Introduction to Sociology
2012-2013
Sociology 1A06 -- Section C02

Class meets: Mon & Wed, 2:30-3:20pm
Classroom: TSH-120
Professor Tina Fetner
tina.fetner@mcmaster.ca, x23623
Office Hours: Mondays, 12-2pm
in person at KTH-636 and online at Avenue to Learn

Tutorial time: ________________________________
Tutorial room: ________________________________
Teaching Assistant: ________________________________
TA email address: ________________________________
TA office hours: ________________________________
TA office location, phone: ________________________________

Instructional Assistant: Gerald Bierling
Email: soc1a06@mcmaster.ca
Office location & phone extension: KTH-642, x26513
Office hours: Mon/Wed 10am-noon; Tue/Thu 1-3pm

The Course
Sociology can provide us with new ways to look at the world. By shining light on the organization of our society, sociology encourages us to look beyond individual accomplishments or problems, to see the connections between people and their surroundings. This course will introduce you to the field of sociology, providing you not only with an overview of what sociologists have done, but also with a chance to see the world from a sociological point of view.

You will have a chance to look at a number of important topics in sociology: class, race, gender, sexuality, education, and culture. At the same time, you will learn about sociological understandings of important social processes: socialization, stratification, social construction. You will be introduced briefly to sociological theory and methods. Through this course, you will learn about what sociology does, and you will be challenged to think through contemporary issues with these new tools and analytical lenses.

Requirements
In this course, you are expected to read all of the assigned materials thoughtfully, attend both class lectures and tutorials. You are expected to participate in class through an interactive device, the iClicker (more on this below). Our class time will not be used to explain the readings; rather, we will use the readings to develop sociological analyses in class. You are a valuable asset to our class, and your engagement with the course materials and class discussion make all the difference in how interesting, enjoyable, and educational this class will be.

Required Readings
All readings are available at the campus bookstore, as is the required iClicker device.


iClicker personal response device (or use the web>clicker app on your smartphone).
Classroom Interaction with iClicker
You are required to bring your clicker to every class. You will participate in class by using the clicker to respond to questions I ask during lecture. Your responses will not be evaluated, and although I do have access to your responses, they will remain confidential.

Tutorials And Teaching Assistants
Each student must attend one weekly tutorial session. Your tutorial will be run by one of our class’s highly skilled Teaching Assistants. Attendance and participation in tutorials is required. Further, your TA will hold office hours and can help you with your readings, assignments, or preparation for exams. Your assignments will be graded by your TA, and s/he will provide feedback to you on your progress in the course.

Questions or concerns about tutorial scheduling should be directed to the Instructional Assistant.

Grades
Your final grade for the course will be calculated as follows:

- Assignment #1: data analysis 10%
- Assignment #2: library research 10%
- Assignment #3: research paper (5-7 pages) 30%
- Midterm exam (in December exam period) 20%
- Final exam (in April exam period) 20%
- Tutorial attendance and participation - Fall 5%
- Tutorial attendance and participation - Winter 5%

Additional Information on Assignments
Assignments must be submitted to Avenue to Learn by noon on the day they are due. All pages should be numbered and have 1" to 1.25" margins on all sides. All text should be double-spaced in an easy-to-read 12-point font. Failure to adhere to these guidelines will be reflected in the mark for the assignment.

Turnitin.com
In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

Review of Marks
We will be diligent in marking all assignments fairly and accurately. Nonetheless, occasionally students disagree with the marks they receive. When this occurs, we will be happy to review the mark of any assignment or exam, if the procedure outlined below is followed. Please note that when a mark is reviewed, the new mark may be lower than the original.

To request a review of a mark, write a 1-page memo (on paper, not email) describing in detail the nature of the perceived marking error. Submit this memo, with the original marked assignment to your Teaching Assistant. You may submit requests for review no sooner than one week and no later than three weeks after assignments/exams are handed back to the class.

If, after this review of your mark, you continue to dispute the mark, you may submit an appeal to Professor Fetner. Write a 1-page memo describing the dispute with the reviewed mark, and submit it along with the original assignment and all written feedback from the Teaching Assistant. Professor Fetner will not review any marks not already reviewed by the respective Teaching Assistant.
Late Assignments and Absences
All excuses for missed work due to illness, injury and family emergency must be vetted through the office of the Associate Dean of Social Science. Please follow the procedure as outlined on the Faculty of Social Sciences website. Make-up work and deadlines must be addressed directly with your Teaching Assistant as soon as possible.

We are committed to making appropriate accommodations for students' observance of religious holidays. Please contact your TA as early in the term as possible to make individual arrangements.

We are also committed to working with students with disabilities to make individualized accommodations according to your specific needs. All such arrangements must be made through Student Accessibility Services. Please drop by Professor Fetner's office hours at the beginning of the term to make individual arrangements and to complete the necessary paperwork. All such arrangements will be kept confidential, except to the extent that Teaching Assistants must be advised of accommodation arrangements.

For late assignments without approved excuses, you must make arrangements directly with your TA to hand in the assignment. Assignments will be marked down 5% if turned in late on the day it is due, and an additional 5 percentage points for each day it is late after that, including weekend days and holidays.

Sociology Department Policies
The Sociology staff does not date-stamp assignments or monitor the submission or return of papers. Turn in assignments via Avenue to Learn only.

Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:
1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained. In assignments, complete citations are required for all quotes and paraphrases. Consult a writing style guide for information on how to properly cite the work of others.
2. Improper collaboration in group work. In this course, I encourage students to work together to understand concepts, discuss ideas, study for exams, etc. Improper collaboration would be defined as using the work of others to get out of doing your own work, claiming the work of others as your own, etc.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Avenue to Learn
This course can be accessed through McMaster's learning system, Avenue to Learn. You are required to login and use the tools and materials available through this on-line system. You must submit your assignments here, and your grades, course outline, and any announcements will be posted here.

To login to Avenue to Learn go to: avenue.mcmaster.ca
MAC ID: if your email is janed@mcmaster.ca, then your MAC ID is janed
Password: same as your MAC ID email password

If you have difficulties logging in, please contact the Instructional Assistant (see below).

Instructional Assistant
There will be an Instructional Assistant for all sections of Sociology 1A06. The IA is available for assistance for tutorial scheduling at the beginning of the term, for student office hours regarding lecture and tutorial materials/questions, and assistance with Avenue to Learn.

Email and Instant Messaging
Please consider email and instant messaging equivalent to any other form of written communication. Students who write to their professors, teaching assistants and instructional assistants are expected to follow rules of spelling, grammar and punctuation. In addition, please include a proper greeting, such as "Dear Dr. Fetner," and a closing that includes your full name, such as "Sincerely, Jane Lee." Email failing to meet these standards may not be answered. Email containing questions that can be answered by referring to this syllabus or to Avenue to Learn may not be answered. As we deal with many students, please expect to wait up to one week for a response to your email. This means that email is not the right medium for urgent matters.

Course Outline
Each week’s reading should be completed by the start of your tutorial or by the start of class on Monday, whichever comes first.

FALL SEMESTER

PART I - USING YOUR SOCIOLOGICAL IMAGINATION

Week 1  Sept 10 & 12  Introduction to the course.
No readings assigned
*Tutorials do not meet this week.*

Week 2  Sept 17 & 19  Sociological Imagination
Chapter 1 of textbook

Week 3  Sept 24 & 26  Methods
Chapter 2 of textbook

Week 4  Oct 1  Academic Writing

Oct 3  Culture and Media
Chapter 3 of the textbook

Week 5  Oct 10  Culture and Media
Chapter 3 of the textbook
*Happy Thanksgiving! Tutorials do not meet this week.*

Week 6  Oct 15 & 17  Socialization and the Construction of Reality
Chapter 4 of the textbook
| Week 7 | Oct 22 & 24 | Groups and Networks  
Chapter 5 of the textbook |
|--------|-------------|---------------------|
| Week 8 | Oct 29 & 31 | Social Control and Deviance  
Chapter 6 of the textbook  
*Assignment #1 due Friday, November 2 at noon.* |
| Week 9 | Nov 5 & 7   | Stratification  
Chapter 7 of the textbook |
| Week 10| Nov 12 & 14 | Global Inequality  
Chapter 7 of the textbook |
| Week 11| Nov 19 & 21 | Gender  
Chapter 8 of the textbook |
| Week 12| Nov 26 & 28 | Gender  
Chapter 8 of the textbook  
| Week 13| Dec 3       | Semester review |
|        | Dec 5-19    | Midterm exam  
Date to be determined by Registrar - do not make any travel plans during this period.  

*WINTER BREAK – enjoy!*  

**WINTER SEMESTER**

| Week 1 | Jan 7 & 9   | Sexuality  
Chapter 8 of the textbook  
*Tutorials do not meet this week.* |
|--------|-------------|---------------------|
| Week 2 | Jan 14 & 16 | Race and Ethnicity  
Chapter 9 of the textbook |
| Week 3 | Jan 21 & 23 | Race and Ethnicity  
Chapter 9 of the textbook |
| Week 4 | Jan 28 & 30 | Poverty  
Chapter 10 of the textbook |

**PART III - INSTITUTIONS OF SOCIETY**

| Week 5 | Feb 4 & 6  | Family |


Chapter 12 of the textbook

*Assignment #2 due Friday, Feb 8 at noon.*

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<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Feb 11 &amp; 13</th>
<th>Education</th>
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<td>Chapter 13 of the textbook</td>
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| Feb 18-22 | READING WEEK |

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<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Feb 25 &amp; 27</th>
<th>Capitalism and the Economy</th>
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<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Mar 4 &amp; 6</th>
<th>Authority and the State</th>
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<th>Week 9</th>
<th>Mar 11 &amp; 13</th>
<th>Religion</th>
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*Assignment #3 due Friday, March 15 at noon.*

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<th>Week 10</th>
<th>Mar 18 &amp; 20</th>
<th>Science, the Environment, and Society</th>
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<tr>
<th>Week 11</th>
<th>Mar 25 &amp; 27</th>
<th>Collective Action, Social Movements, and Social Change</th>
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*Happy holidays. Tutorials do not meet this week.*

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<th>Week 12</th>
<th>April 1 &amp; 3</th>
<th>Opposing Movements</th>
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<th>Week 13</th>
<th>April 8 &amp; 10</th>
<th>Catch up and final review</th>
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<th>April 12-30</th>
<th>Final exam</th>
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<td>Date to be determined by Registrar - do not make any travel plans.</td>
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The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and Avenue to Learn at least weekly during the term and to note any changes.