Class meeting times: MW 3:30-4:50 TL (Tory Lecture Theatres) B 1
Office hours: MW 1-2pm or by appointment
Office: Tory 6-11
Contact: bayatrizi@ualberta.ca

Course description
In this course you will acquire the basic concepts and necessary skills to think sociologically (commonly referred to as the ‘sociological imagination’). You will learn how sociologists look at the world as compared to psychologists or economists or philosophers.

Course objectives
By the end of the term, you should be able to
• Describe and apply the ‘sociological imagination’
• Describe major sociological concepts and theories
• Discuss major sociological issues such as inequality, gender, crime, media

Course content
The course will cover several chapters from Karen Anderson’s *Thinking about Sociology*, 2nd edition. Through this textbook we will explore the following five themes:
1. The Sociological Perspective or "Imagination"
   • The distinction between sociology and other social sciences
   • Sociological theories
2. Society and the individual
   • The social construction of reality
   • Socialization and social interaction
3. Core sociological topics
   • Inequality, crime, gender, media

Skills
Students who pass this course will be able to
• Evaluate and apply abstract concepts and theoretical perspectives to particular cases
• Synthesize text materials with personal observations and experiences
• Organize and summarize information and textual material
• Understand, critically analyze, and review information presented in multi-media
• Express informed views on relevant topics

Textbook and Exam Resources
I will draw primarily on Karen Anderson’s *Thinking about Sociology*, 2nd edition) as well as on my own knowledge and expertise, and documentaries to teach the course. Most students find that attending class and taking notes is sufficient for exam preparation. I
post lecture slides online before class to aid you in taking better notes. You have the option of buying Anderson’s textbook from the bookstore if you wish. Sample exam questions will be provided in class on designated exam prep. days.

**Class activities**

Class activities will involve lectures and discussions. Lectures will cover key themes. Everything discussed in class, including video clips, is fair game for the exams.

**Course evaluation**

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<th>Weight</th>
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<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td>February 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Non-cumulative. Multiple choice, true or false, fill the blank</td>
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**Date of deferred final exam:** Saturday, May 5, BUS 1-10; 9:00am

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**Department of Sociology’s Grading Guide**

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<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
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**Missed tests:** You must notify me within two days of the missed exam. Scheduling a make up exam is at my discretion and will depend on circumstances (e.g., serious medical problems). Unexcused absence during the exam will result in 5 points deduction per day. See above for info on Final Deferred Exam.

**Contacting the instructor:** You may contact me using the email address listed above. I aim to respond to all emails within one business day (no weekends or holidays). You are encouraged to make use of my office hours listed above.

**Recoding lectures and taking photos and videos**
You are NOT allowed to record the lecture (video or sound) and you are NOT allowed to take pictures of my slides, myself, or your classmates.

**Lecture topics and readings**

Note: This is a tentative schedule and is subject to change.

January 8-10 Chapter 1 The Sociological Perspective
January 15-17 Chapter 5 The Beginnings of Sociology
January 22-24 Chapter 6 Karl Marx and Max Weber
January 29-31 Chapter 7 The Social-Interactionist Perspective
February 5-7 Chapter 8 Socialization, Chapter 9 Interaction Rituals
February 12-14 Chapter 9 Interaction Rituals, Chapter 10 Culture
February 19-21 NO CLASS
February 26-28 Midterm Exam prep./midterm exam
March 5-7 Chapter 11 Social Structure and Social Agency
March 12-14 Chapter 12 Social Inequality
March 19-21 Chapter 14 Gender
March 26-28 Chapter 16 Deviance and Crime
April 2-4 Chapter 17 (NO CLASS on April 2) Culture and Media
April 9-11 Chapter 18 The Internet/exam prep.
Policies and Procedure

“Policy about course outlines can be found in Course Requirements, Evaluation Procedures and Grading of the University Calendar.”

Academic honesty: “The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards 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 provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/) and avoid any behaviour that 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.”

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/). Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures can be found in the GFC Policy Manual, available at http://gfcpolicymanual.ualberta.ca/.

Recording of Lectures:
“Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).”

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:
Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult Attendance of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the 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. Students with an excused absence from an exam will be given an opportunity to make up the exam.

In this course, attendance is not required. However, regular attendance has shown to dramatically improve a student’s learning and performance.

Policy for Missed Exams:
You may bring a doctor’s note if you miss an exam due to illness, however this cannot be required. If you do not have a doctor’s note, you can do one of the following:
• "University of Alberta Medical Statement" signed by a doctor (this cannot be required, but must be accepted if provided in lieu of other documents).

• "Medical Declaration Form for Students" (for Faculty of Arts students, can also be obtained in the Sociology Office)

• "Statutory Declaration" (for students in Faculties other than Arts, to be obtained from the Office of the Registrar)

For other acceptable absences, such as domestic afflictions or religious convictions, the student should submit appropriate documentation. This could include the following:

- For a death in the family – a copy of the death certificate
- For a religious conflict – a letter from the church or pastor
- For a car accident – a copy of the accident report

**Student Accessibility Services (SAS):**
If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with SAS, contact their office immediately (1-800 SUB; Email ssdsrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB www.ssds.ualberta.ca).