Fall 2015 Sociology 100: A2
Introduction to Sociology

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”

-Dr. Seuss (I Can Read With My Eyes Shut)

Lectures: MWF 13:00-13:50
Classroom: TL 12
Office: T 6-21
Instructor: Jana Grekul
Phone: 492-0477
email: jgrekul@ualberta.ca
Office hours: By appointment

*An e-version of the textbook is also available at the bookstore.

Course Description: The objective of this course is to introduce you to the discipline of Sociology. The course will provide an analysis of the nature of society, the inter-relationships of its component groups and the processes whereby society persists and changes. Society is analyzed in terms of its structure and culture, inter-relationships between various institutions and the process whereby an individual is socialized into society.

Class Format: The class will follow a lecture format. As well, there will be class discussions, videos and (possibly) guest lectures. Lecture material is primarily (although not totally) based on the text. Videos, class discussions, and guest lectures are intended to supplement lecture/text material. As such, this information is “fair game” for exams.

Classroom Atmosphere: This will be a classroom in which we all feel free to express our opinions and points of view. When you have the floor, it is expected that you will express your views politely. The classroom atmosphere at the same time will allow us all to question each other and the world around us. Sociology is a discipline that surrounds us in our everyday life. As such many of us will have experiences and stories that are relevant to the course material. Sharing this material with each other is an important part of being in a Sociology class. However, we do need to follow certain guidelines to ensure that a certain order is maintained. When one person has the floor (instructor or student) no one else does. Whispering and chatter will not be tolerated. You will be asked to leave class. Sociology tends to challenge our common sense understandings of society. It is important that you come to class with an open mind, willing to listen to points of view that challenge your own way of thinking. Finally, it is imperative that we respect each other and each other’s points of view. Debate is healthy – but it must be respectful debate. If you at any time feel that these general guidelines are not being met in class, please bring it to my attention outside of class.
**Student Evaluation:** Your mark for the course is divided according to the following format:

- **Exam #1:** 30%  
  October 5
- **Exam #2:** 35%  
  November 6
- **Final Exam:** 35%  
  December 17 at 2:00 (tentative date)

**Exams:** The midterm exams include multiple choice and true/false questions on text and lecture material. Any guest speaker lectures, videos, or class discussions are also “fair game” for exams.

**Final Exam:** The final exam follows the same format as the two midterms (multiple choice and true/false). It will **not** be cumulative.

**Sample Exam Questions:** The following are examples of the types of the questions that make up the exams in this course:

1. According to Emile Durkheim, it is ____________ that hold(s) modern industrialized societies together.
   a. anomie
   b. shared moral beliefs and values
   c. interdependence, due to specialized economic activity
   d. biological factors

2. Sociologists describe the process where subjects deviate from their typical behaviour because they realize they are under observation as:
   a. a control group
   b. spurious
   c. the Hawthorne effect
   d. skewing subjects

3. Sailors, hipsters, teenagers, and ranchers are all examples of:
   a. cultures
   b. countercultures
   c. subcultures
   d. contracultures

4. Which of the following is most likely to be a secondary group?
   a. The members of a small weekly seminar class in cultural diversity
   b. The members of a Hutterite colony in Manitoba
   c. The members of the United Nations General Assembly
   d. All of these

5. Which of the following is true of stigma in Canada and the United States?
   a. Many people with “normal” appearance have cosmetic surgery each year because of the “beauty myth.”
b. People may be stigmatized for deviant behaviours in which they no longer engage.
c. A person need not be guilty of a crime to be stigmatized.
d. All of the above.

**Grading**
Final grades are not curved or scaled. They will be assigned according to the following guideline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86-89</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82-85</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78-81</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74-77</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-73</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62-65</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58-61</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54-57</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-53</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Minimal Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-49</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>Failure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Please note:** “Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4 (2) of the University Calendar.”

**Academic Integrity**
“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest levels of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provision of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.” For resources on Academic Integrity students may want to consult the Office of Judicial Affairs website at http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en/Students.aspx

**Learning and Working Environment**
The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:
- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.
For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy, you may contact the student ombudservice: http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/

**Attendance, Absences and Missed Grade Components**

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences from a midterm exam due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by email within two working days (or as soon as possible, given the circumstances underlying the absence). Students with an excused absence from a midterm must write the missed exam rather than shift the weight of that exam to other course requirements. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult section 23.3(1) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed in or completed as a result.

If a student fails to write the final exam, he or she must formally apply to his or her Faculty within two working days following the missed exam in order to be considered for a deferral (or as soon as possible, given the circumstances underlying the absence). Deferred examinations are intended to accommodate students who have experienced an incapacitating illness or severe domestic affliction. Please note that as stated in § 23.3(2)c of the Calendar, “a deferred examination will not be approved if a student (a) has not been in regular attendance where attendance and/or participation are required, and/or, (b) excluding the final exam, has completed less than half of the assigned work.” Students who receive a deferral for their final exam will write the deferred exam on **Saturday, January 16th, 2016 at 9:00 am, in BUS 106.**

**Recording of Lectures**

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor as part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and it not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

**Important General Information**

- Re-writing exams, submitting extra work or any other option to increase grades will not be considered under any circumstances.
- Pleas for higher marks to get into quota University programs will not be heard under any circumstances.
- This will be a classroom in which we all feel free to express our opinions and points of view. When you have the floor, it is expected that you will express your views politely. The classroom atmosphere at the same time will allow us all to question each other and the world around us in a respectful manner. Students who monopolize class discussions are also disruptive to the discussion process.
- The official class list is produced by the second week of term. Instructors are forbidden to add student names to grade sheets. Students not on grade sheets are not deemed to be properly registered and may not submit exams or assignments. It is your
responsibility to check your Class Schedule on Bear Tracks to ensure you are registered in the course.

- Students requiring assistance for a variety of needs are encouraged to refer to the following website: [www.uofa.ualberta.ca/campus-life](http://www.uofa.ualberta.ca/campus-life) which lists support services available to undergraduate students. For example, for concerns regarding exam anxiety and concerns of an academic nature, the Student Success Centre is available for assistance (492-2682); Counselling and Clinical Services (492-5205) provides support of a more personal nature.

TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE AND REQUIRED READINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 2 (w)</td>
<td>Introduction; What is Sociology?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 4 (f)</td>
<td>The Sociological Perspective</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 7 (m)</td>
<td>Labour Day – No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 9 (w)</td>
<td>The Sociological Perspective</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 11 (f)</td>
<td>The Development of Sociology</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 14 (m)</td>
<td>The Development of Sociology</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 16 (w)</td>
<td>Major Theoretical Perspectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 18 (f)</td>
<td>Major Theoretical Perspectives</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 21 (m)</td>
<td>Sociological Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 23 (w)</td>
<td>Sociological Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 25 (f)</td>
<td>Sociological Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 28 (m)</td>
<td>Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 30 (w)</td>
<td>Culture</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 2 (f)</td>
<td>Culture</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading:</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 5 (m)</td>
<td>Midterm (Chapters 1, 2, 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 7 (w)</td>
<td>Socialization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 9 (f)</td>
<td>Socialization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading:</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 12 (m)</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Day; University Buildings closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 14 (w)</td>
<td>Socialization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 16 (f)</td>
<td>Social Interaction and Social Structure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading:</td>
<td>Chapter 4, 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 19 (m)</td>
<td>Social Interaction and Social Structure</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 21 (w)</td>
<td>Groups and Organizations</td>
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</table>
Oct. 23 (f) Groups and Organizations
Reading: Chapter 5

Oct. 26 (m) Stratification in Canada
Oct. 28 (w) Stratification in Canada
Oct. 30 (f) Stratification in Canada
Reading: Chapter 6

Nov. 2 (m) Racial and Ethnic Inequality
Nov. 4 (w) Racial and Ethnic Inequality
Nov. 6 (f) Midterm Exam (Chapters 4, 5, 6)
Reading: Chapter 8

Nov. 9 (m) Fall term Reading Week
Nov. 11 (w) Fall term Reading Week
Nov. 13 (f) Fall term Reading Week

Nov. 16 (m) Racial and Ethnic Inequality
Nov. 18 (w) Gender Relations
Nov. 20 (f) Gender Relations
Reading: Chapter 8, 9

Nov. 23 (m) Gender Relations
Nov. 25 (w) The Mass Media
Nov. 27 (f) The Mass Media
Reading: Chapter 10

Nov. 30 (m) Deviance and Social Control
Dec. 2 (w) Deviance and Social Control
Dec. 4 (f) Deviance and Social Control
Reading: Chapter 11

Dec. 7 (m) Last class; catch up day; review

Final Exam: Tentative Date: Thursday, December 17 at 2:00 (Chapters 8, 9, 10, 11)
(Date, time and location to be confirmed on Bear Tracks)