in small-group work.

(2) It is in your personal and collective best interest to attend class. Note that the *Undergraduate Calendar* stipulates that "regular attendance is expected of all students in all courses," and that "an instructor may initiate procedures to debar a student where unexcused absences exceed those permitted. Students so disbarred will have failed the course.

Announcements may be made in class during lectures that may affect student performance, course schedule, or other aspects of the course's organization: all students will be governed by the new information, irrespective of whether they were in attendance when the new policy/information was announced.

(3) If you are unclear about material or have any academic concerns or questions, it is your responsibility to ask for help. The best way to do this is to visit me or the TA during office hours. The TA and I will be happy to schedule extra time with you outside of class to help you succeed in this course, but you must make the request. It is also your responsibility to track your success in the course, and to take action if you discover you are failing tests or are not earning the grades you hope for.

(4) If you miss a film, you may be able to arrange to view it at an alternate time. Making this arrangement is a student responsibility.

(5) You are responsible for complying with the all course policies. You will find all course policies in this syllabus -- please review it regularly. If you misplace this syllabus or a term schedule, you can download a copy from the course website.

(6) We are collectively responsible for creating a civil environment that promotes learning. Disruptions due to excessive talking, use of personal technology, eating, engaging in non-course activity, as well as late arrivals and early departures from the classroom, are especially distracting to large classes. Please be considerate of the needs and rights of others in the class. I reserve the right to ask you to sit elsewhere, if I believe this will improve the classroom experience for other students. You should be aware that persistent disruption may result in you being disbarred from the course.

Academic Integrity

You must acquaint yourself 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 never a valid excuse for violating the policy. Please be aware that group projects are also subject to the rules of academic dishonesty and that group members must ensure that a group project adheres to the principles of academic integrity.

Note that using another student's clicker to 'click in' for him/her will be considered academic dishonesty.

Voluntary Withdrawal

Last day for voluntary withdrawal without academic penalty is March 19, 2015.

Course Participation

Please be aware that where you sit in the large lecture hall (UC 240) is an important element of course participation. Every student will be asked to move to and keep a new seat at least three times over the course. The purpose of this is to ensure students are working in new groups.

Website

This course has a website on Desire2Learn. This will be the way that you communicate with me by email. The website helps you in a variety of other tasks: for example, sending e-mail to other classmates, contributing to discussion of issues, using web-based learning resources, and downloading syllabi and schedules. Some of your participation mark will come from work you do on the course website. You will need to upload your sociological exercise materials to the website. The only place grades will be posted is to the course website. Brief summaries of lecture materials may be posted to the website. To review more detailed lecture notes, students are warmly invited to visit during office hours.

Office Hours

Office hours are a time I set aside to visit with students. You can use the office visit to discuss the course and your academic progress, to ask questions or clarifications, to talk about your career intentions, and to raise any concerns you may have. During TA office hours, you may review and discuss your test results. I enjoy visiting with students -- you do not need to have a 'reason' to stop by. My office hours vary to accommodate my research and administrative commitments: office hours will be posted to the website, to my office door, and will be announced in-class. I am happy to make special office hours to accommodate students who cannot attend during scheduled times; to arrange a special appointment, please send me an email.

Term Schedule

A schedule of topics, lectures, readings, films, exercises and guest lectures will be handed out the first day of each term. The schedule is subject to change. Changes announced in-class will take precedence over any previously-announced dates or deadlines.