

# GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, COMMERCE AND EDUCATION

WINTER, 2000

**COURSE:** Sociology 2600 3(3-0) UT(3)  
Inequality and Social Stratification  
So 2600 T3 T 18:00 - 20:00

**PREREQUISITE:** Sociology 1000 (or equivalent)

**INSTRUCTOR:** Vince Salvo  
Phone/fax: (250) 226-0012  
Email : [snowdance@telus.net](mailto:snowdance@telus.net)  
Office Hours: T 9:30-11:30, by Appointment, or whenever I'm free.

## NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE COURSE:

Sociology 2600 is an introduction to the study and analysis of social, economic, political, gender, racial, ethnic, age, and regional inequality from a sociological perspective. Major theoretical approaches and empirical studies will be examined. The scope for this course will be comparative and global, but most of the descriptive materials will relate to Canadian society.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

- A. To understand the consequences of inequality in Canadian society.
- B. To understand the major issues, debates, and controversies which frame the attempts to explain and measure the incidence of inequality.
- C. To understand the structural, cultural, and demographic characteristics of inequality.
- D. To understand the variety and variability of theoretical perspectives available to explain inequality.
- E. To understand how power and domination relationships are related to and help to understand significant issues in our society.

## SPECIAL FEATURES OF THIS COURSE:

This course uses advanced technology to enhance the learning experience. A variety of teaching and learning styles will be used in this course: traditional classroom lectures and discussions, tutorials, and virtual classes via video conferencing.

The course is based on the view that students can learn from interacting with each other and the instructor, and working alone in the library and/or electronically. Thus, I encourage you to work cooperatively and collaboratively. Group members can work together and submit one piece of work representative of the groups's efforts. This applies to all work completed outside of class. The only restriction is that no more than five persons may form into a group and all the members of the group's names must appear on the work submitted.

While I will "lecture," my lecture notes will be made available to you in a variety of formats, thus increasing the efficiency of the time that we spend in class, and reducing the need for three hour classes to two hours.

In order to compensate for my distance from you, a computer mediated communication system is being implemented by the College. This will allow you to ask questions or make comments to me and to all the other members of the class. This forum or discussion group will not be mediated or censored in any way. It will still be possible for you to communicate with me personally and privately by using the email address shown on the first page of this outline.

Finally, I want to encourage each of you to submit your work to me using email. The one restriction is that you must use either a WordPerfect 98 or Word 98 or older wordprocessor program. I am sorry, but I cannot accept work formatted on Macs. You can simply attach the work as a file to your email, or you may bring a disc with your work to the Arts, Commerce and Education Department office. Norine or Chris will help you get your work to me. I promise to respond quickly.

Of course, you may also submit your work in the traditional paper format, but you will have to either mail or fax the paper to me. Again, Norine or Chris in the ACE Department office will help you get your work to me.

### **EVALUATION METHODS:**

There will be assignments, quizzes, a final examination, and a research paper required in this class. Each is described below:

*Assignments:* There will be two assignments. Each will require you to make observations, analyze your observations using materials from the course, and write a short report. I will make up to five different assignments available to you available to you, from which you must complete two.

*Quizzes:* Quizzes will cover materials assigned for the previous weeks or so. The quizzes

will cover assigned reading and lecture materials.

*Final examination:* The examination will be a combination short answer and essay questions. However, the major weighting will be on essay questions.

*Research Paper:* A research paper is required in this course. You may write the paper on any topic that you and I agree on. You **must** submit a topical outline and tentative bibliography for your paper to have it in my possession before the 8<sup>th</sup> of February. Failure to submit these materials will result in a mark of zero for the research paper outline. I will not accept your research paper without an outline, and therefore, probable failure for the course. You will receive a paper which will assist you in preparation and presentation of your research.

### GRADING SYSTEM:

GRADE	INTERPRETATION	PERCENTAGE EQUIVALENT
9		90+
8	Excellent	80-89
7		72-79
6	Good	65-71
5		57-64
4	Pass	50-56
3	Fail	45-49
2		26-44
1		0-25

### MARKS:

ASSIGNMENTS	10%
QUIZZES	25%
FINAL	25%
RESEARCH PAPER Outline	5%
RESEARCH PAPER	35%

### LEARNING RESOURCES:

#### Required Text:

Curtis, James, Edward Grabb, and Neil Guppy, eds. *SOCIAL INEQUALITY IN CANADA: PATTERNS, PROBLEMS, AND POLICIES*. Third Edition. Prentice-Hall Allyn and Baker Canada, 1999.

#### Texts on Reserve: