



Western University

SOCIOLOGY 1025A-650

**Society and You
Fall 2021**

Professor Sean Waite

Office Hours: Wednesdays 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Department of Sociology, Office: SSC 5401

Email: swaite3@uwo.ca

Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (Ah-nish-in-a-bek), Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), Lūnaapéewak (Len-ahpay-wuk), and Attawandaron (Add-a-won-da-run) peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We also acknowledge the historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (e.g., First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through teaching, research, and community service.

Course Description

This introduction to sociology course explores how social structures can shape an individual's everyday choices and constraints. Students will learn how to use their *sociological imaginations* to investigate the social world and see the connections between their own lives and the larger society in which we all live. As well, students will see how their personal troubles are connected to larger social problems. In doing so, this course also highlights dimensions of social inequality in Canada and abroad, including their form, causes, and consequences.

Prerequisite (s): None

Antirequisite(s): Sociology 1020, Sociology 1020W/X, Sociology 1021E.

Course Organization

This course will consist of recorded lecture videos, short topical videos, course textbook readings, and supplemental readings assigned throughout the course. Students will be evaluated using weekly quizzes, summaries of sociological articles, and independent take-home midterm and final assignments.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will:

1. Use their sociological imaginations to demonstrate an understanding of the relationships between social structure and individual agency.
2. Explain and apply core sociological terms, concepts, and theories.
3. Understand the methodological tools used by sociologists to study the social world.
4. Understand different dimensions of social inequality in our society.

5. Develop critical thinking, research, and writing skills.

Methods of Evaluation

Weekly Quizzes:	Weekly	10%
Article Summary #1:	October 12, 2021	10%
Midterm Assignment:	October 25, 2021	35%
Article Summary #2	November 23, 2021	10%
Final Assignment:	December 6, 2021	35%

Required Text

1. Symbaluk, Diane G, and Tami M. Bereska. 2013. *Sociology in Action: A Canadian Perspective*. 3rd Edition Nelson Publishing. There are two different purchasing options (**choose one**):
 - a. [Textbook only: \\$119.95 \(ISBN 9780176725068\)](#)
 - b. [E-Book: \\$74.95 \(ISBN 9780176804862\)](#)
2. Additional articles or book chapters assigned in the detailed reading list, excluding those marked optional.

Evaluation Breakdown

Weekly Quizzes

Each week, there will be a mini-quiz to complete in OWL. These quizzes are meant to keep you up to date on the readings and course content. The quizzes must be completed independently. Please note, the questions and their order are randomly assigned to avoid cheating. Each quiz will consist of roughly 8 to 10 multiple-choice questions. The quizzes should take roughly 10 minutes to complete, but you will have a total of 60 minutes to complete the quiz in OWL. There are no resubmissions allowed. Be sure to have a stable internet connection before starting your quiz. Weekly quizzes will be available in OWL on Monday mornings. You must complete the weekly quiz by Friday at midnight. The quizzes are linked at the bottom of each week's course content. You can also navigate to the quizzes by selecting "Test & Quizzes" in OWL.

Article Summaries

Students will submit two summaries of peer-reviewed sociology journal articles (a list of articles will be provided on OWL). Article summaries should be between **two and three double-spaced pages**. The summary should include: the author(s) main point(s), whether the article used qualitative or quantitative methods, the specific methods used (secondary data, semi-structured interviews, content analysis etc.), the main findings/results, and what you found interesting about the article. These summaries should demonstrate that you have read beyond the abstract and thought about how the article relates to the topics we discuss in class. Each summary is worth 10% of your final mark. More information about the article summaries will be available on OWL.

Midterm Assignment

The midterm will be **an independent take-home assignment**. The midterm assignment will consist of roughly three short answer questions. Students will answer these questions using lecture material, video content, the textbook, and assigned supplemental readings. Students are also encouraged to use additional peer-reviewed sources to bolster their answers. All assignments should include in-text citations and have a references page. More information about the take-home midterm assignment will be provided in OWL.

Midterm available on OWL: Monday October 18, 2021
Due date: Monday October 25, 2021

Final Assignment

The final will also be **an independent take-home assignment**. It will be the same format as the midterm assignment (see above) and consist of roughly four short answer questions. The final assignment is due before the end of classes. There will be no final exam scheduled for this course. More information about the final will be available on OWL.

Midterm available on OWL: Monday November 29, 2021
Due date: Monday December 6, 2021

How to Contact Me

Students can contact me by email (swaite3@uwo.ca) or by attending my office hours on Wednesday's from 3pm to 4pm. Office hours will be held both in-person (in SSC 5401) and virtually (via Zoom). For those wishing to attend office hours virtually, please see OWL for Zoom meeting links (passcode: 1025A). For those who want to meet in person, please comply with Western's COVID-19 safety protocols, i.e. social distance, wear a mask, sanitize hands etc. Students are also encouraged to speak with their teaching assistants if they have questions.

Teaching Assistants

The teaching assistants' duties include: holding office hours, answering questions via email, marking article summaries, the midterm, and final assignments. Teaching assistants are professors in training and are a wealth of information. If you have questions, please email your teaching assistant.

- TA1 (<>); Office hours: <>; Zoom link <>; passcode: <>
- TA2 (<>); Office hours: <>; Zoom link <>; passcode: <>
- TA3 (<>); Office hours: <>; Zoom link <>; passcode: <>
- TA4 (<>); Office hours: <>; Zoom link <>; passcode: <>

Important Policies

Policies for Assignment Deadlines:

All late assignments will receive an automatic 1% / day penalty. For example, if you submit an article summary two days late and you are graded 9/10, your final mark will be 7/10.

A Note on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence (the Scholastic Offence Policy can be viewed in the Western Academic Calendar).

Plagiarism Checking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for 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 (www.turnitin.com).

Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness

Western's policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at

www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/academic_consideration.html.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a *Self-Reported Absence (SRA)* form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the [Senate policy](#) are met. Two important exceptions to this rule: SRAs will NOT be allowed for final examinations or assessments worth more than 30% of a given course. Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a [Student Medical Certificate](#) (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds) to your Home Faculty Academic Counselling office.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.

www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

Accessibility Options:

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students

with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website:

www.registrar.uwo.ca/academics/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

Scholastic 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:

www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Mental Health

Students who are in **emotional/mental distress** should refer to Mental Health@Western (www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

Western Campus Resources

Psychological Services WSSB Room 4100 519-661-3031	Wellness Education Centre UCC Room 76 519-661-2111 x.87127	Peer Support Centre UCC Room 256	Student Health Services (SHS) UCC Room 11
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Off Campus Resources

Good2Talk, 24/7 phone support	1-866-925-5454
First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line	1-855-242-3310
MentalHealthHelpLine.ca	1-866-531-2600
DrugandAlcoholHelpline.ca	1-800-565-8603
ProblemGamblingHelpine.ca	1-888-230-3505
LGBT Youthline	1-800-268-9688
ReachOut247.ca	519-433-2023 or 1-866-933-2023

Lectures, Course Materials and Copyright

Instructor generated course materials (e.g., lecture videos, handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions, etc.) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may not record lectures, share, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent. This includes sharing lecture video links with people outside this classroom or posting any of my lecture slides/notes etc. online. The infringement of instructor copyright is a serious academic offence. ***I report all violations of my intellectual property rights to the Department Chair and Dean of Social Sciences.***

Grade Guidelines

The Department of Sociology has grade distribution guidelines that all instructors are required to follow. For Sociology courses at the 1000 level, the number of A's is not to exceed the number of B's, and class means are expected to fall in the range of 66% to 72% with a standard deviation of approximately 10. This means that your final grade depends on your ranking relative to other students.

Disputed Grades

Students who wish to dispute the grading of an assignment must write a one-page explanation and justification for having their work re-evaluated. Work will not be re-evaluated on the basis that students were sick or under stress when writing.

Extraordinary Circumstances

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University or instructor's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

Detailed Course Readings

Week / Days	Course Readings
Week 1 Sept 13 to Sept 17	Course outline Textbook Chapter 1 - Seeing and Acting Through the Lens of Sociology
Week 2 Sept 20 to Sept 24	Textbook Chapter 2 – Applying the Sociological Research Method Additional Course Reading - The Tearoom Trade by Laud Humphreys, Chapters 1 & 2 (see "Course Readings" tab in OWL)
Week 3 Sept 27 to Oct 1	Textbook Chapter 3 – I am Canadian: What is Canadian Culture
Week 4 Oct 4 to Oct 8	Textbook Chapter 4 – Socialization: The Self and Social Identity Additional Course Reading - Invisible Inequality by Annette Lareau (see "Course Readings" tab in OWL) Additional Course Reading - Managing Impressions Online by Nicole Allison, Rebecca Heino and Jennifer Gibbs (see "Course Readings" tab in OWL)
Week 5 Oct 11 to Oct 15	Textbook Chapter 5 – Social Inequality in Canada Additional Course Reading - Nickel-and-Dimed by Barbara Ehrenreich (see "Course Readings" tab in OWL) Article Summary # 1 Due on Oct. 12, 2021.
Week 6 Oct 18 to Oct 22	Textbook Chapter 6 – Mass Media: Living in the Electronic Age Additional Course Reading - Canadians' assessments of social media in their live by Christophe Schimmele, Jonathan Fonberg, and Grant Schellenberg. Statistics Canada Report. Midterm Assignment Available on Oct. 18, 2021.
Week 7 Oct 25 to Oct 29	Textbook Chapter 7 – Sex, Gender, and Sexualities: Deconstructing Dualisms Additional Course Reading - As Nature Made Him by John Colapinto (see "Course Readings" tab in OWL) Midterm Assignment Due on Oct. 25, 2021.
Nov 1 to Nov 5	Reading Week

<p>Week 8</p> <p>Nov 8 to Nov 12</p>	<p>Textbook Chapter 8 – Race and Ethnicity: Defining Ourselves and Others</p> <p>Additional Course Reading - White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo. Chapter 1 (see "Course Readings" tab in OWL)</p> <p>Additional Course Reading - The truth and reconciliation report (Pages 1-65) (see "Course Readings" tab in OWL)</p>
<p>Week 9</p> <p>Nov 15 to Nov 19</p>	<p>Textbook Chapter 9 – Canadian Families: Past, Present, and Future</p> <p>Additional Course Reading - Changes in Conjugal Life in Canada: Is Cohabitation Progressively Replacing Marriage? By Céline Le Bourdais and Évelyne Lapierre-Adamcyk (see “Course Readings” tab in OWL)</p>
<p>Week 10</p> <p>Nov 22 to Nov 26</p>	<p>Textbook Chapter 10 – Learning what is "True": Religion, Science, and Education</p> <p>Article Summary # 2 Due on Nov. 23, 2021.</p>
<p>Week 11</p> <p>Nov 29 to Dec 3</p>	<p>Textbook Chapter 11 – Social Control, Deviance, and Crime</p> <p>Additional Course Reading - The Saints and the Roughnecks by William Chambliss (see "Course Readings" tab in OWL)</p> <p>Final Assignment Available on Nov. 29, 2021.</p>
<p>Week 12</p> <p>Dec 6 to Dec 10</p>	<p>Textbook Chapters 12 & 13 – Health and Illness & Social Change</p> <p>Final Assignment Due on Dec. 6, 2021.</p>