

SOCI 100A – Introduction to Sociology: Understanding Social Life¹



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Calendar Course Description

Introduction to the discipline and why it matters. Sociology challenges black and white thinking by exposing students to the shades of grey. Topics may include social theory, socialization, culture, norms, social interactions, self and identity.

Course Pre/Co-requisites

Students may take SOCI 100A/B at the same time; however, whenever possible students should take 100A before 100B.

Required Materials

Ravelli, Bruce., Webber, Michelle. (2022). *Exploring Sociology: A Canadian Perspective* (5th Edition). Toronto: Pearson Education Canada.²

Student Assessment (option 1)

Midterm 1	10%
Midterm 2	25%
Final Exam	35%
Chapter quizzes	20%
Tutorial Participation	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Student Assessment (option 2)

Any student who wishes to offer an alternative assessment strategy to option 1 may do so by submitting a proposal to me.

What is the course like?

Each week we will meet for 3, 1-hour lectures. The lectures are where I review sociological theories, concepts, and methods. While there are many students in the lectures, you will learn that I welcome student interaction and engagement. Then, once a week (for 8 weeks) you will meet for 1-hour in tutorials (20-25 students) led by a Teaching Assistant (who is a graduate student in sociology). The tutorials will introduce you to material not covered in lectures and is also where we help prepare you for exams.

What are the exams like?

Exams are based on essay questions that I provide in advance. For both midterms four (4) essay questions will be circulated and you will be required to answer *my choice* of two (2) of them. For the final I will circulate seven (7) questions and you will be required to write on four (4) that I choose. Each answer is limited to one single-spaced page (note: there are no other questions on the exams).

Why should you take this course?

This course will challenge you to look beyond what you have been taught to see and begin to explore the world as it really is. Sociologists study everything you are interested in – social media, inequality, sexism, racialization, reconciliation, colonialism, animal rights, crime, etc. While we study some topics that are depressing, we do as a way of inspiring you to want to make a difference.

For some examples of what sociologists find interesting, visit [Making Sociology Matter](#).

¹ This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.

² Textbook royalties for sales at UVic are donated to the local not-for-profit, *Out of the Rain*.

³ The course uses an electronic version of the text (price is \$79.99 and that includes **BOTH** SOCI 100A and 100B). A printed copy of the text is available, on reserve, in the library.