

# INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY I: SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

Winter 2020

SOC100H1S – L0101-L2001

Professor Robert Brym  
Department of Sociology  
725 Spadina Avenue, Rm 288  
[rbrym@chass.utoronto.ca](mailto:rbrym@chass.utoronto.ca)

## Course Goal

This course will challenge your views on a wide range of issues by introducing you to a unique way of understanding your world. We will analyze the globalization of culture, emerging patterns of class and gender inequality in Canada and internationally, the redefinition of sexuality, the social dimension of environmental problems, criminal and deviant behaviour, and so on. You will learn to understand these and other pressing social issues by analyzing the way the social world is organized. We may like to think of ourselves as perfectly free, but powerful social forces open up some opportunities and close off others, thus constraining our freedom and helping to make us what we are and what we can become. Sociology is the systematic examination of how these social forces operate.

## Required Readings

- *New Society*, 9<sup>th</sup> ed. (Toronto: Nelson, 2020).
- *Sociology as a Life or Death Issue*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. (Toronto: Nelson, 2017).

The two books can be purchased as a discounted package at the U of T Bookstore, 214 College Street.

## Required Software

In-class slides will summarize the major points of each lecture, present data in graphs and tables, and show video clips. The slides will be posted on the course's Quercus website in PowerPoint (.ppt) format and will therefore be available for review purposes. To retrieve slides, go to the Files → slides folder on the Quercus site. If you do not already have software for viewing PowerPoint slides, please download and install free software at <https://tinyurl.com/seePPT>.

## Tutorials and Study Groups

Tutorials will be led by four Teaching Assistants (sociology graduate students). In tutorials, the TAs will administer written exercises and initiate discussion and debate regarding material covered in lectures and readings. Tutorials will be held during weeks 4, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 11 of the class (see the cells shaded grey in the table below). You are expected to attend one tutorial during each of the six weeks tutorials will be held—a total of six tutorials during the semester.

## Evaluation

Your mark for the course will be based on a 75-minute in-class test worth 25% of your final grade (to be held 11 February 2020), a 2-hour final exam worth 57% (to be held during the final exam period in April), and participation in tutorials worth 18%. The test and the exam will consist of multiple-choice questions.

You will receive 30% of your final grade before 15 March 2020, the last date on which you are allowed to drop the course. You will receive written comments on work worth 10% of your final grade before 15 March 2020.

The date of the final exam is set by the Faculty of Arts and Science and will be announced around the end of February. Since the final exam period covers the entire month of April, you should not make plans to leave Toronto until you know when your exams will be held.

## TA Office Hours

Teaching Assistants will hold office hours for individual consultation with students during weeks 2-5 and 8-12 of the course (see the cells shaded yellow in the table below). Details will be posted on Quercus shortly after classes begin.

### Questions

You will have the opportunity to ask Professor Brym questions in class, after class, and in his office by appointment. Please do not ask Professor Brym questions during the 10-minute break between the first hour and the second hour of the lecture. You can also ask questions via email by contacting TA Christos Orfanidis at [c.orfanidis@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:c.orfanidis@mail.utoronto.ca).

### Syllabus and Calendar

(NS=*New Society*; SLDI=*Sociology as a Life or Death Issue*; tutorial weeks shaded grey; weeks with office hours shaded yellow)

Week #	Month	Day	Topic	NS chapters	SLDI chapters
1	Jan	7	Introduction	1	1
2	Jan	14	Culture	3	2
3	Jan	21	Genders & Sexualities	5	
4	Jan	28	Communications & Mass Media	6	
5	Feb	4	Stratification	7	5
6	Feb	11	IN-CLASS TEST		
	Feb	18	NO CLASS		
7	Feb	25	Race & Ethnicity	8	7
8	Mar	3	Development & Underdevelopment	9	6
9	Mar	10	Crime & Deviance	13	
10	Mar	17	Politics & Social Movements	15	
11	Mar	24	Methods	2	8
12	Mar	31	Methods		
	Apr	TBA	FINAL EXAM		

### Cheating

Cheating will not be tolerated. If you commit an academic offence, you will face serious penalties. Know where you stand by reading the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* at <https://tinyurl.com/UoTrules>.

### Attendance

Attendance at all classes is required. If you cannot attend a class due to illness or family emergency, obtain lecture notes from a classmate.

### Accessibility

If you require accommodation or have any accessibility concerns, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/UoTaccess> as soon as possible.

### Make-up test

If you miss the test on 11 February you will receive a mark of zero unless, within four days of the test date, you give the professor a written request for special consideration that explains why the test was missed. Proper documentation from a physician or College Registrar must accompany the request.

In case of illness or injury causing you to miss the test, complete a *Verification of Student Illness or Injury*

form (available at <https://tinyurl.com/UoTsick>). A doctor's note is also acceptable but it must indicate the start and anticipated end date of the illness.

If a *crisis in your immediate family* causes you to miss the 11 February test, visit your College Registrar and obtain a letter outlining the circumstances.

Appropriate completed documentation must be placed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Professor and submitted to the Professor or a TA before class or during a TA's office hours. The documentation must include your telephone number and email address so that the date, time and place of the make-up test can be communicated to you.

If you miss the test, do not contact the Professor or TA unless you have followed the procedure outlined above. Telling the Professor or the TA why you missed the test is insufficient for receiving permission to write a make-up test.

The make-up test will be written on 24 February and will consist of one or two essay questions.

### **Final Exam and Deferred Final Exam**

The date and coverage of the final exam will be announced in March. The exam will be written during the exam period in April. Do not make plans to leave the city until you know your exam date.

If you miss the exam due to illness or crisis in your immediate family, you may write a deferred exam. To write the deferred exam, you must petition your College Registrar, not the Professor, as soon as possible.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is fundamental to learning and scholarship at the University of Toronto. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly and fairly in this academic community ensures that the U of T degree you earn will be valued as a true indication of your academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

Familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto's *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* at <https://tinyurl.com/UoTrules>. It is the rule book for academic behaviour at U of T. You are expected to know the rules. Potential offences include, but are not limited to, the following:

On tests and exams:

- using or possessing any unauthorized aid, including a cell phone;
- looking at someone else's answers;
- letting someone else look at your answers;
- misrepresenting your identity;
- submitting an altered test for re-grading.

Misrepresentation:

- falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including doctor's notes;
- falsifying institutional documents or grades.

The University of Toronto treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following the procedures outlined in the *Code*. The consequences for academic misconduct can be severe, including a failure in the course and a notation on your transcript. If you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in this course, please contact the Professor.