

**Sociology 102**  
**Social Inequality**  
**Fall 2015**  
**Syllabus**

**SCOPE AND AIMS**

This course provides a general introduction to some of the major social inequalities studied by sociologists. Accordingly, you will learn about class, racial (and ethnic) and gender inequalities, among others. We will attempt to understand the social processes that create and reproduce inequality from one generation to the next.

**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 (October 13).....  | 25 percent |
| Test 2 (November 24)..... | 25 percent |
| Final Examination.....    | 50 percent |

Test and Exam locations will be announced after the beginning of classes

**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 – October 20

Makeup test #2 – December 1

**Tutorials:** Mandatory tutorials will be held throughout the term. You may enroll in a tutorial section on Blackboard and you will attend this section for each of the four tutorial weeks (enrollment instructions will be posted on Blackboard during the first week of classes)

**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.

| <u>Date.....</u> | <u>Topic.....</u>               | <u>Readings.....</u> |                          |
|------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Sept 15          | Inequality and its consequences | FL<br>SP             | Why Study Flows?<br>ch 4 |
| Sept 22          | Gender and age inequalities     | SP                   | ch 7, 11                 |
| Sept 29          | Global inequalities             | SP                   | ch 10                    |
| Oct 6            | The diffusion of inequalities   | FL                   | ch 1                     |
| <b>Oct 13</b>    | <b>TEST 1</b>                   |                      |                          |
| Oct 20           | Race and ethnic inequalities    | SP                   | ch 8                     |
| Oct 27           | The migration of inequalities   | FL                   | ch 2                     |
| Nov 3            | Class inequalities              | SP                   | ch 9                     |
| <b>Nov 10</b>    | <b>November Break</b>           |                      |                          |
| Nov 17           | Unequal Opportunities           | FL                   | ch 3                     |
| <b>Nov 24</b>    | <b>TEST 2</b>                   |                      |                          |
| Dec 1            | Inequality structures           | FL                   | ch 4                     |
| Dec 8            | Resistance processes            | FL<br>SP             | ch 5<br>ch 15            |

### FINAL EXAMINATION

**Grading Scheme:** 2 term tests (25% each), 1 final exam (50%)

**Assigned readings: Available at U of T Bookstore**

Tepperman, Lorne (2015), **STARTING POINTS: A Sociological Journey, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition** Toronto: Oxford University Press (“SP”)

Tepperman, Lorne and Sally Chiang (2015), **FLOWS** Oakville: Rock’s Mills Press (“FL”)

**Recommended readings: Available on course website or United Way**

United Way of Toronto (2015) **The Opportunity Equation**

United Way of Toronto (2015) **The Precarity Penalty**