

**Department of Sociology  
University of Toronto  
Social Institutions  
Sociology 103, Winter 2014  
Tuesdays, 6-8 pm  
Professor Lorne Tepperman**

**SCOPE AND AIMS**

This course provides a general introduction to some of the major social institutions studied by sociologists. Accordingly, you will learn to think sociologically about culture, families, schools, churches, and the mass media, as well as gaining insight into the functioning of small groups, large organizations, and total societies. The course will end with a discussion of social movements, political ideologies, and social change.

**PREREQUISITES**

There is no prerequisite for this course

**READINGS**

The assigned readings are available at the U of T Bookstore and Robarts Library.

**EVALUATION**

Test 1 (February 4).....	25 percent
Test 2 (March 18) .....	25 percent
Final Examination.....	50 percent

**Attendance:** responsibility for being aware of what the professor says in lectures (including administrative announcements) rests with students. As a precaution in case they miss a lecture, students should have a “buddy” who is willing to share their lecture notes.

**Make-up tests:** students who miss a test will receive a mark of zero for that test unless reasons beyond their control prevent them from taking it. **Within three days** of the missed test, students who wish to write the make-up test must send or give their TA a written request for special consideration that explains why the test was missed. A request should be accompanied by contact information (the student’s telephone number and email address) so the date, time and place of the make-up test can be communicated to the student. At the make-up test a student must submit **proper documentation from a physician or college registrar** (see below). A student who misses a test and the subsequent make-up test for a valid reason will not have a third chance to take the test. Instead, the grade assigned for the missed test will be the same as the grade the student earns on the other test in this course.

**Makeup Tests will be held at** 6-8 pm on the following dates, in a room to be assigned:

Makeup test #1 – February 11

Makeup test #2 – March 25

**Review sessions:** 5-6pm, 8-9pm will be held on the following dates, in rooms to be assigned. Every

student will be designated a specific group for the purpose of pre-test reviews.

January 28

March 11

April 1

**Accessibility needs:** The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility> as soon as possible.

### HELP FROM YOUR TEACHING ASSISTANT

Once the class enrolment has stabilized (toward late September) you will be assigned a T.A. He/she will hold scheduled office hours and respond to your emails. Please be judicious in your use of email. Use it only for questions that are brief and specific. Before sending a question by email, be sure to check the course outline to see if an answer is already available. Emails should not be seen as an alternative to doing the reading or attending the lectures. Expect to receive a response from your T.A. within three working days. For more in-depth discussions of the lectures, readings, tests and position papers, please make use of your T.A.'s office hours.

### DOCUMENTATION FROM YOUR PHYSICIAN OR COLLEGE REGISTRAR

If you miss a test or a paper deadline, **do not** contact the instructor or a TA unless you have followed the steps described here. Telling the professor or TA why you missed a deadline or a test probably will not help.

- In case of **illness**, you must supply a duly completed University of Toronto Student Medical Certificate. A doctor's note is not acceptable. There is a blank Certificate in the Faculty of Arts and Science Registration Handbook & Timetable. Attach this Certificate to your work and then hand it in at class or to your TA during their office hours.
- If a **personal or family crisis** prevents you from meeting a deadline, you must get a letter from your college registrar (it is a good idea anyway to advise your college registrar if a crisis is interfering with your studies). Attach this letter to your work and then hand it in at class or to your T.A during their office hours.

### Topics and Readings

Class	Topic	Readings	
Jan	7	Introducing Sociology	SP 1/QS Intro, 1, 10
	14	Material Settings	SP 2/QS 22
	21	Social Structures	SP 3 /QS 5
	28	Culture	SP 4/ QS 8
Feb	4	<b>TEST #1</b>	
	11	Families	SP 11/QS 7, 2
	18	<b>NO CLASS – Reading Week</b>	
	25	Schools and Formal Education	SP 12

March	4	Churches and Religion	SS 13
	11	Deviance	.....
	<b>18</b>	<b>TEST #2</b>	
	25	Media and Mass Communication	SP 14/QS 9
April	1	Politics and Social movements	SP 15,16/QS 13,14
	?	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	

**Assigned readings:**

1. Hird, Myra and George Pavlich, *Questioning Sociology: Canadian Perspectives*, Toronto: Oxford University Press (“QS”)
2. Tepperman, Lorne (2011), *Starting Points: A Sociological Journey*, Toronto: Oxford University Press (“SP”)