

**DEPARTMENT Humanities and Social Sciences**

**COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2023**

**SO1000(A2): Introductory Sociology – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>	Dr. Michael Holland	<b>PHONE:</b>	780-539-2973
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<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	By appointment		

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** This course examines the theory, methods, and substance of sociology. How societies and individuals are shaped and modified by culture, socialization, deviance, stratification, group processes, industrialization and social movements will be covered.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** None.

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:** Cumming, S. (2020). *Sociology* Unlocked. Oxford University Press.

Additional reading available for free on myClass.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** On-Campus

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon completion of the course, students will:

- Demonstrate sociological thinking through discussion and writing
- Gain a basic understanding of how to critically evaluate conventional wisdom using a “sociological imagination”
- Develop an ability to explain social patterns, trends, problems, and collective behaviour from a sociological perspective.

- Understand the major sociological perspectives and the methods sociologists use to perform their work.
- Differentiate between macro and micro-level analyses and the purpose of such types of analyses
- Recognize and apply the appropriate sociological terms, concepts, and definitions
- Apply and incorporate relevant sociological explanations of social issues and institutions

**TRANSFERABILITY:**

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

Assessment	Total Point Value	Weight
10 Chapter Quizzes (10 pts each *10) + 1 bonus	100 pts	10 %
Reflection papers (*4 @ 20 pts each)	80 pts	35 %
1 Midterm	60 pts	25 %
Final Exam	100 pts	30 %
Total	340 pts	100 %

**Chapter Weekly Quizzes**

Beginning week 3, you will complete chapter quizzes on our course webpage (myClass). There will be 10 questions (multiple choice), and one bonus quiz. These quizzes serve to encourage you to consistently read the chapters and to test your knowledge as we move forward in the course. Beginning the third week of the class (See below), **quizzes will open on Monday at midnight and close the following Sunday at 11:59 PM.** It is your responsibility to ensure that you complete these quizzes on time. Since you have essentially a week to complete these quizzes, **no exceptions will be made for lateness.**

**Reflection Papers**

At the end of each unit, students will complete **4 short reflection papers** based on the content for each unit and in response to questions asked by the instructor. Each application assigned will be graded based on the quality of writing, demonstration of understanding, and ability to critically engage with the content discussed in the unit. No citations or outside sources are necessary for these assignments. Assignment instructions are available on myClass. **Students have 1 week to finish the assignments,**

which are to be submitted on myClass by the due date (see below for the schedule of these times). Students must complete all 4 assignments for complete marks. Assignment instructions and rubrics will be posted on myClass.

### Midterm and Final Exam

The midterm and Final Exam will consist of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, matching, short answer and longer essay questions with some choices. There will be a brief review in class before the midterm and final exam respectively. These will test your knowledge and application of concepts, theories, and perspectives on the course material (textbook chapters, classroom lectures, discussions, and video clips). The final exam is cumulative but with an emphasis on ‘big picture ideas’ covered throughout the semester.

### GRADING CRITERIA

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

#### Grading Chart for courses with Alpha Grading:

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

### COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE

Week	Class Date	Unit	Topic (s)	Readings	Assignments
1	Sept 6, 8	1: Foundations of Sociology	Introduction to course Meet and Greet, thinking sociologically	Read Chapter 1 for Sept 8	
2	Sept 13, 15		Sociological theories	Chapter 2	

3	Sept 20, 22		Sociological methods	Chapter 2	Reflection Paper 1 Due Sept 29, 11: 59 pm; Quiz 1 Due Sept 29
4	Sept 27, 29	2: Culture and socialization	Culture	Chapter 3	Quiz 2 Due Oct 1
5	Oct 4, 6		Socialization and Social Interaction	Chapters 4 & 5	Quiz 3 Due Oct 8
6	Oct 11, 13		Families (Oct 11) Midterm Review (Oct 13)	Chapter 8	Reflection Paper 2 Due Oct 20, 11:59 pm. Quiz 4 Due Oct 15
7	Oct 18, 20	3: Institutions	<b>Midterm (Oct 18);</b>	None	Quiz 5 Due Oct 22
			Media (Oct 20)		
8	Oct 25, 27		Deviance and Crime	Chapter 10	Quiz 6 Due Oct 29
9	Nov 1, 3		Education	Lareau (1987). Social class differences in family-school relationships	Quiz 7 Due Nov 5
10	Nov 8, 10		Health and Illness	Chapter 12	Reflection Paper 3 Due Nov 17, 11:59 pm. Quiz 8 Due Nov 12
11	Fall Break – No Classes				
12	Nov 22, 24	4: Inequalities	Social class Inequality	Chapter 6	Quiz 9 Due Nov 26
13	Nov 29, Dec 1		Race, Ethnicity	Chapter 7	Quiz 10 Due Dec 3
14	Dec 6, 8		Gender/Final Review	Chapter 8	Reflection Paper 4 Due Dec 15, 11:59 pm. Bonus Quiz Due Nov 10

## OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Sept 14	Last day to add courses or drop courses for a full refund (in most programs) & last day to pay Fall semester fees (except for students on an approved payment plan). Last day to opt-out of Student Health/Dental Plan
Sept 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Oct 9	Thanksgiving Day—No Classes
Nov 13-17	Fall Break—No Classes
Nov 28	Last day to withdraw from classes (most programs) with a “W”
Dec 8	Deadline to apply for Winter courses
Dec 12	Last day of classes for the Fall semester
Dec 14 - 21	Final exam period

### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

*Ultimately, you are responsible for your learning and performance in this course.*

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

To be fair to everyone in this course, **I will not alter the evaluation**, so any missed testing or assignments will not be accommodated.

If at any point in the semester you feel you are struggling with the course material or with your coursework, please do not hesitate to ask me for assistance. Please contact me by e-mail for an appointment.

Students must submit original work in this course. Work that was submitted previously in other courses will not be accepted and will receive a 0%. All work must be submitted electronically on MyClass by the due dates posted on the calendar.

**Please note: It is simply unfair to alter the course evaluation for any individual. Therefore, under any conditions, there will be no alternative tests or assignments if you miss or do poorly on a requirement.**

- **Furthermore, it is your responsibility to track your own grades: Please do not contact the professor for such information.**

#### **Submission & Late Policies:**

- Equally important to learn and apply professional communication skills, such as writing proper e-mail messages, it is very important to learn to meet deadlines. Complete your assignments on time!
- Late assignments received will be deducted 5% for every late day (including weekends!).

- Incomplete assignments will receive a grade of 0 unless you have a valid reason supported with appropriate documentation (i.e., a medical note from an M.D.) and you discuss it with me **well in advance of any due date**.
- Note: extensions will be given only when students notify the instructor prior to the deadline and present valid evidence excusing lateness.

### **STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:**

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>.

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

### **Additional Information:**

#### Professional Conduct:

- Please be aware that I respect that everyone's time is valuable, please afford me the same courtesy.
- Instead of preoccupying your mind with questions such as, "how do I get an 'A'?" Instead, ask yourself, "how can I work to expand my knowledge, perspective, and outlook on the real world?"
- Classroom etiquette:
  - Please do not be late for class.
  - Avoid the use of cell phones except for course-related activities.
  - **Do not disrupt the class due to talking** (especially about things non-sociology related!). You will be given a warning and subsequent action will be taken if disruptive behaviour continues, including being asked to leave the class.
- Please only use your **NWP e-mail account** to avoid having your message blocked by SPAM filters.
- Always include "SO1000" (with your section) in the subject line (or I may never even receive your message).
- Finally, in our academic environment, please practice writing e-mails *formally*, as you will need to do regularly upon graduation. For example, use a simple greeting, do not use slang or abbreviations, and always sign off with your name!