



a place of mind

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SOCI 101-102: Social Interaction and Culture

2020 Winter Term 1

Tuesdays & Thursdays 2 - 3:30 pm

Web-Oriented Course

Acknowledgment: UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəy̓əm (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 their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site. I will be teaching this course from campus and am grateful to work and live on this land.

Instructor: Professor Sinikka Elliott

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Virtual Office Hours: on Zoom Wednesdays 1-3pm (Zoom PMI: 473 516 2209) and by appointment

Pandemic Changes: Given the COVID-19 pandemic state, the University of British Columbia has directed all UBC programs to postpone or redesign courses to be delivered online (COVID-19 – Status of summer terms, UBC Broadcast March 25, 2020). As a result, this course has been redesigned to be delivered online.

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. People make society everyday through the things we do, say, and think. 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, including inequalities related to race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality.

Required Reading: There is no assigned textbook for this course. Readings will be available electronically 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 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. The learning platform **Collaborate Ultra** (which can be accessed in Canvas) may be used for course lectures, discussions, office hours, and more. The application Lockdown Browser (which can be downloaded through Canvas) may be used for quizzes.

Zoom: Barring technical, access, or other difficulties, the video communication platform [Zoom](#) will be used for course lectures (recorded), some discussions and activities (not always recorded), and office hours. Zoom can be accessed through Canvas.

* Other web-based educational platforms may be adopted during the course of the term, TBA.

Note about Online Privacy and Flexibility: Recorded lectures will be uploaded to Canvas and students are expected to watch recorded lectures prior to participating in any synchronous class activities. This is the first time the class has been offered remotely and we will be learning as we go. Some flexibility is required on everyone's part as we adapt and learn what works and what doesn't. For UBC tips and resources to keep learning online, please go [here](#).

Note about Course Content and Your Safety: Material assigned in this course may be considered "sensitive content" in some settings and accessing these materials may be risky for students who are taking the course in those contexts. I hope all students enrolled in this course can comfortably take the course, but if you are concerned that engaging with certain course material might put you at risk (i.e., topics such as the diverse ways people interact, live, and love at the intersections of racism, nativism, sexism, heterosexism, homophobia and transphobia), I ask that you please make an informed decision about whether to take the course remotely this year. Certain discussions and activities may not be recorded, but others will and you will be required to access online material and to submit assignments online in order to complete course requirements that will involve such topics.

Note from UBC about Academic Freedom and Student Support: During this pandemic, the shift to online learning has greatly altered teaching and studying at UBC, including changes to health and safety considerations. Keep in mind that some UBC courses might cover topics that are censored or considered illegal by non-Canadian governments. This may include, but is not limited to, human rights, representative government, defamation, obscenity, gender or sexuality, and historical or current geopolitical controversies. If you are a student living abroad, you will be subject to the laws of your local jurisdiction, and your local authorities might limit your access to course material or take punitive action against you. UBC is strongly committed to academic freedom, but has no control over foreign authorities (an articulation of the values of the University are conveyed in [the Senate Statement on Academic Freedom](#)). Thus, we recognize that students will have legitimate reason to exercise caution in studying certain subjects. If you have concerns regarding your personal situation, consider postponing taking a course with manifest risks, until you are back on campus or reach out to your academic advisor to find substitute courses. For further information and support, please visit: <http://academic.ubc.ca/support-resources/freedom-expression>

Course Requirements and Evaluation

Discussion Sections (30%) (300 points)

Each week, **starting the week of Sept 20th**, students will attend their assigned discussion section online on either Zoom or Collaborate Ultra. During tutorial, the TA will work with students to develop and hone their sociological imaginations and writing skills through a series of facilitated discussions, 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 and writing and research skills.

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).

Tutorial Discussion Section Assignments (all times are in Pacific Time)

Discussion section	Time of Discussion	Teaching Assistant (TA)	
A12	Wed 12:00-13:00	Tamara Luistro	
B12	Wed 13:00-14:00	Cherie Tay	
C12	Wed 14:00-15:00	Cherie Tay	
D12	Wed 18:00-19:00	Asli Ozer	
E12	Fri 10:00-11:00	Rebecca Qin	
F12	Fri 11:00-12:00	Rebecca Qin	
G12	Fri 14:00-15:00	Asli Ozer	
<u>Teaching Assistants</u>		<u>Email</u>	<u>Office hours</u>
Rebecca Qin	s.qin@alumni.ubc.ca		Fri 12:00-13:00 or by appointment
Asli Ozer	aslievrin.ozero@ubc.ca		by appointment
Tamara Luistro	tamara.luistro@ubc.ca		by appointment
Cherie Tay	cherie.tay@alumni.ubc.ca		by appointment
			<u>Zoom PMI</u>
			298 439 7751

Quizzes (20%) (200 points)

A total of 11 quizzes will be given on Canvas throughout the term to measure reading and comprehension. Look for quiz due dates on Canvas as they are posted. Quizzes cannot be made up without an in-term concession from your academic advisor. Only 10 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, 100, 300=500)

There are two multiple-choice content midterms for this course and one cumulative final exam that will also consist solely of multiple-choice questions. All will be taken online on Canvas, will be open book, and will have time limits. Midterms and the final exam tend to be challenging and require ample preparation. If you do poorly on the first midterm, you should speak with your TA for clarification of material and test-taking strategies. You should also speak with an advisor and/or the Centre for Accessibility to learn about other learning resources available to you as a UBC student. Midterms and the final exam will cover reading, lecture, multimedia (e.g., assigned podcasts and videos), and discussion group material.

Students can take the midterms and final exam on an electronic device of their choosing but are responsible for ensuring prior to each midterms and final exam that the device will work (i.e., that it is charged, functional, and able to access Canvas and any other required apps, as well as course materials). We will make some practice midterms/final exams available on Canvas for troubleshooting tech issues. If you do not have a laptop, UBC usually makes devices available from the [Learning Commons](#). However, these options may be limited during the pandemic and you should investigate this option early and should not rely on this option alone.

Students are required to sit the final exam during finals (December) and are advised to check the exam schedule prior to making plans for school holidays.

More information about remote examinations will be provided during the term; I will work in consultation with the Centre for Accessibility to accommodate your midterm and final exam needs given your needs and the situation you may be facing this term. Please reach out to the Centre for Accessibility if you need accommodations.

Grades: Final grades will be calculated as follows:

Midterms and Final Exam	500 points	50%
Discussion Sections	300	30%
Quizzes (10 @ 20 points)	200	20%
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 21st. Last day to withdraw with a W standing: Oct 30th. Note: this course cannot be dropped after Oct 30th.

University Policies

UBC provides resources to support student learning and wellbeing 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

Online Environment. This course will use a combination of lecture-discussion style format. The exact format of online delivery is still to be worked out and we will work together to figure out what best meets the learning needs of the class. The tentative plan is that the bulk of lectures will be recorded (i.e., asynchronous) and made available on Canvas under modules for viewing prior to class. We will also have opportunities for live lectures (i.e., synchronous), discussions and activities once a week (typically on Thursdays). Some discussions and activities will not be recorded; the exact format of live classes is in flux, but will likely consist of lectures, guided activities as well as students posting questions that TAs and the professor will respond to. If questions are difficult to understand, we may ask for clarification. We may also use the online discussion forum to stimulate discussions related to course material throughout the term. To ensure a respectful discussion, please follow these basic guidelines: Be thoughtful about your question. Try to make sure it is understandable and is not offensive. No question is a dumb question, and there is a good chance that if you are confused about a reading or course concept, others are too. So if something doesn't 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 synchronously (i.e., live) once per week (usually on Thursday) to participate in activities and discussions but if you are in a time zone that makes attending class synchronously difficult, partial recordings may be available. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to watch any recordings uploaded to Canvas. Certain activities and class discussions will not be recorded and you will miss the opportunity to engage with this material if you don't attend class.

If the December final 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 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 without a concession*. 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 the process to follow. Students in other Faculties should contact their Faculty advising office for direction. You do not need to provide an excuse for a late assignment and we will not change our policy if you do; it is not part of the mandate of our job to adjudicate whether someone has a justification for missing a deadline. If you have a justifiable reason for missing the due date, you should apply for a concession through your Advising Office. If you don't have a justifiable reason, your choices are to turn the paper in on time or accept the above penalties.

Office Hours. I will hold weekly office hours on Wednesday afternoons between 1 and 3 on Zoom. If all goes well, these office hours will be held in my Zoom personal meeting room. If I'm already meeting with a student, please wait in the waiting room and I will let you in as soon as I am free. <https://ubc.zoom.us/j/4735162209?pwd=C6uN3oL8k38>
Meeting ID: 473 516 2209
Passcode: 411695

Email. At times we will send out announcements via Canvas. We will try to keep this to a minimum but 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, *please only email to schedule an appointment*. Substantive discussions or questions about class topics will not be held over email. **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.

Academic Integrity. The academic enterprise is founded on honesty, civility, and integrity. As members of this enterprise, all students are expected to know, understand, and follow the codes of conduct regarding academic integrity. At the most basic level, this means submitting only original work done by you and acknowledging all sources of information or ideas and attributing them to others as required. This also means you should not cheat, copy, or mislead others about what is your work. We take cheating and plagiarism very seriously. Your tutorial TA and I will deal with breaches of academic integrity, should they occur, according to university policy which can involve serious consequences including a mark of zero on the assignment or exam, and more serious consequences may apply when the matter is referred to the Office of the Dean. A more detailed description of academic integrity, including the University's policies and procedures, may be found in the [UBC Calendar: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

In our remote classroom environment, you will be asked to agree to an integrity pledge periodically attesting that the work completed in this class is your own and you have not engaged in any practices that would unfairly advantage you over other students (e.g., getting outside assistance, collaborating with peers, using a “cheat” sheet).

Accommodation. The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Centre for Accessibility. Please submit your electronic letter outlining your academic accommodations to the instructor and your tutorial section TA at the beginning of the term. Then email us to 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 having serious trouble during the course of the term and this is evident to me or your TA, we may ask your permission to contact the Early Alert Program.** If you don't give permission but we are still concerned, we may contact them anyway. We are not trained to help with personal problems; Early Alert will connect you with 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.

Copyright. All materials of this course (course handouts, lecture slides, assessments, course readings, etc.) are the intellectual property of the Course Instructor or licensed to be used in this course by the copyright owner. Redistribution of these materials by any means without permission of the copyright holder(s) constitutes a breach of copyright and may lead to academic discipline.

SOCI 101-102 – 2020 Winter 1 Course Schedule

NOTE: I may make changes to readings, assignments, and instructional delivery during the term to address the educational needs of the class.

There will be three units in this course. The first two units will have midterms and there will be a cumulative final exam at the end of term.

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 **Tues Sept 8 (No class meeting) OPTIONAL: Please join in the Department of Sociology undergraduate Imagine Day events! To explore what our Sociology department has to offer, go to: <https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/67725>; self-enroll at: <https://canvas.ubc.ca/enroll/BH337D>**

Meet and greet sessions with faculty and students are from 12:45-2:00

Thurs Sept 10 Welcome and Introduction (asynchronous content posted on Canvas in the course modules)

- Read: Syllabus
- Watch: 1) welcome video and 2) screencast reviewing syllabus

WEEK 2 **Tues/Thurs Sept 15, 17** **What is Sociology? (Tues – screencast lecture; Thurs – join class via Zoom link)**

- 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>
- Read: Bowen, Hardison-Moody, and Elliott, “Want to Fight Rising Food Insecurity? Listen to People Who’ve Been Hungry”: <https://civileats.com/2020/05/08/want-to-fight-rising-food-insecurity-listen-to-the-people-whove-experienced-hunger/>

WEEK 3 **Tues/Thurs Sept 22, 24** **Theoretical Traditions (Tues – screencast lecture; Thurs – join class via Zoom link)**

- 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 29, Oct 1** **Doing Social Research (Tues – screencast lecture; Thurs – join class via Zoom link)**

- 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 6** **Doing Social Research: Ethics (Tues – screencast lecture)**

- 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=xOYLcy5PVgM>

WEEK 5 **Thurs Oct 8** **MIDTERM I**
(to be taken online on Canvas)

UNIT II: Developing the Self: Culture and Socialization

WEEK 6 Tues/Thurs Oct 13, 15 Culture (Tues – screencast lecture; Thurs – join class via Zoom link)

- Read: Ritzer and Guppy, “Culture”
- Read: Kimmerer, “Learning the grammar of animacy”
- Watch: Social Anthropologist Zoe Todd:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhubUdR5OBg>
- Read: Childress, “All media are social”
- Read: Chen, “‘Mulan’ 1998: A moment of moment of joy and anxiety for Asian-American viewers”

WEEK 7 Tues/Thurs Oct 20, 22 Socialization and Social Interaction (Tues – screencast lecture; Thurs – join class via Zoom link)

- 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 27, 29 Presenting a Self (Tues – screencast lecture; Thurs – join class via Zoom link)

- 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 Nov 3 Managing Emotions (Tues – screencast lecture)

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

WEEK 9 Nov 5 Midterm II (to be taken online on Canvas)

UNIT III: Theorizing Social Interactions and Inequalities in Everyday Life

WEEK 10 Tues/Thurs Nov 10, 12 Understanding Power and Inequality (Tues – screencast lecture; Thurs – join class via Zoom link)

- Read: Collins, “Mammies, matriarchs, and other controlling images” (pp. 69-72)
- Read: Schwalbe, “Differences and inequality”
- Read: Ryzik, Ugwu, Phillips, and Jacobs, “When Trump calls a Black woman ‘angry,’ he feeds this racist trope”

WEEK 11 Tues/Thurs Nov 17, 19 Understanding Inequality: Race & Ethnicity (Tues – screencast lecture; Thurs – join class via Zoom link)

- 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 24, 26 Understanding Inequality: Gender & Sexuality
(Tues – screencast lecture; Thurs – join class via Zoom link)**

- Read: Kane, “Introduction: ‘Glamour babies’ and ‘little toughies’”
- Read: Gansen and Martin, “Not just kid stuff: Becoming gendered”:
<https://contemporaryfamilies.org/becoming-gendered/>
- Read: Brown, “Media messages to young girls: Does ‘sexy girl’ trump ‘girl power’?”:
<https://contemporaryfamilies.org/girls-media-messaging-brief-report/>
- Read: Ghaziani, “Introduction: Feeling flustered?” (pp. 1-13, pp. 131-132)

**WEEK 13 Tues/Thurs Dec 1, 3 Being Change Agents: Critical Consciousness
and Social Activism (Tues – screencast lecture; Thurs – join class via Zoom
link)**

- Read: Collins, “The politics of empowerment”
- Read: Walia, “Decolonizing together”
- Read: Habtom and Scribe, “To breathe together: Co-conspirators for decolonial futures”
- Read: Fisher, “Social cryptomnesia: How societies steal ideas”:
<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20200827-social-cryptomnesia-how-society-steals-ideas>
- Read: Bennett, “Overlooked no more: Charlotta Bass”

FINAL EXAM will be held during UBC final examination period (Dec 7-22), TBA.