



# INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY I

SOC 111 - 071 FALL 2019

Wed. 15:30-18:20      Vernon - VD333      Anelyse Weiler  
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## Why should you take this course?

This will be a fun introduction to thinking about the world with a **sociological imagination**. By showing how everyday personal issues are tied to broader social forces, sociology can help us deal with changes in our own lives and society at large.

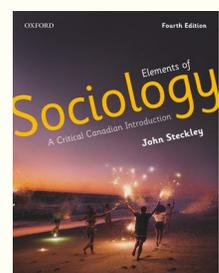
This 3-credit course will give you a peek at sociology's core theories, methodologies, concepts, and some exciting current research. Along the way, we'll pick up skills in effectively managing large volumes of information, public speaking, and analytical writing.

## What is sociology, anyway?

Sociology is the systematic study of human society, including how social structures, processes, and culture enable and constrain human behaviour. The coffee we drink, the burgers we wolf down, and how we fall in love can serve as a window into the surprising ways our own lives are linked to other people and places.

## What do you need for this course?

- *Elements of Sociology: A Critical Canadian Introduction* (4th Edition) - Steckley, 2017



- Access to Moodle (course website)



- Notebook + pens or laptop for taking notes



# How do you succeed in SOC 111?



## Come to all classes on time and bring your best self

- If you need to arrive late, leave early, or miss class, drop me an email beforehand for permission.
- Help create a welcoming space for all – no rudeness, slurs or personal attacks, please!
- No texting, 'gramming, internet surfing etc.



## Do all readings before class and contribute actively

- You'll learn better and create a more memorable class if you contribute to discussions + activities.
  - If this feels scary, let me know what I can do to help you take risks and participate!



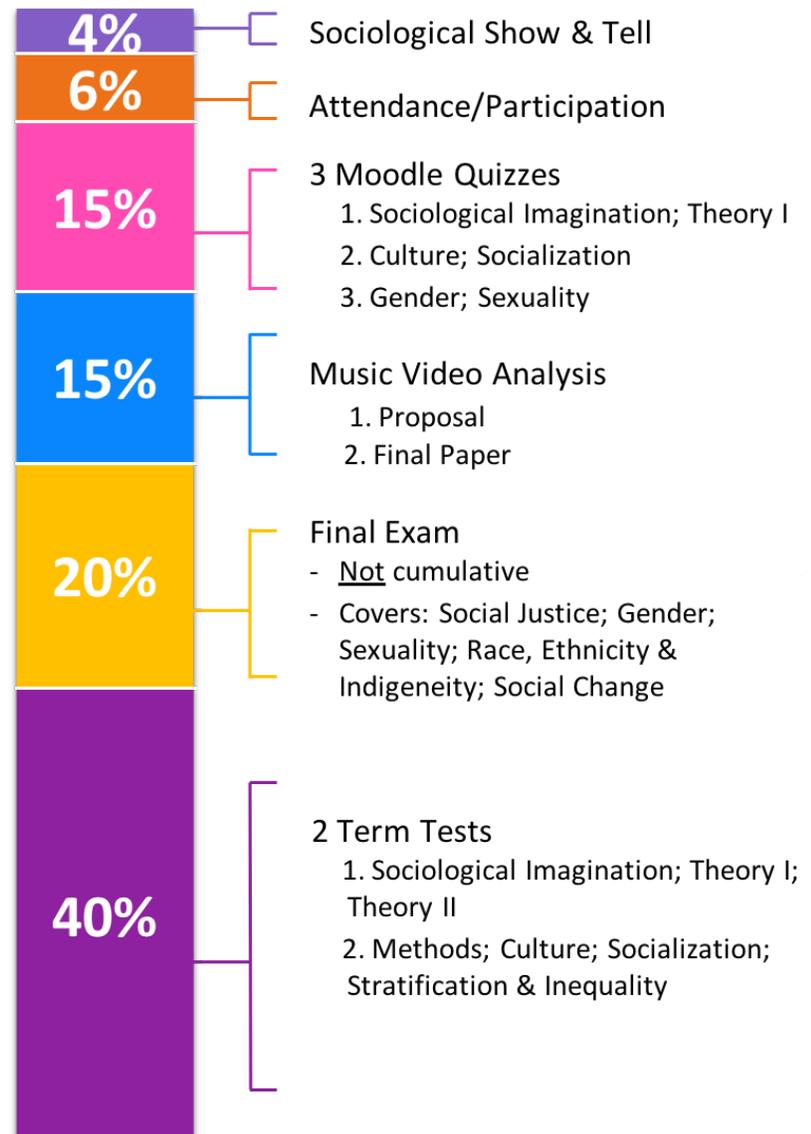
## Take good notes. Review regularly.

- Reading isn't studying.
- Study smart by actively engaging with material.
- Know thyself.
  - Best place and time of day for you to study?
  - Do you work better with a study partner?



## Submit assignments on time and seek support

- Develop a system to keep track of all due dates for assignments, quizzes, tests and exams.
- Learn how not to plagiarize.
- If you're struggling or just want to chat about the course, email me or visit during office hours.
- If you have any accessibility needs, please approach me asap so we can ensure the class works well for you.



## What are we covering each week, and what do you need to read?

Class meetings will include lectures, multimedia, and participatory activities (e.g. group discussions, role playing and games). **Please do the readings *before* class so you're prepared to actively engage!** The material we cover in class will be used to help interpret (as opposed to summarize) the readings, to add new concepts and examples to those covered in the texts, and to provide opportunity for you to share your perspectives.

Class	Dates	Topic	Readings
1	4 Sept	Course Intro + Community Contract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Course Syllabus</li> </ul>
2	11 Sept.	Sociological Imagination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mills (1959). <a href="#">The Promise</a>.</li> </ul>
3	18 Sept.	Theory I: Sociological Approaches + Structural functionalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steckley, Chapter 1</li> </ul>
	<b>22 Sept.</b>	 Deadline to complete Moodle Quiz #1 (5pm)	
4	25 Sept.	Theory II: Conflict Theory + Symbolic Interactionism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">A Brief Introduction to Marxism</a> [Youtube]</li> <li>Johnston et al. (2017). Branding Your Unique Identity™: Consumer Culture+the Social Self [Moodle]</li> </ul>
5	<b>2 Oct.</b>	 <b>TERM TEST</b>	
		Methods: How Sociologists Do Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steckley, Chapter 2</li> </ul>
6	9 Oct.	Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steckley, Chapter 3</li> <li><a href="#">Hookup Culture-The Unspoken Rules of Sex On College Campuses</a> [hit 'play' for audio OR read <a href="#">transcript</a>]</li> </ul>
7	16 Oct.	Socialization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steckley, Chapter 4</li> </ul>
	<b>20 Oct.</b>	 Deadline to complete Moodle Quiz #2 (5pm)	
8	23 Oct.	Stratification & Inequality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steckley, Chapter 7</li> </ul>
9	<b>30 Oct.</b>	 <b>TERM TEST</b>	
		Social Justice: Cultivating a Curious & Critical Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DiAngelo &amp; Sensoy (2014). Leaning in [Moodle]</li> </ul>
	<b>4 Nov.</b>	 Deadline for Music Video Analysis proposal – submit on Moodle by 5pm	
10	6 Nov.	Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steckley, Chapter 9</li> </ul>
11	13 Nov.	Sexuality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Armstrong et al. (2012). Accounting for women's orgasm and sexual enjoyment in college... [Moodle]</li> </ul>
	<b>17 Nov.</b>	 Deadline to complete Moodle Quiz #3 (5pm)	
12	20 Nov.	Race, Ethnicity & Indigeneity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steckley, Chapter 8</li> </ul>
13	27 Nov.	Writing workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optional: bring draft Music Video assignments for feedback</li> </ul>
	2 Dec.	 Due date for Music Video Analysis – submit on Moodle by 5pm	
14	4 Dec.	Social Change + Course Reflections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson (2013). What can we do? Becoming part of the solution [Moodle]</li> </ul>
	TBD	 <b>FINAL EXAM</b>	

# What should you know about each component of your grade?

→ See Moodle for assignment rubrics (these explain how you get points)



## **Sociological Show & Tell (4%)**

Each student will have a chance to present a sociological “show and tell” to the class between weeks 2-13. During the first week of class, you will sign up for a date and sociological concept that you will present to the class. On most weeks there will be more than one student presenting. You will define the concept and explain it using your chosen show-and-tell object. For example, you could bring a barbie doll to explain the concept of socialization or gender stereotyping. Feel free to bring something that is personal and meaningful from your own life!

What’s the point of this assignment? It’s a fun way to: 1. Get to know your classmates a bit better; 2. Review the meaning of course concepts; 3. *Analyze* your own life using a sociological concept; 4. Gain practice public speaking in a relaxed, supportive environment. Zero points if you aren’t prepared on your date – sorry, no retakes.

Here’s what you’ll do in **3 minutes or less**.

1. Introduce yourself, your object, and your personal connection to your object.
2. Define the concept using **your own words**. Please don’t just use the textbook definition!
3. Use your show-and-tell object to **explain** your concept.
4. Come prepared, speak clearly and loudly, and have fun!
  - a. Please don’t read directly from notes – point form notes to guide you are okay, though.



## **Attendance/Participation (6%)**

To reward students for getting in the habit of showing up for class and actively participating, I will be taking attendance. Sometimes, I’ll take attendance by getting you to submit an in-class activity. Three things that can make you lose attendance marks:

1. Obviously... ☺ Not showing up, arriving late, or leaving early without prior permission from me.
2. Using mobile devices/laptops/books/headphones etc. for non-class purposes.
  - a. If you use a laptop to take notes, please don’t use it in a way that is distracting or for non-class activities.
  - b. If you must use a cell phone (e.g. family emergencies), please step into the hallway to text or call.
3. Detracting from a healthy learning environment – read on!

I expect everyone to help create a classroom community that is welcoming to all, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, culture, age, ability, gender, or sexual orientation. This class should **challenge** you to explore controversial social, ethical and political issues, which may sometimes be uncomfortable. If you disagree with someone's point of view, I encourage you to be **open-minded, curious, practice active listening, and respectfully express your own perspective**. Respect includes giving full attention to speakers and refraining from interrupting others. There is no tolerance for rudeness, slurs, or personal attacks; violation of this policy may be reflected in the participation grade.



### **Moodle Quizzes (3 x 5% = 15%)**

There will be three Moodle quizzes throughout the semester. Each one is worth 5% of your total grade. The format is multiple-choice and true/false. Each quiz assesses your understanding of specific required readings. The quizzes are open book, so you're welcome to complete them while consulting your textbook (or not). However, you must write your own quiz – writing another student's quiz or sharing answers with each other = cheating and violates Okanagan College's Academic Integrity Policy. Plus, it would make me sad!

Missed quizzes can't be made up and will result in zero. Deadlines noted below, but you can write your quizzes earlier. Don't leave them until the last minute; you might encounter tech problems without enough time to fix them! If you do, please contact IT Services.

1. Moodle Quiz #1
  - a. Covers: Sociological Imagination; Theory I
  - b. Readings: Mills/The Promise and Chapter 1
  - c. Deadline: 5pm on Sunday, 22 September
2. Moodle Quiz #2
  - a. Covers: Culture; Socialization
  - b. Readings: Chapters 3 and 4
  - c. Deadline: 5pm on Sunday, 20 October.
3. Moodle Quiz #3
  - a. Covers: Gender; Sexuality
  - b. Readings: Chapter 9 and Armstrong et al./Accounting for women's orgasm and sexual enjoyment in college hookups and relationships
  - c. Deadline: 5pm on Sunday, 7 November.



### **Music Video Analysis (15%)**

In this assignment, you will pick 1. A music video of your choice to analyze, and 2. a sociological concept from the course (you'll have a list to choose from – email me if you want to pick a different concept). What does the music video tell us about [your concept]? (e.g. hegemonic masculinity, racialization, deviance, etc.). See Moodle for more detailed guidelines.

To encourage you to **start early and seek help** with any potential challenges, please send me a proposal by 4 Nov. on Moodle (worth 1% of the assignment). Identify: 1. The concept you propose to use and 2. Which music video you plan to use.

Final paper due on **Moodle by Monday, 2 December at 5pm** (or earlier!). Don't forget to include a signed [Academic Integrity Checklist](#).



### **Term Tests (40%)**

Both term tests will take place during regular class time. The format is multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. They will cover ALL material (lectures, required readings, films, and in-class activities) presented in the units associated with each exam. Students are expected to write each exam on the scheduled date; alternate dates for writing are only available under exceptional circumstances (e.g. family grievance); please contact me asap if you are in this situation. Please bring your own pens!

The weighting of your tests is flexible and meant to **incentivize improvement**. Score higher on the second test? The second test will count for 40% of your grade. Score lower on the second test? Each test will be worth 20%. Either way, the weighting is in your favour! If you'd like to go over the answers to each test, you can swing by during office hours.

1. Term Test I
  - a. Covers: Sociological Imagination; Theory I; Theory II
  - b. Date: 2 Oct.
2. Term Test II
  - a. Covers: Methods; Culture; Socialization; Stratification & Inequality
  - b. Date: 30 October



### **Final Exam (20%)**

The format of the final exam will be very similar to the term tests: multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. It will take place during the examination period and scheduled by Exam Services (between 7-18 December). Students are expected to write the final exam on that date.

The final exam is not cumulative; it covers all material (lectures, required readings, films, in-class activities) from Social Justice; Gender; Sexuality; Race, Ethnicity & Indigeneity; and Social Change.

## How do you contact the instructor, and how do office hours work?



My office is \_\_\_\_\_. Office hours are Thursdays from 3-4pm. If that time doesn't work for you, please email me to make an appointment. Office hours are a great time to clarify anything about assignments/quizzes/tests/exams/lecture materials, and to chat about sociology.

- **\*\*\*Please check Moodle regularly for updates and announcements.**
- If you have a question requiring more than a brief email response, please see me in person during office hours. Please include the course code (SOC 111) in the email subject line.
- Please treat emails like any other professional communication.
- I will try to respond to messages within two working days (i.e. not on weekends)
- Please allow adequate time for me to respond (e.g. avoid sending last-minute emails before an assignment is due).
- I may not check or respond to emails on weekends or outside of regular working hours (9am-5pm).
- Before emailing me, please ensure your question is not answered in the syllabus or on Moodle. If it is, I may not respond.

## How to submit assignments:

- Submit through Moodle by the due date and time. No hard copies or submission by email.
- Last-minute computer crashes etc. won't be accepted as a reason for lateness.
- To avoid the heartbreak of losing material, I strongly recommend **saving your work continuously in multiple places** (e.g. flash drive, online storage, desktop, etc.). You should retain a hard copy of all assignments you submit.
- Having issues with Moodle? See "Help for students" at the top of the course page or contact Live Moodle support.
- If no assignment/quiz/test/exam is submitted, a score of zero is assigned.

## What happens if you submit something late or need to miss a test/exam?

- Assignments submitted after the deadline receive a penalty of 5% per day up to 5 calendar days including weekends. I won't accept assignments after that time.
  - Moodle Quizzes can't be submitted late.
- If you encounter a medical or personal emergency and anticipate submitting an assignment late, please get in touch with me as soon as possible (ideally at least 48 hours before a due date).
- Late assignments that are accompanied by a medical certificate (specifying length of incapacitation) or other official documentation may be exempted from late penalties, but again, please get in touch with me about this asap.
- If you can't write a test/exam on the scheduled date, please inform me that you're seeking a deferral and send me a medical certificate or other appropriate documentation.

### Can we get an assignment regraded?

1. If you would like to request an assignment regrade, this must happen within 5 calendar days of receiving your mark.
2. After the mark is posted, wait and observe a 24-hour cooling off period. Re-read your assignment, the assignment guidelines, rubric, and my comments.
3. Send me an email with the original assignment, rubric, and a short, written explanation of concrete reasons why you believe the grade should be altered. Make specific reference to the grading rubric and assignment instructions.
4. Your mark might go up or down. Most of the time, regrades remain the same.

### How are grades calculated?

In accordance with Okanagan College's standardized grading system, percent grades will have the following letter grade equivalents. All grades are subject to final approval by the College.

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 76-79	C+ = 64-67	D = 50-54
A = 85-89	B = 72-75	C = 60-63	F = 0-49
A - = 80-84	B - = 68-71	C - = 55-59	

### How to avoid cheating or plagiarism:

Plagiarism is quoting or paraphrasing another author's work, including the work of fellow students, without proper use of citations and/or quotations marks. You should not be submitting any academic work for which you have previously obtained or are currently seeking credit without first discussing this with me. Paraphrasing too close to the source, making up sources or facts, and obtaining/receiving unauthorized assistance on an assignment can also be considered offences. Some useful resources:

- [Academic integrity](#)
- [How not to plagiarize](#)

Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses. To remind you of these expectations and help you avoid accidental offences, I will ask you to include a signed [Academic Integrity Checklist](#) with your final written assignment. If you don't include the statement, your work will not be graded.

### What will we be doing in the course, broadly speaking?

1. Investigating how social structures and culture shape the relationship between individuals and society, including reflections on our own lives.
2. Analyzing how inequalities based on race, class, gender and other social locations are produced and reproduced.
3. Identifying and apply some of the major theories and concepts in sociology.
4. Deepening our understanding of current social problems and efforts to generate social change.

By the end of this course, what should each student be able to do?

Once you have successfully completed this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe some of the key theoretical approaches, concepts and methods used in sociology.
2. Name some famous sociologists and identify what they're famous for.
3. Apply sociological thinking tools to better understand your own life and broader social phenomena.
4. Identify the basic components of a peer-reviewed journal article.
5. Deliver a short oral presentation in front of your peers.
6. Write an essay using a sociological concept to analyze a piece of popular culture.

### What support services are available to me as a student?

- [Aboriginal Services](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)
- [Counselling Services](#)
- [Financial Aid](#)
- [Health and Wellness](#)
- [International Student Support](#)
- [Learning Centres](#)

### Other important policies:

#### **Accessibility**

I am committed to accessibility and welcome diverse learning styles. If you require accommodations for a disability or health consideration, or if you have any accessibility needs in the course, please approach me as soon as possible to let me know how I can ensure the learning environment supports your needs.

#### **Childcare**

Many students have a child to care for in their life. I understand that sometimes childcare plans fall through. If this happens, feel free to bring a child to class. Please simply bring materials to keep them busy and remain mindful of your classmates.

#### **Copyright Notice**

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

## **Food and Housing Security**

When students encounter barriers to accessing food and/or housing, it can significantly impede their learning. The OCSU runs a [food bank](#) on the Kelowna campus. If you feel comfortable, please feel free to contact me, and I will do my best to connect you with other local resources.

## **Important Dates**

Please be aware of [important dates](#) (e.g. the last day for withdrawing from a course without penalty).

## **Religious Holy Days**

The College recognizes the diversity of religious practices among its students. The College will review requests from students to absent themselves from regularly scheduled classes and/or examinations on formal holy days of a recognized religion actively practiced by the requester. Consideration of such requests will be subject to operating constraints. Students will be required to make up missed work or other such requirements as may be deemed necessary and appropriate in granting the request.

Students should inform the professor in writing within the first two weeks of classes of the holy days on which they wish to be absent during a semester. They should discuss possible alternative arrangements with the professor. The professor will make reasonable efforts to accommodate such requests. In some instances, consultation with the Program Dean, Director, or designate may be advisable.

## **Sexual Violence and Misconduct**

The College does not condone or tolerate any form of Sexual Violence and Misconduct. We are committed to creating and maintaining a learning and working environment characterized by mutual respect, safety, civility and free inquiry. Full policy [here](#).

## **Student Athletes on an Okanagan College Competitive Sports Team**

Okanagan College (OC) expects all student athletes on OC competitive sports teams to attend every scheduled class (lecture, lab or seminar) of the courses in which they are registered unless they are excused to participate in regularly scheduled college athletic competitions. Team practices, conditioning, meetings or other non-competition activities are not considered valid reasons for missing class.

Credit for header photo: [George Ampartzidis](#)