



a place of mind

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Soci 101-102: Social Interaction and Culture

2019 Winter Term 1

Tuesdays & Thursdays 2 - 3:30 pm

Woodward (Instructional Resources Centre-IRC) Room #2

Acknowledgment: UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam) people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on in their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.

Instructor: Professor Sinikka Elliott

Office: Anthropology and Sociology (ANSO) Building, #3108

E-mail: sinikka.elliott@ubc.ca

Office Hours: Wed. 1 – 3pm and by appointment

Course Overview: Welcome to the field of sociology – the scientific study of human society and social behaviour. This course is designed to acquaint you with basic sociological concepts, theories, and methods about social interaction and culture and to inspire your *sociological imagination*. The sociological imagination involves being sensitive to the myriad social and cultural influences upon individual actions and beliefs while simultaneously recognizing that society is a human construction. Through a variety of course materials and activities, you will cultivate your sociological imagination in order to critically analyze your own life and the world around you.

Course Outcomes: By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Understand and explain the basic tenets of sociology;
- 2) Identify and apply key theories and concepts pertaining to social interaction and culture; and
- 3) Use critical-thinking skills and the sociological imagination to analyze the social world and your place in it.

Required Reading: There is no assigned textbook for this course. Readings will be available as PDFs on the course Canvas page (canvas.ubc.ca) or can be accessed online. It is recommended that you print out all PDF readings and place them in a 3-ring binder for easy access and reference. Readings are assigned weekly. Students are expected to have completed the week's assigned readings prior to coming to class on Tuesday. Additionally, students are required to listen to assigned podcasts, watch assigned videos, and access other online content occasionally.

Canvas: Canvas will be used for announcements, assignments, readings, and grades. Log in to Canvas with your CWL to access the course webpage.

Tutorial Discussion Sections:

Discussion section	Time of Discussion	Location:	Teaching Assistant
2A1	9-10AM	BUCH D207	Umay Kader
2B1	10-11AM	BUCH D323	Umay Kader
2C1	11-12PM	BUCH D307	Umay Kader
2D1	12-1PM	BUCH D307	Suki Xiao
2E1	1-2PM	BUCH D307	Emily Truong
2F1	2-3PM	BUCH D304	Suki Xiao
2G1	9-10AM	BUCH D221	Kirsten Tarasoff
2H1	10-11AM	IKB 461	Kirsten Tarasoff
2I1	11-12PM	IKB 461	Emily Truong
2J1	12-1PM	BUCH D213	Rebecca Qin
2K1	1-2PM	ANSO 205	Rebecca Qin
2L1	2-3PM	ANSO 202	Rebecca Qin
2N1	10-11AM	BUCH D213	Gabriela Markman
2O1	11-12PM	BUCH D229	Gabriela Markman
2P1	12-1PM	BUCH D205	Emily Truong
2Q1	1-2PM	BUCH D205	Suki Xiao

Teaching Assistants (TAs):

Teaching Assistants

Emily Truong-Cheung
Gabriela Markman
Umay Kader
Rebecca Qin
Suki Xiao
Kirsten Tarasoff

Email

emily.truong@ubc.ca
gmarkman@alumni.ubc.ca
umaykader@alumni.ubc.ca
s.qin@alumni.ubc.ca
siqi.xiao@ubc.ca
Kirsten.tarasoff@alumni.ubc.ca

Course Requirements and Evaluation:

Discussion Sections (30%) (300 points)

Each week, starting Wed. Sept 11th, students will attend their assigned discussion section. Attendance is mandatory, and attendance will be taken at the beginning of each tutorial. During tutorial, the TA will work with students to develop and hone their sociological imaginations and writing skills through a series of activities and writing assignments. The goal of tutorials is to help students further develop and apply a sociological perspective and understanding of their own biography.

Discussion section requirements include:

1. Attend a weekly assigned discussion section, prepared to engage in active learning exercises;
2. Participate actively and respectfully in tutorial activities; and
3. Complete and submit assignments and other activities geared toward furthering your sociological imagination.

Regular attendance at your registered discussion section is a course requirement. Assignments cannot be made up, except under extenuating circumstances (i.e., in-term concession from an academic advisor).

In-Class Quizzes (20%) (200 points)

A total of 11 in-class quizzes will be given throughout the term to measure attendance, reading, and comprehension. In-class quizzes cannot be made up without an in-term concession from your academic advisor. Only 10 in-class quizzes will count toward your final grade, which means we will drop one quiz on which you have the lowest grade out of all your quizzes.

Exams (50%) (3 @ 100, 200, 200=500)

There are three multiple-choice content exams for this course, covering each of the three units. There is no cumulative final, but the knowledge gained in this class is cumulative. The first exam is worth fewer points than the other two exams to give students a lower-stakes opportunity to experience the kind of exam I write. Exams tend to be challenging and require ample preparation. If you do poorly on an exam, see the instructor or TAs for clarification of material and test-taking strategies. Exams will cover reading, lecture, multimedia (e.g., assigned podcasts and videos), and discussion group material.

Students will need to bring to class a fully charged laptop or iPad with LockDown Browser installed to take each exam on. Prior to the first exam, we will install the software and practice taking an online exam in class. If you do not have a laptop, you may borrow one from the [Learning Commons](#).

Students are required to sit the third exam during finals (December) and are advised to check the exam schedule prior to making plans for school holidays. For each of the three exams, please note the following: Students must bring their ID card to the exam (I reserve the right to spot check them). Bags will be placed in the front of the room, so please do not bring valuables. Please make sure your phone is turned off. Students will be assigned seats. No pencil cases, water bottles, coffee cups, etc. are allowed during exams. Students are not allowed to use the washroom during exams. Students are not allowed to leave during the last 15 minutes of the exam period in order to maintain a quiet environment for examinees.

Grades: Final grades will be calculated as follows:

Exams	500 points	50%
Discussion Sections	300	30%
<u>In-class Quizzes (10 @ 20 points)</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>20%</u>
Total	1000 points	100%

Final Grade Assignment: Final grades will be assigned in the following way (this is standard for UBC):

900-1000 A+	760-799 B+	640-679 C+	500-549 D
850-899 A	720-759 B	600-639 C	0-499 F
800-849 A-	680-719 B-	550-599 C-	

Note that students have to earn the minimum number of points for each letter grade. I do not round up a letter grade. Faculties, departments, and schools reserve the right to scale grades in order to maintain

equity among sections and conformity to University, faculty, department, or school norms. Students should therefore note that grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.

According to the UBC Guidelines:

An "A" grade is "Exceptional performance: strong evidence of original thinking; good organization; capacity to analyze and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter with sound critical evaluations; evidence of extensive knowledge base."

A "B" grade is "Competent performance: evidence of grasp of subject matter; some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with the literature."

A "D to C" grade is "Adequate performance: understanding of the subject matter; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material; acceptable but uninspired work, not seriously faulty but lacking style and vigour."

Do not wait until the end of the semester or right before an exam to discuss matters such as grades or comprehension problems. Last day to withdraw from this course without a W standing: Sept 17th. Last day to withdraw with a W standing: Oct 11th. Note: this course cannot be dropped after Oct 11th.

University Policies:

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions.

Details of the policies and how to access support are available on [the UBC Senate website](#).

Class Policies:

Class Environment. This course will use a combination of lecture-discussion style format. To ensure a respectful discussion, please follow these basic guidelines: Do not talk out of turn, interrupt others who are speaking, read or work on other assignments during class, or talk to the person next to you while others are speaking. Please TURN OFF all cell phones while in class. Please feel free to raise your hand and ask questions during class. It has been my experience that when one student is confused, typically other students are confused as well. If something does not make sense to you, ASK! All questions are important and will enhance everyone's understanding of the material.

Attendance. Students are expected to attend class and will be held accountable for all lecture material. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed from a classmate, and if you need clarification, to come to office hours. While I will sympathize with ill students, I do not wish to see doctor notes—I consider this to be your business. If you have a family emergency or a major illness that causes you to miss class, please contact your academic advisor to request an academic concession and they will be in touch with me directly. If the December exam is missed, you must apply through the Registrar's office to write a make-up exam – please refer to the UBC Calendar for details for "academic concession."

Missed Quizzes or Late Assignments. If you need to miss an assignment due to illness or any other unforeseen reason, you must notify the instructor and/or your tutorial TA as soon as possible prior to the due date and apply for academic in-term concession via your academic advisor. Without an academic

concession, 5% of the mark will be deducted per day that the assignment is late. We are not required to accept late assignments, and no late assignments will be accepted after 4 days. Arts Students must contact Arts Advising as soon as you are aware you may need an [in-term concession](#). Please review [their website](#) for concession criteria as well as process to follow. Students in other Faculties should contact their Faculty advising office for direction.

Office Hours. I maintain weekly office hours to meet with you in person and to address any questions you may have about the class. *I strongly encourage you to take advantage of office hours.* You do not need to schedule office hours in advance. If you cannot meet during the scheduled office hours, please schedule an appointment by email. If you schedule an appointment, make sure you arrive promptly.

Email. At times we will send out announcements via Canvas. It is expected that students check their email account daily. Email is the best way to reach the instructor and your TA outside of class. However, substantive discussions or questions about class topics will not be held over email. Email should primarily be used to schedule an appointment to meet outside of office hours. **NOTE:** If you email the instructor or your TA, please list only the course number in the subject line (Soci 101-102). This helps prevent deletion of your message by spam filters.

Electronic Devices in the Classroom. Electronic devices can be useful tools; however, they are also very distracting and there is good [evidence](#) to suggest that they can inhibit learning. The classroom should be a place of learning and mindfulness; we all benefit when everyone is fully present to engage with ideas and with others. For this reason, **I do not want to see or hear** cell phones, tablets, laptops, cameras, or other electronic equipment in the classroom. That means they must be stowed away in a backpack or bag and not brought out during class time. I will ask students to leave the classroom if they cannot respect this policy. **NOTE:** Laptops, phones, or tablets will be used to complete some in-class assignments/activities. I will announce when it is appropriate to bring out your laptop/phone/tablet.

Academic Dishonesty. I take cheating and plagiarism very seriously. Plagiarism involves copying text from another source without crediting that source—this includes copying and pasting text from online sites like Wikipedia and purchasing text (e.g., essays, assignments) for written course work. Your tutorial TA and I will deal with instances of academic dishonesty, should they occur, according to university policy. Please see the [Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct](#) for university policies on academic misconduct and academic dishonesty.

Accommodation. The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Centre for Accessibility. Please submit your letter outlining your academic accommodations to the instructor and your tutorial section TA at the beginning of the term. Then schedule a meeting to discuss how best to meet your accommodations. If you have other needs that might not qualify for formal accommodation, or you are having trouble during the term, please consider discussing this with your academic advisor. The University also accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance or scheduled exams. Let your TA and the instructor know during the first two weeks of class if you require any accommodation on these grounds. Other absences (e.g. varsity athletics, family obligations) are not part of University policy and you should not assume they will be accommodated.

Mental Health. During your time in this course, if you encounter medical, emotional, or other personal problems that affect your attendance or academic performance, please notify your Academic Advisor, whose job it is to assist you and to inform your instructor. Please refer to the UBC Calendar for a discussion of academic concession.

Early Alert Program. I participate in the Early Alert Program which helps me support students who are facing difficulties that are interfering with school. **If you are feeling stressed, please notify your TA or me** and indicate that you would like assistance. While we are not trained to help with personal problems, we can get you help from people who can assist you. Any information is strictly confidential and is in the interest of your academic success and wellbeing. For more information, please visit earlyalert.ubc.ca.
Sources: I am indebted to UBC Profs. Kerry Greer, Neil Guppy, and Katherine Lyon for generously sharing a wealth of information to help construct this syllabus, as well as Prof. Joslyn Brenton at Ithaca College.

SOCI 101-102 – 2019 Winter 1 Course Schedule

NOTE: The professor may make changes to readings and assignments during the term to address the educational needs of the class.

There will be three units in this course, each followed by an exam:

UNIT I: Theoretical and Methodological Foundations of Sociology

UNIT II: Developing the Self: Culture and Socialization

UNIT III: Theorizing Social Interactions and Inequalities in Everyday Life

UNIT I: Theoretical and Methodological Foundations of Sociology

WEEK 1 Thurs Sept 5 Welcome and Introduction to the Course

- Review syllabus prior to class; bring a printed copy to class

WEEK 2 Tues/Thurs Sept 10, 12 What is Sociology?

- Read: Mills, “The promise”
- Read: Elliott, Bowen, and Brenton, “To close America’s diet gap, we must recognize food as a human right”: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jul/21/us-food-insecurity-human-right>

WEEK 3 Tues/Thurs Sept 17, 19 Theoretical Traditions

- Read: Mooney, Knox, and Schacht, “The three main sociological perspectives”
- Read: Du Bois, “Of our spiritual strivings” (pp. 7-10)
- Read: Gilman, “Our androcentric culture” (pp. 201-204)

WEEK 4 Tues/Thurs Sept 24, 26 Doing Social Research

- Read: Conley, “Research methods”
- Watch: Sociologist Joel Best: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lotfJgso5Gg>
- Watch: Sociologist Ashley Mears: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ym580I_rhi0

WEEK 5 Tues Oct 1 Doing Social Research: Ethics

- Read: Canadian Sociological Association, “Statement of professional ethics”
- Read: “Andrew Wakefield” Wikipedia entry: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew_Wakefield
- Watch: Milgram’s Obedience experiment: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wdUu3u9Web4>

WEEK 5 Thurs Oct 3

EXAM I

UNIT II: Developing the Self: Culture and Socialization

WEEK 6 Tues/Thurs Oct 8, 10 Culture

- Read: Ritzer and Guppy, “Culture”
- Read: Kimmerer, “Learning the grammar of animacy”
- Read: Childress, “All media are social”
- Read: Todd, “A history of the New York Times discovering ‘exotic foods’”
-

WEEK 7 Tues/Thurs Oct 15, 17 Socialization and Social Interaction

- Read: Mead, “The self”
- Read: Lareau, “Developing a child: Alexander Williams”
- Watch: Preschool in three cultures: <https://www.kanopy.com/product/preschool-three-cultures-revisited>

WEEK 8 Tues/Thurs Oct 22, 24 Presenting a Self

- Read: Goffman, “Presentation of self” (pp. 10-19, 67-75)
- Watch: Trailer, “Crazy rich Asians”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQ-YX-5bAs0>

WEEK 9 Tues Oct 29 Managing Emotions

- Read: Hochschild, “Emotion work, feeling rules, and social structure” (pp. 561-566)
- Read: Bowen, Brenton, and Elliott, “Cupcakes for Cousin”

WEEK 9 Oct 31

EXAM II

UNIT III: Theorizing Social Interactions and Inequalities in Everyday Life

WEEK 10 Tues/Thurs Nov 5, 7 Understanding Power and Inequality

- Read: Collins, “Mammies, matriarchs, and other controlling images” (pp. 69-72)
- Read: Schwalbe, “Differences and inequality”

WEEK 11 Tues/Thurs Nov 12, 14 Understanding Inequality: Race & Ethnicity

- Read: Gray, “Residential Schooling” (pp. 29-32)
- Read: Smale, “Our Stolen Generation” <https://thespinoff.co.nz/atea/14-11-2017/our-stolen-generation-a-shameful-legacy/>
- Take: Implicit Association test: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/canada/takeatest.html>
- Listen: Podcast: “Brazil in black and white”:
<https://one.npr.org/?sharedMediaId=542840797:543264640>

WEEK 12 Tues/Thurs Nov 19, 21 Understanding Inequality: Gender & Sexuality

- Read: Kane, “Introduction: ‘Glamour babies’ and ‘little toughies’”
- Read: Gansen and Martin, “Not just kid stuff: Becoming gendered”:
<https://contemporaryfamilies.org/becoming-gendered/>
- Read: Ghaziani, “Introduction: Feeling flustered?” (pp. 1-13, pp. 131-132)
- Read: Wade, “What’s so cultural about hookup culture?”

WEEK 13 Tues/Thurs Nov 26, 28 Being Change Agents: Critical Consciousness and Social Activism

- Read: Collins, “The politics of empowerment”
- Read: Walia, “Decolonizing together”
- Read: Levinson-King, “Canada’s ‘most racist city’ makes a comeback”:
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-45215814>
- Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/BearClanPatrol/>

EXAM III will be held during final exam period, TBA.