

**Mount Allison University**  
**SOCI 1001C: Introduction to Sociology**  
**Winter 2009**

**PROFESSOR:** Dr. Judith Doyle  
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**Course Description:**

This course will introduce you to the basic concepts of sociology through an experiential approach to the discipline. Sociology is the empirical study of society. It is concerned with the way humans organize their affairs and the intended and unintended consequences of organizing them in a particular way. Throughout the course you will be introduced to key concepts, methods and theoretical perspectives used by sociologists to understand the world we live in. Key concepts include agency, social structure, socialization, social interaction, social control, culture, structured social inequality, social institutions, and social change. We will be focusing on social problems and social policy in Canada and internationally.

**Required Course Readings:**

Lorne Tepperman and James Curtis and Albert Kwan  
**Social Problems: A Canadian Perspective**, 2nd Edition  
Oxford University Press, 2007

Stephanie Nolen

**28: Stories of AIDS in Africa**  
Knopf Canada, 2007

Judith Doyle, Erin Steuter and San Patten  
**Sociology Workbook 1001C**  
Mount Allison University, Winter 2009

**Course Organization:**

This course has five integrated components: readings; lectures; labs; assignments; and class discussion. Your active participation is an important part of your sociological education at Mount Allison. This course is cumulative. So, material that is learnt in prior weeks' work is assumed as a knowledge base for subsequent weeks. It is important to note that all five components have been designed to compliment each other so it is important that you come to your classes, keep up with your readings and lab work and perhaps most importantly, *talk about sociological ideas with your peers!*

The lab component of the course has been specifically designed to provide an intellectually generous forum in which to experiment with, develop and communicate your sociological imagination. The course is interactive and will require your **Workbook** for each class. This workbook has been developed to engage students in active learning. Be prepared by doing the readings and to participate in group work.

**Evaluation:**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
<b>2 Internship Tasks</b>	<p>In this course you will have the opportunity to explore the work that sociologists do and develop your sociological research and analysis skills by completing two social policy projects that address a relevant social problem. These assignments will be evaluated on the basis of the specific grading rubric provided in this workbook.</p> <p>You will serve as an intern for an in-house social problems and policy development research centre. This will give you the chance to experience one type of career that you could have with a sociology major. In addition, the internship will introduce you to some of the critical thinking and research skills utilized in social research.</p> <p>Your internship takes place online. As an intern you will complete two tasks assigned to you by the research centre. All relevant information regarding your internship duties is posted on the agency's website which you can access through the following link:  <a href="http://www.mta.ca/sociologyESPRITlab/">http://www.mta.ca/sociologyESPRITlab/</a></p>	<b>Each task is worth 20% (total 40%)</b>	<p><b>Task 1 due: Jan 27<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><b>Task 2 due: April 2<sup>nd</sup></b></p>
<b>Mid-term exam</b>	There will be one midterm exam which will consist of long answer questions.	<b>20%</b>	<b>Mar 3 during class</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	The Final Exam will take place during the exam period. It will consist of multiple choice and long answer questions and will examine your knowledge of the assigned readings, lectures, films, activities and class discussions throughout the whole term.	<b>30%</b>	<p><b>During the final examination period</b></p> <p><b>(April 13 to 23<sup>rd</sup>)</b></p>
<b>Worksheets</b>	<p>Your worksheets will be handed in and marked weekly. They will be graded accordingly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 mark for: Beginning Sociological Skill Level to Developing Sociological Skill Level</li> <li>• 1.5 marks for: Competent Sociological Skill Level</li> <li>• 2 marks for: Accomplished Sociological Skill Level to Exemplary Sociological Skill Level</li> </ul>	<b>10%</b>	

## Topics and Readings

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings and Assignments
Week 1	January 6 - Tuesday First day of class  Jan 8	<u>Introduction to Course</u> Lab 1: Thinking Sociologically about Suicide	
Week 2	Jan 13, 15	<u>Concepts for Studying Social Problems</u>  Lab 2: Blaming the Victim	<b>Intro: what are social problems pp1-25</b>
Week 3	Jan 20, 22	<u>Theory:</u>  Lab 3: Population Health Perspective: Social Determinants of Health	<b>Intro: what are social problems pp1-25</b>
Week 4	Jan 27, 29	<u>Poverty and Economic Inequality</u>  Lab 4: Poverty and Economic Inequality	<b>Chp 1: 31-60</b>  <b>Task 1 due: Jan 27</b>
Week 5	Feb 3, 5	<u>Drugs</u>  Lab 5: Harm Reduction Policies	<b>Chp 3: 106-134</b>
Week 6	Feb 10, 12	<u>Race and Ethnic Relations</u>  Lab 6: Data Analysis of Immigrant Voices	<b>Chp 4: 143-178</b>

Week 7	Feb 17, 19	<u>Sexism and Gender Inequality</u> <u>Sexuality</u> Lab 7 on Tuesday Lab 8 on Thursday	<b>Chp 5 pg 185-226</b> <b>Chp 6 pg 234-266: on homosexuality</b>
Week 8	Feb 24, 26	No classes - break	
Week 9	Mar 3, 5 Drop date March 6th	<u>Family</u> Lab 9: Family Structure Changes Over Time	<b>Chp 8 pg 317-350</b> <b>In class exam Mar 3</b>
Week 10	Mar 10, 12	<u>Work and the Economy</u> Lab 10: Migrant workers	<b>Chp 9, pp 358-391</b>
Week 11	Mar 17, 19	<u>Health, Illness and Healthcare</u> Lab 11: Understanding the Social Construction of ADD/ADHD	<b>Chp 10, pp 399-431</b>
Week 12	Mar 24, 26	<u>Environment</u> Lab 12: Global Environment: Considering Policy Options	<b>Chp 11, pp 439-474</b>
Week 13	Mar 31, April 2	<u>Achieving Social Change</u> Discuss change as a social process that involves supporters and detractors.  Lab 13: Resistance and Change	<b>Task 3 due: April 2nd</b>
Week 14	April 7, 9 Last day of classes April 9	Review	

*The Final Exam will be in the Examination period: April 13 – April 23, 2009*

## **Rules and Regulations**

### **Academic Honesty**

Please note that Mount Allison University has academic regulations pertaining to academic dishonesty. All students at Mount Allison are expected to conduct themselves in an ethical manner in their academic work. The Mount Allison Academic Calendar defines academic dishonesty and outlines what happens when it occurs. You can find more information on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it on the Department web site or in the Sociology Survival Handbook which is in this Workbook. As part of your cover sheet for your assignments, you are asked to sign an Academic Integrity Declaration to confirm that you understand plagiarism and have not done it in your work. This Declaration can be found on the Rubric sheets in this workbook.

*The Sociology Department's policy is that any work involving plagiarism will be given a grade of zero as a minimum grade and may be more severe depending on the nature and extent of the breach of the norms of academic integrity.*

### **Special Needs**

If you have any special academic needs that need to be taken into account, please tell me in person or by e-mail.

**Scholarship of Teaching:** Student activities and anonymous student comments or feedback on assignments or projects in this course may be used in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (e.g., in publications or presentations related to teaching). Students have the option--without penalty--not to provide anonymous comments or feedback related to course content.

### **Policy on late assignments, and missed exams:**

Students who cannot complete their assignments and mid-term exam on time due to illness will be granted an extension without penalty only if they have legitimate medical documentation. There will be only one rewrite time for the mid-term. Students who cannot write the final exam on the scheduled date due to illness or for compassionate reasons must follow the procedures as outlined in section 6.14.3 (Deferred Final Examinations) of the Mt.A Academic Calendar.

This class follows the Sociology's Department policy on late assignments: late assignments will lose 5% per day (weekends count as two days.) No assignments will be accepted if they are submitted more than two weeks after the due date.

### **Format of Assignments**

All assignments are to be typed or word-processed with margins of one-inch, double spaced or space and a half (not single spaced!), 12 point font (preferably Times or Times New Roman), and with page numbers in the lower right corner. I accept double sided assignments as long as both sides are part of the assignment and follow sequentially. All assignments must be handed in with the rubric and declaration of academic integrity. I will accept electronic assignments submitted to

### **Citation Style**

All papers are to follow the in-text citation style and reference guide found on the Sociology Department's homepage or in the department's handbook.

### **Submission:**

Assignments should be handed into me directly at the beginning of class. They may also be handed in to the Sociology assignment box outside of Avard-Dixon 216. This box is cleared at 8:15 am and 4:15 pm each day. I will accept electronic submissions through Moodle. If submitting electronically, please make sure you file is named: YOURNAME, COURSE NUMBER, assignment title. I.e., rather than call a file "Task 1", name your file, for example, "JDoyle SOCI 1001C task 1". I mark electronic assignments electronically and do not print them out.

