

SOC366H1S: THE SOCIOLOGY OF WOMEN & WORK

WINTER 2013

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Office:	Department of Sociology
Class Hours and Location	Wednesday 2-4 @ UC 140
Office Hours:	By Appointment
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COURSE OVERVIEW

In this course we will explore the relationship between market work (i.e. paid work, which we usually call “work”) and family work (i.e. managing a home, people care) and how these relationships have evolved over time in ways that have stimulated and stalled gender equality. We will draw on a range of sociological theories and studies to wrestle with gender inequality in the household division of labour, the cultural construction of ‘good’ mothering and fathering, the causes and consequences of labour market sex segregation, gendered control over the labour process, and gender gaps in work rewards. My hope is that you will use this course as a springboard for thinking about how we may move beyond the stalled revolution.

COURSE PREREQUISITES: You must have successfully completed a Sociology course at the 200 level to take this course. Students who do not fulfill these prerequisite requirements can be removed from this course without notice.

OBJECTIVES

1. Cultivate your Sociological Imagination
2. Discuss and evaluate different Sociological perspectives of gender (race/ethnicity, class) and work/workers
3. Critically examine research on trends in the household division of labour and childcare and the consequences of those arrangements for gender equality in the labor market and more broadly
4. Weigh the evidence for explanations of labour market sex segregation and the gender wage and authority gaps
5. Practice reading and applying sociological research to critically evaluate media representations of women and work

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

Defining Work Reflection (20%)

Due in class January 23. Assignment details will be discussed in class.

Mid-Term (25%)

In class February 13. Test will consist of a mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions.

Critical Review Assignment (30%)

Due in class March 6. Details will be discussed in class.

Final Exam (25%)

In class April 3. Test will consist of multiple choice items from the entire term (cumulative).

ASSIGNED READINGS

See ‘Course Schedule’ for weekly topics and required readings. Assigned Readings not in the textbook will be posted on Blackboard under “Assigned Readings”

Text (available at the U of T bookstore): Padavic, Irene and Barbara F. Reskin. 2002. *Women and Men at Work*. (2nd ed.) Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press.

COURSE POLICIES

I. Attendance, Participation, and Preparation

Students are responsible for reading and analyzing a considerable amount of material for each class. You should come to class prepared to discuss any questions you have and engage meaningfully with the material. Students are also expected to engage at a critical and analytical level of communication.

Accessibility Needs: The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: disability.services@utoronto.ca or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>

II. Communication

Course Web Site: Blackboard is the primary medium that will be used to communicate important course information with the class. The course website prepared on the Blackboard system will contain the course syllabus, lecture slides (posted prior to lectures), assignment and test information, and grades. I

also email students important course announcements via Blackboard Administrator, however, **students are responsible for the content of all course materials and for checking Portal regularly.**

Email: **THINK BEFORE YOU SEND!** Email to the instructor should be carefully considered before being sent. If you have an administrative question it is likely outlined in the syllabus. Nothing will be conveyed in a separate email to you that has been covered during the class period. Make sure your email does not function as a written record of your irregular attendance. Correspondence through email must be sent from an official U of T address. You can expect us to respond to your email within 2 business days, not counting the weekends.

Please also be sure to include "SOC366" in the subject line. **All students are responsible for checking their official utoronto.ca email addresses regularly, especially prior to lecture time.**

Technology: Please do not record lectures without my consent. Please turn on silent mode for mobile devices during lectures!

III. Assignment Policies

Due Dates: All assignments are to be submitted in class and in hard copy on the specified due date. I do not accept electronic submissions.

Late Penalties: Late assignments will be **penalized 10% for every day they are late—no exceptions.** Late papers that exceed a 7 days past the original due date will not be accepted and will be assigned a grade of zero. No make-up assignments are offered in this course.

Where to Bring Late Assignments: If they are handed in late between lectures, they must be in paper form, stamped and handed in at the Dept. of Sociology (725 Spadina Ave) room 225. The hours of operation are from Monday to Friday 9-5. You are to date stamp your assignment and place it in the 300 level drop box. *If you choose this option you must email me to let me know as I do not check the box regularly.*

Tips for Successful Writing in this Course

Visit the Writing Centre: *All* students are encouraged to use their available writing centres. Writing tutors provide help you to think through your ideas, develop a thesis, organize your paper, present your evidence effectively, argue logically, and express yourself more clearly and concisely. Proofreading and copyediting for spelling, grammar, or format are *not* within the primary scope of the writing centres' services.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity: Plagiarism occurs when one person presents *as one's own* the words or ideas of another. This includes quoting sources, paraphrasing, or summarizing source materials without indicating through the use of proper citation methods that the specific material in question was quoted, paraphrased, or summarized from that source. Plagiarism also includes handing in work that you

have submitted in other courses in the past. *All* suspected instances of plagiarism, *without exception* will be reported to the university for investigation and appropriate handling.

www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai/students

IV. Test Policies

Students who miss tests will be assigned a mark of 0 unless they provide appropriate documentation (see below).

IF YOU MISS A TEST YOU MUST:

1. Notify me via email of your absence no more than 24 hours from the scheduled test date;
2. **Medical Documentation:** You must submit an original University of Toronto Student Medical Certificate at my request. The Student Medical Certificate is available on the University of Toronto's web site and may be completed by a Health Services physician or by your own physician:
<http://www.healthservice.utoronto.ca/pdfs/medcert.htm>. **Failure to provide official documentation will not be accepted and will result in a test grade of zero**

IV. Grades

Contesting Grades: Students who are dissatisfied with their test or assignment grade have **one week** to address their concerns, **in writing, to the instructor**. Should you wish to contest a grade you need to indicate in a written document, submitted to both the TA and instructor, why the grade was inappropriate. The instructor and TA will consult and respond to the claim in writing (i.e. email or hard copy). Upon reconsideration the grade may be raised or lowered.

Be sure to check the UofT writing web site <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing> for very valuable information, including the meaning of marks ("What does a 'C' mean?"), how to write essay tests, and lots more.

Also, refer to the grade scale in the undergraduate calendar

<http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/rules.htm>

Posting marks: Barring unforeseen calamities, all tests will be graded and marks posted within two sessions of the test date. Final course grades will be available on ROSI only.