

SOCIOLOGY 100.16: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY, 2014-2015
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Office Hours: Tuesday, 9:15-12:00; Wednesday, 11:15-1:00; Friday, 10:15-12:00

Sociology studies everything that can be defined as social. This ranges from the etiquette of simple face-to-face interaction to institutions like the economy, the state, and the family. In this course students are invited to think about how so much of our social world is treated as natural, or “just the way things are”. We will begin to think about how, for example, gender behavior, social inequalities, authority, work relations, the economy, etc. are collectively achieved and defended realities and why this is the case.

Required Reading: Reading Kit (available in the bookstore – look for the course number and my name on your kit)

Evaluation:

- Monthly quizzes* (6) x 5 points = 30 points (The last Wednesday of each month)
- December Exam = 20 points
- Written assignment (due October 15) = 20 points
- Final Exam = 30 points

* Monthly quizzes include the content of all assigned reading for that month. This will also include a vocabulary component, so you should look up unknown words in the dictionary and learn their meaning.

Readings:

- Hobbs, T. from Leviathan.
- Rousseau, J.-J. from The Social Contract.
- Comte, A. from Course of Positive Philosophy.
- Durkheim, E. “Preface to the Second Edition”, The Rules of Sociological Method.
- **Sartre, J.-P. “Anti-Semite and Jew” (basis of your essay – 1st reading).**
***** **Quiz #1: Sept. 24** *****
- Merton, R. “The Self-Fulfilling Prophecy”.
- Gladwell, M. “The Matthew Effect”.
- Patry, M. W., Stinson, V., & Smith, S. M. “The Reality of the CSI Effect”.
- Parnis, D. and J. Du Mont. “Symbolic Power and the Institutional Response to Rape: Uncovering the Cultural Dynamics of a Forensic Technology”.
- Haggerty, K. “Ethics Creep: Governing Social Science Research in the Name of Ethics”.
- Brym, R. “Hurricane Katrina and the Myth of Natural Disasters”.
- Miner, H. “Body Ritual Among the Nacirema”.
***** **Quiz #2: Oct. 29*******
- Newson, J. “Recovering the University as a Collective Project”.
- Gadamer, H.-G. “The Idea of the University”.
- Durkheim, E. from Suicide.
- Weber, M. “Science as a Vocation”.
- Ritzer, G. “The McDonaldization of Society”.
- Marx K. and F. Engels, “The Communist Manifesto”.

- Reiter, E. "Modern Times in the Hamburger Business".
***** Quiz #3: Nov. 26*****

DECEMBER EXAM – See exam schedule

- Goffman, E. "The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life".
- Simmel, G. "The Stranger".
- Michalko, R. "Blindness Enters the Classroom".
- De Beauvoir, S. "Introduction" to The Second Sex.
- Smith, D. "The Authority of the Male Voice".
***** Quiz #4: Jan. 28*****
- Sennett, R. and J. Cobb, "Some Hidden Injuries of Class".
- Lehmann, W. "Becoming Middle Class: How Working-Class University Students Draw and Transgress Moral Class Boundaries".
- Du Bois, W.E.B. "The Souls of Black Folks".
- James, C. E. "Schooling, Basketball and U.S. Scholarship Aspirations of Canadian Student Athletes".
- Goffman, E. "Stigma and Social Identity".
- Gerstel, N. "Divorce and Stigma".
***** Quiz #5: Feb. 18 *****
- Vaughan, D. "Uncoupling: The Social Construction of Divorce".
- Grekul, J. "Sterilization in Alberta, 1928 to 1972: Gender Matters".
- Lemert, E. "Paranoia and the Dynamics of Exclusion".
- Rosenhan, D. "Being Sane in Insane Places".
- Milgram, S. "Behavioral Study of Obedience".
- Becker, H. "Becoming a Marijuana User".
- Sacks, H. "On Suicide Threats Getting Laughed Off".
***** Quiz #6: March 25*****

FINAL EXAM – See exam schedule

Plagiarism: Familiarize yourself with the university plagiarism policies and punishments. You are responsible for understanding them and abiding by them. The StFX library has links, tutorials, and definitions at this site: <http://sites.stfx.ca/library/plagiarism>. The StFX calendar outlines the procedures concerning and penalties for committing plagiarism.

StFX Equity Policy: Everyone learns more effectively in a respectful, safe and equitable learning environment, free from discrimination and harassment. I invite you to work with me to create a classroom space—both face-to-face and online—that fosters and promotes values of human dignity, equity, non-discrimination and respect for diversity. These values and practices are in accord with the StFX Discrimination and Harassment Policy which can be found at <http://www.mystfx.ca/campus/stu-serv/equity/>. Please feel free to talk to me about your questions or concerns about equity in our classroom or in the StFX community in general. If I cannot answer your questions or help you address your concerns, I encourage you to talk to the Chair/Coordinator of the Department/Program or the Human Rights and Equity Advisor, Marie Brunelle at mbrunell@stfx.ca.

Electronics: No electronics will be allowed in this class without express permission from me. This is to ensure that students are not distracted by your laptops, smart phones, etc. Please also make sure that your phone ringer is turned down. This rule is also to uphold the equity policies that students not be subject to images, words, etc. that they might deem offensive.