



Introduction to Sociology
School of Behavioural and Social Sciences

General Information

Course: SOC 1020
Section: 534
Term: Fall/Winter
Year: 2022-2023
Delivery: Synchronous Online
Course Day and Time: Monday 6:30-9:30PM
Location: Zoom!

Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Roberts
E-mail: srober7@uwo.ca
Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description:

An examination of the major theoretical perspectives in the field of Sociology, methods of empirical investigation of social phenomena, socialization, group structure, principles of social organization, community structure, population and social change.

Antirequisite(s): Sociology 1020W/X, Sociology 1021E, Sociology 1025A/B, Sociology 1026F/G, Sociology 1027A/B.

Required Course Materials:

Macionis, John J., Gerber, Linda M., & Colovecchia, Sandra. (2021). *Sociology*. Tenth Canadian Edition. Toronto, Ontario: Pearson Prentice Hall. (See note on OWL)

Learning Outcomes:

This full-credit course provides students with a fundamental grounding in sociological perspectives, theories, and methods to help us understand the social world. What is sociology, and why does it matter? How is sociology different from common sense? How do structural divisions, such as SES, race, ethnicity, or gender affect us as collective groups and as individuals, and how do sociological theories contribute to our understanding of social issues? These are the types of questions that students should be able to answer by the end of this course.

At its conclusion, the student should have:

- acquired a new sociological language that will permit her/him/them to take more advanced courses in sociology
- gained a fundamental knowledge of the many areas explored through sociological research and theory
- apply key sociological concepts to everyday circumstances
- possess the tools to critically examine her/his/their own world through a sociological lens
- to raise consciousness about our social world—the role we play and the opportunity it affords us to contribute

Evaluation:

Component	Weight	Date/ Deadline	Brescia Competencies (reviewed below)
Forum Posts	15%	Weeks run Monday to Sunday. Forum posts are due at the end of the week by Sunday 11:55pm. Grades are posted at the end of the year.	All
Test 1	20%	November 7 (Accessed through Owl)	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness
Test 2	30%	January 30 (Accessed through Owl)	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness
Test 3	30%	During April Exam Period	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness
Course Reflection	5%	Course Reflections Due Sunday, March 26, 11:55PM	Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Social Awareness

Lectures:

I will host lectures every week via Zoom. You will find an incomplete set of lecture notes on Owl (see each weekly tab) to help you with notetaking. The textbook provides important information, so you should read it and incorporate information into the notes. I do not cover everything in the textbook and may add material not covered in the book.

Recorded versions of the lectures are in OWL with an embedded link to YouTube. This is your back-up plan if you become sick, and it is my back-up plan if we don't get to cover everything during class time. By using the features available on YouTube, you can access the subtitles/closed captions for the videos. YouTube also allows for the videos to be slowed down (.25, .50, .75) and sped up (1.25, 1.5, 1.75, 2.0), which will hopefully meet the differential learning needs of all my students. You can also adjust the quality of the stream. If there are issues with anything, please let me know via email. If you have questions about anything in the lectures, please let me know. If I don't know there are problems, then I can't fix them. You are responsible for all the material in the textbooks and in the lectures—it is all “fair game” for the test.

Zoom:

Zoom is a webconferencing app that is free to Western students. Instructions for downloading and running Zoom can be found at: <https://wts.uwo.ca/zoom/>. **IMPORTANT:** When logging in to Zoom, select Sign In with SSO. On the Sign In with SSO screen, enter westernuniversity, then click Continue. You will login to Zoom using your Western user ID and password.

Course Schedule

Week # on Owl	Date	Topic	Chapter
1	Sept 12	Course Introduction	
2	Sept 19	Sociological Perspectives	1
3	Sept 26	Society	4
4	Oct 3	Culture	3
	Oct 10	Thanksgiving	
5	Oct 17	Socialization	5
6	Oct 24	Social Interaction in Everyday Life	6
	Oct 31	Reading Week	
7	Nov 7	Test 1 (20%) (Accessed through OWL)	
8	Nov 14	Media	7
9	Nov 21	Groups and Organizations	8
10	Nov 28	Sexuality	9
11	Dec 5	Deviance	10
12A + 12B	Jan 9	Social Stratification/ Social Class	11, 12
14	Jan 16	Gender	14
15	Jan 23	Race	15
	Jan 30	Test 2 (30%) (Accessed through OWL)	
16	Feb 6	Aging	16
17	Feb 13	Work	17
	Feb 20-26	Reading Week	
19	Feb 27	Politics	18
20	March 6	Education	21
21	March 13	Health	22
22	March 20	Demography/Course reflections due Sunday March 26 11:55PM	23
23	March 27	Social Movements	24
24	April 3	Social Change	25
25	April 10	TBD	
	TBD – Final exam period	Final Exam (30%)	

Weekly Forum Posts 15%:

Each week, discussion questions related to the assigned chapters will be posted in the forum. You are expected to engage in the discussion posts by 11:55PM Sunday (the week begins on Monday, so this is at the end of the week). This hopefully will allow you to process the information better and to apply the text information to the world around you. These discussions will be *graded at the end of the term* and are a way to approximate an attendance/engagement grade. My hope is that you will interact with each other on the forum.

Course Reflection Paper 5%

Your reflection paper should detail your educational journey through the course material. This paper should **not** be a review of course content. For example, the papers should NOT include definitions of terminology or written descriptions of theories. Do NOT write things like "I liked studying gender, which is defined as the

"personal traits and social positions that members of a society attach to being male or female" (Macionis & Gerber, 2017, p. X). You are expected to reflect on the material and find connections to your own lived experiences. How did you see your world sociologically as a result of taking this course? What stuck out to you? What challenged the way that you thought? The paper is about YOU and your learning. It does not require any references. The paper should be 500-700 words.

Test Information (20%, 30%, 30%)

The tests will be a mix of both text and lectures. Materials from the weekly discussions will support learning but not be directly testable. The format of the tests will be discussed during the weeks prior to the examination date. The final exam date is normally set by the Registrar's Office. Exam dates, once they have been set by the Registrar's Office, are firm and will not be changed. More information about the exams will be provided during the term. Software designed to detect cheating may be run on the final exam, where computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or written exams will be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. There is zero-tolerance for cheating, and any member(s) of the class caught cheating may receive an F and may fail the course. Cheating is a serious academic offense that will be dealt with severely.

Brescia Competencies

You will work towards developing the Brescia competencies during this course. The Brescia competencies include:

Communication: The ability to exchange information and meaning effectively across cultures, space and time through appropriate modes of communication. Includes oral, written, and interpersonal or group communicate, as well as the ability to use current or innovative media.

Critical Thinking: The ability to engage in thinking characterized by the rational, informed, independent, and open- minded exploration of issues, ideas, and events before accepting or formulating a conclusion.

Inquiry and Analysis: The ability to reach informed decisions by breaking down complex issues, exploring evidence, demonstrating information literacy, and describing relationships among persons, things, or events.

Problem Solving: The ability to create and execute a strategy to answer a question or achieve a goal. Includes being able to anticipate the consequence of a potential solution, select a strategy among several alternatives, and decide when an acceptable outcome has been reached.

Self-Awareness and Development: The ability to draw meaning, knowledge and value from honest and fair reflection and self- evaluation. Students can recognize their values and their impact on others and make a commitment to personal growth.

Social Awareness and Engagement: The ability to respect and be open to diversity (e.g., cultural, religious, political). Students take personal responsibility to actively engage in and contribute to creating positive change in local, regional, national, or global communities and societies.

Valuing: The ability to make decisions or choose actions based on the consistent application of moral principles and ethical codes. Students must also be able to understand the ideas informing one's beliefs and be accountable for their actions.

IMPORTANT: Copyright and Intellectual Property

PowerPoint lecture slides and notes, lists of readings, in-class activities, assignment guidelines, and other components of the course materials are typically the intellectual property of the instructor. Unauthorized reproduction or use of audio-recording, video-recording, photographing, sharing on social media, or posting on/downloading from course-sharing websites outside of OWL is an infringement of copyright and is prohibited. Such action may be considered a Code of Conduct violation and lead to sanctions. Forged notes and certificates will be dealt with severely. To submit a forged document is a scholastic offence and you will be subject to academic sanctions.

Academic Accommodation: For course components worth 10% or more of the total course grade, please see the Academic Policies and Regulations section at the end of this course outline or consult the Academic Calendar.

Make-Up Exams for this Course: Make-up exams, if granted with proper documentation and support from an academic counselor, will be set by me (date). The format of the make-up exam may be the same or different as the one written by the class.

Policy on Make-Up Exams: Make-up exams are offered only in the most compelling of circumstances, such as serious illness or a death in the family. You should understand that academic accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. Requests will only be considered on medical or compassionate grounds. For term tests, you must demonstrate to me that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds that **must be documented** before academic accommodation will be considered (see documentation rules). Be advised that if you miss an exam, you run a serious risk of getting a zero on that component of your grade.

In all cases, action must be taken at the earliest possible opportunity, preferably prior to the scheduled examination or test. If you are unable to contact me, have someone do it for you. If you decide that you are able to write the test or examination at its regularly scheduled time, you should be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations or having the value of the test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis is not permitted.

Grades and Grading: Grades will be posted on OWL as soon as they become available. Often, final grades are posted by the Registrar's office first.

2022-23 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS 1. POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

The complete policy regarding Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students can be found at https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_135

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services (https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

Personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to

provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation.

Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf
2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;
3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;
4. Students **must** communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;
5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s).

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor (https://brescia.uwo.ca/enrolment_services/academic_advising/book_an_appointment.php). If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please contact your Academic Advisor or see the list of sessional dates in the Academic Calendar (<https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>).

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Please note that for asynchronous online courses, attendance or participation requirements may be different than for synchronous or in-person courses.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work, and arrange academic accommodations if appropriate and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory

(https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_64).

4. 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:

https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage 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 academic offence.

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

Computer-marked Tests/exams: Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written Special Permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

7. SUPPORT

Support Services The Brescia University College Registrar’s website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. Students can access supports through Brescia’s Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Development & Success at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>).

Mental Health and Wellness Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through **Health & Wellness at Brescia**, https://brescia.uwo.ca/student_life/health_and_wellness/index.php and **Health and Wellness at Western**, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at https://brescia.uwo.ca/safe_campus/sexual_violence/index.php.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy, and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.