



SOC150H1S – Summer 2023

Intro to Sociology II: Sociological Inquiries

Class Time: Tuesdays from 6:10-9 pm
Thursdays from 6:10-8pm

Class Location: Classes are held online synchronously on Zoom, the link is:
<https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/89579851427>
** Classes will be recorded and recordings posted to Quercus for those that cannot attend synchronously.*

Course Email: soc150h1s.a@course.utoronto.ca

Professor: Dr. Mitch McIvor

Online Office Hours: Mondays, 12-1pm (<https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/86474476726>)
Prof. McIvor office hours begin Mon, July 10th & end Mon, August 21st

Email: soc150h1s.a@course.utoronto.ca

TA's:	Patricia Roach	Maria Finnsdottir
<i>Online Office Hours:</i>	TBD	TBD
<i>Email:</i>	soc150h1s.a@course.utoronto.ca	

1. Prerequisites:

The prerequisite for taking this course is SOC100H1. Students without this prerequisite will be removed from the course without notice by the university.

2. Course Overview:

In this sequel to SOC100H: Introduction to Sociology, SOC150H explores several core themes in the discipline—but with a focus on research methods. We start with the basic foundations of empirical research and the scientific approach. We then turn to the conceptual foundations and basic elements of research, exploring different designs with examples from published research in scholarly journals. We will focus on many substantive themes including higher education, globalization, the environment, happiness, immigration, technology, and more. There is an emphasis on the substantive aspects of these topics and the research methods used to study them. You will be introduced to many examples that illustrate different approaches to research, with analyses of data across societies and contexts. You will learn how sociologists address important questions of our time—and the ways this knowledge informs our understanding of the social world. Along the way, it is our sincere hope that you discover new ideas and insights about the social forces that shape the way you think, feel, and act in everyday life.

3. Course Objectives:

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

- i. demonstrate an understanding of core Sociological approaches and research methods;
- 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.

4. Readings/Assigned Material:

There are no required textbooks in this course, and we do not require you to purchase any outside materials. There is, however, assigned material that you should review on your own BEFORE each lecture. Links to the assigned material will be provided on Quercus.

5. Course Evaluation & Requirements:

Assessments		
<i>Item</i>	<i>Worth</i>	<i>Due</i>
a. Midterm	30%	Tuesday, July 18 th at 9:10-10:40am & 6:10-7:40pm
b. Research Paper	30%	Tuesday, August 1 st
c. Final Exam	40%	Set by the University between August 12 th & 25 th
TOTAL	100%	

5a. Midterm (30% of your final grade)- held on July 18th

We will have one course midterm that will evaluate your mastery of information from the lectures and assigned material (lectures 1-4 and their associated readings minus the syllabus are on the midterm). The midterm will be comprised of 60 multiple-choice questions, and you will be given 90 minutes to complete it.

The midterm will be taken online through Quercus via the Quizzes tab. You are provided two options for the time you take the midterm. The times offered are from 9:10-10:40am or from 6:10-7:40pm, YOU choose which time you would rather take it. The tests are completely open-book and we do not proctor the midterm (i.e. we do not watch you take it).

For more information about the term tests see the [Midterm Frequently Asked Questions document](#).

5a-i. Make-up Tests

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; and
- (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.

To apply for the make-up, please email the course email (soc150h1s.a@course.utoronto.ca) and include an explanation for why the midterm will be or was missed as well as documentation that allows us to verify the reason you missed (see above two points for what documentation is required).

Failure to take the make-up midterm for any reason results in the weight of the midterm shifting to the Final Exam.

For more information about the paper see the [Research Paper Frequently Asked Questions document](#).

5b. Research Paper (worth 30% of final grade)- due August 1st

You are required to write one research paper (3-4 double-spaced pages). 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, detailed assignment instructions, class time dedicated to covering the assignment, and numerous other resources.

Please Note:

- **It is your responsibility to submit a readable document.** Corrupted files, documents with only random symbols, or any other similar circumstance that results in the document not being readable will be treated as a failure to submit the document on time. No exceptions will be made in this circumstance, and you will be subject to the late penalty policy until the essay is received.
- **It is your responsibility to submit a document.** It is your responsibility to ensure your essay is submitted. We do not grant extensions or making exceptions due to claiming that you thought a document had been submitted. Please note that time stamps on google docs, word, or any other word processor are easy to change and, thus, we CANNOT accept time stamps as proof that an essay was done on time despite not being submitted on time. No exceptions will be made in this circumstance, and you will be subject to the late penalty policy until the essay is received.
- **Please have reasonable expectations of feedback.** The TA's provide feedback as extensively as possible given the time they are given to grade the essays. We only have funding for TA's to spend 15 minutes grading each paper, this is a structural limitation that we have no control over. As such, you can expect some comments on your essay, a filled in rubric, and a short paragraph of overall feedback. We understand that you may wish for even more feedback, but this is simply not possible given the limitations of TA support we face.

For more information about the paper see the [Research Paper Frequently Asked Questions document](#).

5b-i. Paper Extensions & Late Paper Policy

We understand that life can get busy, and we endeavor to respect this fact and provide flexibility by offering EVERYONE a 3-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 3 days of a paper deadline (no need to email, this is automatically applied to everyone).

After this 3-day grace period, papers lose 2 out of 100% per day. However, please be advised that we will NOT accept papers after August 18th, 2023.

5c. Final Exam (at least 40% of your final grade)

A cumulative final exam will be held during the final exam period. Please note that the university, not the course Professors, schedule the final exam and we have no control of when the exam is scheduled or when they announce the exam date. As soon as we are provided the date, we will announce it in class and on Quercus. The final exam is open-book, completed online, and follows the same format and procedures as the midterm. The only exception is that the final exam is 90 questions, and you are given 2.5 hours to complete it.

For more information about the Final Exam see the [Final Exam Frequently Asked Questions document](#).

6. Extra Credit Policy

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

1. Read and review the assigned reading before each lecture;
2. Attend and pay attention during lectures or watch the lecture recordings in a timely manner after the lectures are completed;
3. Study hard for the midterm and final exam by going over the lecture content as well as the assigned material and asking any questions you have during TA or Professor office hours;
4. Start your research paper early and ensure you get it in on time;
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 that we do not offer any additional opportunities to earn extra credit. Further, we do not offer individualized extra-credit opportunities because doing so and not offering it to everyone would be unequal and unfair. Your grade at the end of the course is your final 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 reading 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:

You MUST review all of the lectures to do well in this course. Students are responsible for being aware of what is said in lectures (including administrative announcements) as well as for the content presented during lectures. Lectures are held online synchronously, they will also be recorded and the recording posted on Quercus.

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. a grade of zero on a 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 (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>).

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 teaching team your question using our course email

(soc150h1s.a@course.utoronto.ca). For emails, please follow the below procedures:

- For security reasons, you **MUST** use your university-associated email.
- Please also 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.).
- 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).

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 accommodation, please forward the instructor your AS letter of Academic Accommodation as soon as possible. If you require accommodation for writing quizzes, tests, or the final assessment you **MUST** register with Accommodated Testing Services (<https://lsm.utoronto.ca/ats/>).

Please Note: For essay deadlines, letters of accommodation that grant 7-day extension will be due August 8th, 7 days after the due date of the paper. In other words, the extension is given from the original due date and NOT from the end of the 3-day grace period.

7-vi: Illness-Related Accommodations

Students who miss the midterm, final, or are late in submitting the research paper for medical reasons, need to email the instructors using the email soc150h1s.a@course.utoronto.ca and also declare their absence on the system (ACORN).

Students who miss the midterm, final, or are late in submitting the research paper for other reasons, such as family or other personal reasons, should request their College Registrar to email the instructor.

7-vii: 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-viii: 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-ix: Ouriginal

In this class, student papers will automatically be submitted to the University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. As part of this, 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 website (<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](#).

7-x: ChatGPT & Other AI

Students are encouraged to make use of technology, including generative artificial intelligence tools, to contribute to their understanding of course materials. Students may not use artificial intelligence tools for taking tests (midterm or final exam) in this course, but students may use generative AI tools for other assignments, including the research paper.

While students may use artificial intelligence tools, including generative AI, in this course as learning aids or to help produce assignments. However, students are ultimately accountable for the work they submit.

Students may choose to use generative artificial intelligence tools as they work through the term paper assignment in this course; this use must be documented in an appendix. The

documentation should include what tool(s) were used, how they were used, and how the results from the AI were incorporated into the submitted work.

Any content produced by an artificial intelligence tool must be cited appropriately. Many organizations that publish standard citation formats are now providing information on citing generative AI (e.g., MLA: <https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/>).

8. Course Schedule:

Week	Date	Topic	Reading
1	Tues, July 4 th	Intro to the Course (asynchronous & pre-recorded)	Course Syllabus (available on Quercus)
2	Thurs, July 6 th	Intro to Research Methods 1	Babbie- Human Inquiry & Science
3	Tues, July 11 th	Intro to Research Methods 2	OpenText BC- Chapter 2 Sociological Research
4	Thurs, July 13 th	Immigration	“Bangladeshi Muslims in Mississippi: Impression management based on the intersectionality of religion, ethnicity, and gender” by Tahseen Shams
5	Tues, July 18 th	Term Test 1	
6	Thurs, July 20 th	Tentative Topic- Labour Unions	To be announced/provided closer to lecture.
7	Tues, July 25 th	Tentative Topic- Gender & Politics	To be announced/provided closer to lecture.
8	Thurs, July 27 th	Happiness	To be announced/provided closer to lecture.
9	Tues, August 1 st	Addiction	“Gender Differences in Prescription Opioid Misuse Among US Black Adults” by Harvey Nicholson Jr.
10	Thurs, August 3 rd	Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion	To be announced/provided closer to lecture.
11	Tues, August 8 th	Higher Education	“Relative Education & the Advantage of a College Degree” - Jonathan Horowitz
12	Thurs, August 10 th	Indigenous Communities in Canada	To be announced/provided closer to lecture.
Final Exam to be scheduled by university between Tues, April 11 th and Friday, April 28 th			

**Course Schedule also included in Calendar format below...*

8. Course Calendar:

July 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4 Lecture 1: Intro to Class	5	6 Lecture 2 Intro to Methods 1	7	8
9	10 Prof Mclvor Office Hours 12-1pm	11 Lecture 3: Intro to Methods 2	12	13 Lecture 4: Immigration	14	15
16	17 Prof Mclvor Office Hours 12-1pm	18 Lecture 5: Term Test	19	20 Lecture 6: Labour Unions	21	22
23	24 No Prof. Mclvor Office Hours	25 Lecture 7: Gender & Politics	26	27 Lecture 8: Happiness	28	29

August 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31 Prof Mclvor Office Hours 12-1pm	1 Lecture 9: Addiction	2	3 Lecture 10: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion	4	5
6	7 Prof Mclvor Office Hours 12-1pm	8 Research Paper Due Lecture 11: Higher Education	9	10 Lecture 12: Indigenous Communities in Canada	11	12 <i>Final Exam Period Starts</i>
13	14 Prof Mclvor Office Hours 12-1pm	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Prof Mclvor Office Hours 12-1pm	22	23	24	25 <i>Final Exam Period Ends</i>	26