

SOC100H1 F LEC0101 20209: Introduction to Sociology

SYLLABUS

SOC100H1-F-LEC0101-20209

SOC100H1-F-LEC2000-20209

SOC100H1-F-LEC2001-20209

Fall 2020

Instructor: Professor Robert Brym

THIS COURSE IS DELIVERED ENTIRELY ONLINE. LECTURES ARE ASYNCHRONOUS; THEY MAY BE VIEWED ANYTIME AFTER THEY ARE POSTED. OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE COURSE ARE SYNCHRONOUS; TUTORIALS, OFFICE HOURS, QUIZZES, THE MID-TERM TEST AND THE FINAL ASSESSMENT ARE HELD AT SPECIFIC TIMES INDICATED BELOW.

Technical and Software Requirements

To see if your remote setup meets requirements, visit [https://www.viceprovoststudents.utoronto.ca/covid-19/tech-requirements-online-learning/Links to an external site..](https://www.viceprovoststudents.utoronto.ca/covid-19/tech-requirements-online-learning/Links%20to%20an%20external%20site..) If your remote setup does not meet requirements, solutions are offered on the web page just cited.

You will need to access PowerPoint (.ppt), Word (.doc, .docx), Acrobat (.pdf) and .mp4 files for this course. If you do not have apps that can access these types of files, here are some free options:

- For .mp4 files, try [VLC \(Links to an external site.\)](#) or [Quick Time \(Links to an external site.\)](#). Lectures will be recorded in .mp4 format.
- For .docx files, try [Google Docs \(Links to an external site.\)](#) or [Apple Pages \(Links to an external site.\)](#). Various documents will be available on the course's Quercus website in .docx format.
- For .ppt files, try [PowerPoint Viewer \(Links to an external site.\)](#). During lectures, slides will be displayed. They will summarize major points, present data in graphs and tables, and show video clips. Slides will be available for download in .ppt format. On the course's Quercus website, slides will be stored in the Files-->slides folder.
- For .pdf files, try [Adobe Acrobat Reader \(Links to an external site.\)](#). Various documents will be available on the course's Quercus website in .pdf format.

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. Specifically, you will learn to:

- distinguish the sociological approach to explaining human behaviour from psychological and biological approaches;
- interpret the social world using a variety of sociological theories; and
- assess evidence to test sociological theories, thus determining the best explanations among them.

Among other topics, we will analyze and debate globalization and the reaction against it, emerging patterns of class, racial, ethnic and gender inequality in Canada and internationally, the social dimension of environmental problems and the causes of criminal behaviour.

You will learn about these and other pressing issues by analyzing how the social world is organized. We may like to think of ourselves as perfectly free. However, powerful social forces open up some opportunities and close off others. These opportunities constitute and constrain our freedom, helping to shape us. Sociology is the systematic study of how social forces that are often not apparent influence the structure of opportunities we confront in our daily lives.

Course Format

The course begins 10 September 2020 and ends 3 December 2020, with a final assessment to be scheduled later in December.

Lectures. The course instructor will post a recorded lecture in .mp4 format weekly. Lectures are compulsory. Every Thursday beginning 10 September 2020, click on **Announcements** in the left menu for the web link to the weekly lecture. You can view lectures at any time although you are urged to view each lecture for the first time on the Thursday it is posted.

Required readings. You will be assigned a chapter nearly every week. Assigned chapters are compulsory. You are urged to read each chapter for the first time in the week it is assigned and to take notes on it. Chapters are available in digital format. It is strongly recommended that you NOT buy print versions because they are considerably more expensive than digital versions and may be out of date. Eight chapters are from a book titled *SOC+*, 4th edition, and are available [here \(Links to an external site.\)](#). The publisher has given this customized version of the book a distinct name but rest assured it is the right one. Two additional chapters are from a book titled *New Society*, 9th edition. These chapters are available [here \(Links to an external site.\)](#). Again, the publisher has given this customized version of the book a distinct name but it is the correct material for this course.

Tutorials. Beginning 21 September, teaching assistants (TAs) will lead live one-hour online tutorials with 50 students each. Tutorials are compulsory. In tutorials, TAs will initiate discussion and debate regarding material covered in lectures and readings. To participate in tutorials, go to the Quercus site for this course, click on **Bb Collaborate** in the menu on the left, then select the tutorial for which you registered on Acorn. You can participate in tutorials only at the designated times. Some tutorials may be recorded for training purposes.

Office hours. Teaching assistants will lead live office hours beginning 28 September. Office hours are optional. During office hours, you can raise issues and ask questions about course organization and content. To participate in office hours, go to the Quercus site for this course, click on **Bb Collaborate** in the menu on the left, then select any office hour you want to attend. Note that you can participate in office hours only at the designated times.

E-mail contact. Questions about the course should be sent via email to TA Patricia Roach at patricia.roach@mail.utoronto.ca. In most cases you will receive a reply within 24 hours. If Patricia is unable to answer your question, she will forward your email to Professor Brym, who will reply within 24 hours of receiving your query.

Assessments

Tutorial quizzes. Tutorials will be held during six weeks of the course. See the Calendar below for the dates of the tutorial weeks. On the Friday of each tutorial week beginning at 9 am Toronto time, students will be required to complete an approximately 20-30 minute tutorial quiz online. Tutorial quizzes will be worth 30 percent of your final grade (5 percent each). Find tutorial quizzes by clicking **Quizzes** in the menu on the left of the course's Quercus site. You can take tutorial quizzes only at the designated times.

Test. A one-hour mid-term test worth 25 percent of your final grade will begin online at 9 am Toronto time on 15 October. Find the mid-term test by clicking **Quizzes** in the menu on the left of the course's Quercus site. You can take the mid-term test only at the designated time.

Final assessment. The final assessment, worth 45 percent of your final grade, will be found by clicking **Quizzes** in the menu on the left on the course's Quercus site. The final assessment will be held in December, after the end of classes. The date and time of the final assessment is decided by the Faculty of Arts & Science and will be announced in October or November. You can take the final assessment only at the designated time.

Marks. You will receive at least 30 percent of your final grade, including written comments on at least 10 percent of your work, before 9 November 2020, the last day on which you can drop the course. You will receive your final grade in late December 2020 or early January 2021.

Deterring collaboration on assessments

Tutorial quizzes, the mid-term test and the final assessment will (1) be held only during designated time slots, (2) take place within strict time limits, (3) present questions to each student in random order (each student will see questions in a different order) and (4) not allow students to change their answers to questions. These procedures have been tested and shown to reduce opportunities for student collaboration on assessments.

Tutorial quizzes, the mid-term test and the final assessment will be proctored: students' web cameras and microphones must be activated so students can be observed at random.

Certain web services allow students to buy answers to test questions. The answers are often wrong. Moreover, some services demand ransom from customers. They threaten to give customers' names to instructors if customers don't pay—and they follow up on their threat if they do not receive payment. Avoid all such web services.

Accessibility and Accommodation

If you have accessibility concerns, please visit <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/department/accessibility-services/Links to an external site.> as soon as possible. If you require accommodation for writing tutorial quizzes, the mid-term test or the final assessment you MUST register with Accommodated Testing Services as soon as possible at <https://www.ace.utoronto.ca/ats/Links to an external site.>

If you have questions

Please contact TA Patricia Roach (patricia.roach@mail.utoronto.ca) if you have questions about your grade or any other aspect of the course. Expect a reply within 24 hours. If Ms Roach can't answer your question, she will forward it to Professor Brym, in which case you may have to wait as much as 48 hours for a reply.

Calendar (assessments are blue-highlighted)

Date	Topic	Reading(s)	Tutorial period	Office hours
10Sep	Introduction	SOC+, ch 1		
17Sep	Culture	SOC+, ch 2		
24Sep	Genders & Sexualities	SOC+, ch 8	21-24Sep	
25Sep	TUTORIAL QUIZ			
10Oct	Communications & Mass Media	SOC+, ch 13		Yes
8Oct	Stratification	SOC+, ch 6	5-8Oct	
9Oct 9am	TUTORIAL QUIZ			
15Oct 9am	MID-TERM TEST			
22Oct	Race & Ethnicity	SOC+, ch 7	19-22Oct	
23Oct 9am	TUTORIAL QUIZ			
29Oct	Development & Underdevelopment	New Society, ch 9		Yes
5Nov	Deviance & Crime	SOC+, ch 5	2-5Nov	
6Nov 9am	TUTORIAL QUIZ			
	READING WEEK			
19Nov	Politics & Social Movements	SOC+, ch 14	16-19Nov	
20Nov 9am	TUTORIAL QUIZ			
26Nov	Research Methods	New Society, ch 2		Yes
1Dec	Research Methods	New Society, ch 2	30Nov-3Dec	Yes
3Dec 9am	TUTORIAL QUIZ			
TBA	FINAL ASSESSMENT	All since mid-term		

Notes: The first column gives the date when each lecture will be posted online. The mid-term test and tutorial quizzes will begin at 9 am, Toronto time, on the dates indicated. The topic of the 26 November lecture may change. If so, no additional reading will be associated with it.

If you miss a tutorial quiz

If for any reason you miss a tutorial quiz, then the value of the quiz will be added to the value of the final assessment. For example, if you miss a tutorial quiz worth 5 percent of your final grade, your final assessment will be worth 50 percent of your final grade rather than 45 percent.

If you miss the mid-term test

If you miss the mid-term test due to **illness or injury**, you must immediately email Professor Brym (rbrym@chass.utoronto.ca) **and** declare your absence on ACORN. If you miss the mid-term test due to a **family emergency or other personal reason**, you must immediately contact your College Registrar, who will inform Professor Brym. If for any reason you miss the mid-term test, then its value will be added to the value of the final assessment; the final assessment, normally worth 50 percent of your final grade, will be worth 70 percent.

If you miss the final assessment

If you miss the final assessment due to illness, injury or emergency in your immediate family, you may write a deferred assessment. To write the deferred assessment, you must petition your College Registrar, not Professor Brym, 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.

Cheating will not be tolerated. If you commit an academic offence, you will face serious penalties. Familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters at <https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/secretariat/policies/code-behaviour-academic-matters-july-1-2019> [Links to an external site.](#) This document is the rule book for academic behaviour at U of T.

Potential offences include, but are not limited to, the following:

On tutorial quizzes, tests and final assessments:

- 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;

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.