



SOC100H1S – L0101/L2001

Winter 2023

Intro to Sociology I: Sociological Perspective

Class Time: Tuesdays from 6:10-8 pm
Class Location: Convocation Hall
Course Email: soc100h1s.a@course.utoronto.ca

Professor: Dr. Mitch McIvor
Online Office Hours: Fridays, 3:30-5pm (<https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/89556220437>)

Course Coordinator: Patricia Roach
Online Office Hours: Wednesdays, 4-5pm (<https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/84402193564>)

Teaching Assistants: Kristen Bass, Noam Keren, Rebecca Nachtigall,
Benson Cheung, Paul Jakhu

1. Course Overview:

This course will challenge you to think Sociologically (i.e., socially and structurally) on a wide range of issues that affect us all. The course showcases the eclectic nature of the discipline and the contemporary debates that animate it. We will examine what is “Canadian” culture, the role and impact of education and mass media on our lives, and the patterns of class, gender, racial, and ethnic inequality in Canada and internationally. We will also take up the topic of health and mental health, crime and deviance, as well as politics and social movements to further our understanding of both the discipline of Sociology and the social world in which we live our lives. We may like to think of ourselves as perfectly free but powerful social forces open up some opportunities and close off others, constraining our freedom and helping to make us what we are.

2. Course Objectives:

At the end of the course, students will be able to...

- i. demonstrate an understanding of core Sociological approaches;
- ii. apply core Sociological concepts to different contexts and social problems;
- iii. understand the basis upon which we can distinguish scientific vs. unscientific claims;
- iv. develop the skill of identifying core information, synthesizing it, and applying it;
- v. write well-researched papers in a concise, clear, and organized style.

3. “Textbook”/Readings/Assigned Material:

There are no required textbooks in this course, and I do not require you to purchase any outside materials. There is, however, assigned material that you should review on your own BEFORE each lecture. Assigned material typically takes the form of a YouTube playlist and always

consists of sources that are freely available online. For each lecture, the assigned material is designed to take between 30-60 minutes of your time to review.

4. Course Evaluation & Requirements:

| Assessments | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <i>Item</i> | <i>Worth</i> | <i>Due</i> |
| a. Assigned Material Quizzes | 10% | Associated with each lecture and due at the start of each lecture (i.e. 6:10 pm on Tuesdays) |
| b. Tutorial Reflections/Activities | 10% | Associated with each tutorial and completed within tutorial. |
| c. Midterm | 20% | Tues, Feb.28 th |
| d. Term Paper | 30% | 3 deadline options: Jan.31, Feb.14, March 21 |
| e. Final Exam | 30% | Set by the University between April 11 th and April 28 th |
| TOTAL | 100% | |

4a. Assigned Material Quizzes (1% each, best 10 of 11 grades, 10% of your final grade)

Associated with all 11 lectures is a ten-question Quercus Quiz that tests your knowledge of the lecture's assigned material. These quizzes are worth 1% each and the score you receive on the quiz is the score you will be given (i.e. if you score 7/10 on a quiz you will receive 0.7/1 and so on). The material that you are to review for each lecture will be provided on Quercus as a link to a YouTube Playlist. These quizzes are timed, and you are given 15 minutes to complete each one. The quizzes are designed to test whether you viewed the material, and while they are not free points/marks, they are also not designed to be exceptionally difficult.

If you are unhappy with a grade on an AM Quiz, we offer the ability for the final exam to replace any and all AM Quiz grades. This is done automatically, no need to email. The way it works is that the final exam replaces any AM Quiz grade that it is higher than. If an AM Quiz grade is higher than your final exam grade, however, then it will not replace it.

You are allowed to miss 1 out of the 11 quizzes with no penalty since we use your best 10 of 11 grades. If you miss more than one assigned material quiz for any reason, then the weight of each missed quiz is automatically shifted to the final exam. **To re-emphasize this, you DO NOT need to inform us when you miss an assigned material quiz, its weight is automatically shifted to the final.**

We understand that you may want to make up an assigned material quiz beyond the one free miss, but due to the size of the class and the hours involved with arranging and providing make-ups, this is not an option that we can provide. However, shifting the weight of the

quizzes to the final exam means that you do not lose any points so there is nothing to worry about. Once again, the re-weighting happens automatically, you do not need to inform us if you miss a quiz.

For more information about assigned material and assigned material quizzes see the [Assigned Material Quizzes Frequently Asked Questions document](#).

4b. Tutorial Reflections/Activities (2% each, best 5 of 6 grades, 10% of your final grade)

Each of the six tutorials in the course (50 minutes per session) will have you complete an activity/reflection that has you engage directly with course material. The tutorial activities are worth 2% each, and we use your best 5 of 6 grades, which means you can miss one tutorial without penalty). The activities are graded based on putting in an 'honest effort' (i.e. as long as you use the time provided in the tutorials to do the activity, think about your answers, and write a sufficient amount then you will get full points).

You are allowed to miss 1 out of the 6 tutorials/tutorial activities with no penalty since we use your best 5 of 6 grades. If you miss more than one tutorial/tutorial activity for any reason, then the weight of each missed activity is automatically shifted to the final exam. **To re-emphasize this, you DO NOT need to inform us when you miss a tutorial/tutorial activity, its weight is automatically shifted to the final.**

Please also note that due to classroom size limitations/capacities as well as the size of the class in general, we can't allow students to attend a tutorial different from the one they are officially registered in on acorn. Tutorial material is not on the midterm or final exam, so if you are unable to make a tutorial for one week then you simply miss that week. We will provide the tutorial slides that were used at the end of each week for your reference, but it is not possible for us to provide a tutorial recording.

For more information about tutorials and tutorial activities see the [Tutorials & Tutorial Activities/Reflections Frequently Asked Questions document](#).

4c. Midterm Test (20% of your final grade)

We have one in-semester test that will evaluate your mastery of information from the lectures (tutorial material and assigned material are NOT on the test except where they are mentioned and discussed in lecture). Tests will be comprised of 50 multiple-choice, true-false, and matching questions. The midterm covers lectures 1-6.

The midterm will be taken in person during class time (i.e., 6:10-8 pm) on Tuesday, February 28th. More details about the midterm will be provided closer to the test date. We will provide a practice test, study guides, and special TA Exam Review Office hours to help you prepare.

For more information about the midterm test see the [Midterm Test Frequently Asked Questions document](#).

4c-i. Make-up Midterm Test

We offer make-up tests ONLY in the following circumstances:

- (1) Due to illness in which case your absence must be declared on Acorn and proof of this declaration provided.

- (2) Due to unexpected extenuating circumstances such as a family or non-illness-related personal emergency in which case you must contact your college registrar and have them email the Professors to confirm the circumstance.
- (3) Due to having another course test within 24 hours of the SOC100 test in which case you must provide the course syllabus of the conflicting test (to confirm their test time) as well as proof of enrollment in that course via an Acorn screenshot.

We will provide a link to a registration form for the make-up immediately after the midterm is completed. You must fill out this form and upload your documents there to be eligible for the makeup. **PLEASE NOTE: You do not need to email us to let us know that you will be taking the make-up, the form is all that is required. Further, even if you do email us, you still need to complete the provided form.**

For more information about the make-up midterm see the [Midterm Test Frequently Asked Questions document](#).

4d. Term Paper (worth 30% of final grade)

You are required to write one term paper (2.5 double-spaced pages in Times New Roman, 12-point font with normal margins). Papers are submitted online through Quercus and are checked diligently for plagiarism (plagiarism will, at minimum, result in a grade of 0 on the paper). To help prepare you for the paper we provide a writing guide and a tutorial session that discusses how to succeed on the paper.

We offer three times to submit the paper. We do this for two reasons:

- (1) It provides you the opportunity to submit a paper when it is most flexible for your schedule.
- (2) It provides you the opportunity to submit more than one paper to try and improve your grade (however, there is a maximum submission limit of two papers). In other words, if you submit a paper to the first or second deadline and are unhappy with your grade, then you can submit a second different/new paper for the third deadline. This gives you the chance to learn from your feedback and improve.

The deadlines for the papers are as follows

| Deadlines: | Due Dates: |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Term Paper Deadline #1 | Tues, Jan.31 by 11:59pm |
| Term Paper Deadline #2 | Tues, Feb.14 by 11:59pm |
| Term Paper Deadline #3 | Tues, March 21 by 11:59pm |

Please Note: We will provide feedback as extensively as possible for papers submitted for the first or second deadline. If you submit your essay for the last deadline, however, the feedback will be more limited due to the amount of grading and time restrictions that arise at the end of the semester.

For more information about the paper see the Term Paper Frequently Asked Questions document.

4d-i. Paper Extension & Late Paper Policy

We understand that life can get busy, and we endeavor to respect this fact and provide flexibility by offering EVERYONE a 7-day grace period to submit their essay. In other words, we will not deduct late penalties from your paper as long as it is received within 7 days of a paper deadline (no need to email, this is automatically applied to everyone). After this 7-day grace period, papers lose 10% (3 of the possible 30 points) per day. Please be advised though, if you plan to use the 7-day grace period and something happens (you get sick, a personal emergency, etc.), then you will only get a further extension if your circumstance happened BEFORE the 7-day grace period and affects you throughout the grace period. In other words, the grace period should be used as just that (a grace period for if something goes wrong and not a time you plan ahead to write your paper during).

| Deadlines: | Grace Period End Date: |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Term Paper Deadline #1 | Tues, Feb.7 by 11:59pm |
| Term Paper Deadline #2 | Tues, Feb.21 by 11:59pm |
| Term Paper Deadline #3 | Tues, March 28 by 11:59pm |

4e. Final Exam (at least 30% of your final grade)

A cumulative final exam will be held during the final exam period. Please note that the university, not us, schedules the final exam and we have no control over when the exam is scheduled or when they announce when the exam date will be. As soon as we are provided the date, we will announce it in class and on Quercus. **Please do not email asking when the final exam will be if it has not yet been announced. If it hasn't been announced, it is because we do not know it yet either.**

The final exam will also be held in person and it follows the same format and procedures as the midterm. It covers all course material presented in all lectures (tutorial material and assigned material is NOT on the final except where mentioned and discussed in lecture), but it primarily focuses on the material presented after the midterm (the distribution is 25% of questions on material from before the midterm, and 75% of questions from material after the midterm).

For more information about the Final Exam see the Final Exam Frequently Asked Questions document.

5. Extra Credit/Flexibility Policy

I endeavored to design this class in a way that respects student diversity and preferences by offering a significant amount of flexibility. We also designed it to offer multiple attempts to do well through the ability to drop or swap out grades, which we hope decreases the stress associated with the course and leaves you feeling like it was fair.

The flexibility and attempts to improve/swap out grades works as follows:

| Assessment | Flexibility Policy |
|---------------------------|---|
| Assigned Material Quizzes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed to skip/miss one of the 11 quizzes without losing points/marks. • Any additional missed quiz (for any reason) is automatically replaced by the final so that no points are lost (no limit on how many quizzes can be replaced by the final). • Any AM Quiz grade that is lower than your final exam grade will automatically be replaced by the final exam grade when final course grades are calculated. |
| Tutorial Quizzes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed to skip/miss one of the 6 tutorials without losing points/marks. • Any further missed tutorial activity (for any reason) is automatically replaced by the final so that no points are lost (no limit on how many tutorials can be replaced by the final). |
| Midterm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I recognize how stressful it can be when you have multiple tests in a short period of time. We also recognize that such circumstances can significantly affect performance. For this reason, we offer the ability to write the make-up instead when you have multiple tests in a 24-hour period (see make-up policies above for how to apply for this). • In addition, we also recognize that life circumstances can affect test performance beyond just having more than one test in the same period. For this reason, we offer the ability for the final exam to replace your midterm grade IF the final exam grade is higher. For example, if you scored a 70% on the midterm but learned and improved from this experience and scored 80% on the final exam, then the final would replace the midterm grade. This provides you the opportunity to learn and grow and gives you some margin for error on the Midterm Test. Please note, if your final exam grade is lower than your midterm test grade then the final will NOT replace it. All of this is done automatically based on which grade is higher, you DO NOT need to email to let us know you want this option, it is automatic for everyone. |
| Term Paper | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I offer three different deadlines to submit the paper. • I offer everyone a no-questions-asked 7-day grace period to submit a paper for each deadline with no late penalties. • I offer the ability to submit more than one paper to try and learn from your feedback and improve your grade (please note: this does require submitting for the first or second deadline though) |

To succeed in this class, I recommend that you do the following five things:

1. Review the Assigned Material before each lecture;
2. Attend and pay attention during lectures and tutorials;

3. Study hard for the midterm test by going over the lecture content and asking any questions you have during TA or Professor office hours;
4. Write and submit a term paper for deadline #1 or #2 so that you have time to learn from your feedback and re-submit a new paper for deadline 3 if you are unhappy with your grade;
5. If doing 1-4 and still not having success, take advantage of Professor and TA office hours to seek assistance and solicit advice.

PLEASE BE ADVISED: This course has flexibility and the ability to replace grades built into the course structure. Because of this, there will be no individualized bonus grades or opportunities to improve grades offered. Such individually offered opportunities are not fair to your fellow students. All that to say: YOUR GRADE AT THE END OF THIS COURSE IS YOUR GRADE.

7. Course Policies & Important Information for Students:

7-i: Quercus:

Quercus will be an important resource during this class. Lecture videos and slides will be posted on Quercus as well as the assigned material links. Finally, the primary means of communication in the course is the announcement function on Quercus. In other words, you need to make sure you check Quercus often and, at least, once per week.

7-ii: Lectures & Tutorials:

You MUST review all of the lectures and tutorials to do well in this course. Students are responsible for being aware of what is said in lectures and tutorials (including administrative announcements) as well as for the content presented during lectures and tutorials.

Tutorials run during even-numbered weeks (i.e. weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12). THERE ARE NO TUTORIALS IN ODD NUMBERED/THE OTHER WEEKS.

7-ii-b: Classroom Etiquette

Note that noise can carry easily in classrooms, accordingly, every student has a role to play to make the lecture a conducive environment to learning for two hours every class. You should be mindful of your noise level. Do not distract other students. Keep verbal exchanges with friends and colleagues few and at the level of a murmur.

7-iii: Academic Dishonesty

University policy on academic dishonesty must be strictly followed and cheating will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an test or assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: ‘Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty’), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. You should familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto’s Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters

(<https://www.academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/#:~:text=What%20does%20it%20mean%20to,rspect%2C%20responsibility%2C%20and%20courage;>
<https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/academic-advising-and-support/student-academic-integrity>).

7-iv: Emails

PLEASE BE ADVISED: Email should NOT be the primary means through which you have questions answered in the course. If you have questions, you should check the syllabus, the frequently asked questions documents, and the administrative slides in each lecture first. If your question is not covered by these documents, then you should seek to attend Professor and/or TA office hours where you can get an answer immediately. If your question is of a personal or private nature, and/or it is not answered through the above channels then you can email the Professors and/or the lead TA's your question. For emails, please follow the below procedures:

- You **MUST** include "SOC100" and a few word description in the subject line, so your email can be easily prioritized (the instructors and TA's teach many courses each semester and not just SOC100 so it is important to let us know the class you are emailing about).
- Emails will typically be answered within 72 business hours (i.e. not including weekends), but the more emails we get the longer it will take (hence why it is important to check the syllabus/slides/FAQ sheets and to try to attend office hours instead if possible).
- For security reasons, you **MUST** use your university associated email.
- Finally, please follow appropriate etiquette for our professional context—have an appropriate opening (ex: Hi, Good morning) and closing (ex: Thank-you, Sincerely), use proper spelling and grammar, and avoid using acronyms (ex: ttyl, fwiw, imo, asap, etc.).

7-v: Accessibility Accommodations

If you have a disability or health consideration that may require accommodations, Accessibility Services is your home base for support. It is important to contact the office as soon as possible so that accommodations for your needs are in place before classes start. All information about your disability is confidential and won't be shared with units outside of Accessibility Services without your consent. Accessibility services can be contacted by e-mail (www.accessibility.utoronto.ca) or alternatively you can reach them by phone at 416-978-8060. If you require an accommodation, please forward the instructor your AS letter of Academic Accommodations as soon as possible. If you require accommodation for writing quizzes, the tests or the final assessment you **MUST** register with Accommodated Testing Services (ATS). You need to let ATS know at least 14 days prior to the term work due dates in order to be eligible for accommodations. Further, for the final exam you need to let them know the day and time of the final by March 17th.

7-vi: Free Mental Health and/or Other Support

UofT's [My Student Support Program](#) (My SSP) provides students with real-time and/or appointment-based confidential, 24-hour support for any school, health, or general life concern at no cost.

7-vii: Other Accommodations

Your college registrar's office is there to support you in the event of an illness, personal, or family related emergency or issue that is hindering your success as a student. If there is an ongoing issue that hinders your studies, please contact your registrar as they will be able to

connect you with appropriate resources and supports and can provide documentation to your instructors that will aid in receiving accommodations.

7-viii: Ouriginal

Sometimes, students will be required to submit their assignments to the University’s plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool’s reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (<https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>).

For some of your assignments, we will be using the software Ouriginal. It uses text matching technology as a method to uphold the University’s high academic integrity standards to detect any potential plagiarism. Ouriginal is integrated into Quercus. For the assignments set up to use Ouriginal, the software will review your paper when you upload it to Quercus. To learn more about Ouriginal’s privacy policy please review its [Privacy Policy](#).

Course Schedule on the following pages...

8. Course Schedule:

| Week | Date | Topic |
|------|---------------------|---|
| 1 | Tues, Jan.10 | Intro to Sociology |
| 2 | Tues. Jan.17 | Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial #1 |
| 3 | Tues, Jan.24 | Culture |
| 4 | Tues, Jan.31 | Media & Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial #2 • Term Paper Deadline #1 |
| 5 | Tues, Feb.7 | Social Class & Economic Inequality |
| 6 | Tues, Feb.14 | Work & Labour Markets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial #3 • Term Paper Deadline #2 |
| | Tues, Feb.21 | READING WEEK- NO CLASS |
| 7 | Tues, Feb.28 | Midterm |
| 8 | Tues, March 7 | Gender & Sexuality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial #4 |
| 9 | Tues, March 14 | Racial Inequality |

| | | |
|--|----------------|---|
| 10 | Tues, March 21 | Health & Mental Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial #5 • Term Paper Deadline #3 (Final Deadline) |
| 11 | Tues, March 28 | Deviance, Crime, & the Law |
| 12 | Tues, April 4 | Social Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial #6 |
| Final Exam to be scheduled by the university between Tues, April 11 th and Friday, April 28 th | | |

**Course Schedule also included in Calendar format on the below pages...*

| January 2022 | | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 8 Week 1 | 9 Classes Begin | 10 Lecture 1: Intro to Sociology | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 Week 2 | 16 | 17 Lecture 2: Education | 18 Tutorial #1 | | 19 | 20 |
| 22 Week 3 | 23 | 24 Lecture 3: Culture | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 Week 4 | 30 | 31 Lecture 4: Media & Technology First Paper Deadline | 1 Tutorial #2 | | 2 | 3 |
| | | | | | 4 | |

| February 2022 | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|--|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 5 Week 5 | 6 | 7 Lecture 5: Social Class & Economic Inequality | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Week 6 | 13 | 14 Lecture 6: Work & Labour Markets Second Paper Deadline | 15 Tutorial #3 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| Reading Week- No Classes | | | | | | |
| 26 Week 7 | 27 | 28 Midterm Test Held In-Person 6:10-8pm | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

| March 2022 | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|--|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 5 Week 8 | 6 | 7 Lecture 7: Gender & Sexuality | 8 Tutorial #4 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Week 9 | 13 | 14 Lecture 8: Racial Inequality | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 Week 10 | 20 | 21 Lecture 9: Health & Mental Health Third & Final Paper Deadline | 22 Tutorial #5 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 Week 11 | 27 | 28 Lecture 10: Deviance, Crime, & Law | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 |

April 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----|
| 2 Week 12 | 3 | 4 Lecture 11: Social Change | 5 Tutorial #6 | 6 Last day of Classes | 7 Good Friday (University Closed) | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <p>Final Exam to be set by University between April 11th – April 28th</p> </div> | | | | | | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |