

SOCIOLOGY 102.26
Contemporary Sociology
Winter, 2018
Instructor: Dr. P. Cormack

Office: Annex 112a

Office hours: Tuesday, 9:15-10:30; Wednesday, 11:15-1:15; Friday, 10:15-11:15.

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This course builds on SOC101 (Foundations of Sociology), looking at more contemporary issues and topics, including face-to-face interaction, total institutions, deviance, crime, mental illness, stigma, disability, gender, social class, and university life.

You are allowed to bring in a “cheat sheet” for your quizzes and exams with any info you like on it. For quizzes, I will hand out a recipe card for you to use. For the exam, you may bring in an 8”x11” sheet of paper.

Your quizzes cover *only* the assigned reading since your previous quiz. The final exam will cover all lecture and reading material.

Please note that no electronics are allowed in the classroom unless first approved by me. Turn off your phone and put it away before each class begins.

EVALUATION

- Quizzes (3 x 10 pts. each) = 30%
- Essay = 20% (due March 28th; see moodle for essay assignment)
- Final exam = 40%
- Participation*= 10%

REQUIRED READING: Reading Kit for SOC102 (Contemporary Sociology), Dr. Cormack.

* Participation grade is forfeited after 3 unexcused absences.

PART I: SELF, OTHER, and INTERACTION

1. Goffman, E. “The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life”.
2. Goffman, E. “Stigma and Social Identity”.
3. Gerstel, N. “Divorce and Stigma”.
4. Lemert, E. “Paranoia and the Dynamics of Exclusion”.
5. Milgram, S. “Behavioural Study of Obedience”.

6. Becker, H. "Becoming a Marihuana User".
7. Sacks, H. "On Suicide Threats Getting Laughed Off".

QUIZ 1 (January 31)

PART II: TOTAL INSTITUTIONS

8. Goffman, G. "Characteristics of Total Institutions".
9. "Arrival", The Survivors Speak: A Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.
(also read the history of residential schools on moodle)
10. Ratnesar, R. "The Menace Within". (Zimbardo prison experiment.)
11. Foucault, M. "The Body of the Condemned".
12. Rosenhan, D. "Being Sane in Insane Places".
13. Grekul, J. "Sterilization in Alberta, 1928 to 1972: Gender Matters".

QUIZ 2 (February 28)

PART III: UNIVERSITY LIFE: WHERE ARE WE?

14. Karp, D., et. al. "Leaving Home for College: Expectations for Selective Reconstruction of Self."
15. Horsman, M. and P. Cormack. "A Meaningful Meaninglessness: Canadian University 'hook-up' and 'party' culture as gendered and class-based privilege."
16. Lehmann, W. "Becoming Middle Class: How Working-Class University Students Draw and Transgress Moral Class Boundaries."
17. Hamilton, Laura and Elizabeth Armstrong. "The (Mis)Education of Monica and Karen."
18. Michalko, R. "Blindness Enters the Classroom".
19. James, C. E. "Schooling, Basketball and U.S. Scholarship Aspirations of Canadian Student Athletes".
20. Newson, J. "Recovering the University as a Collective Project".
21. Gadamer, H.-G. "The Idea of the University".

QUIZ 3 (April 3)

"Everyone learns more effectively in a respectful, safe and equitable learning environment, free from discrimination and harassment. I invite you to work with me to create a classroom space – both real and virtual – that fosters and promotes values of human dignity, equity, non-discrimination and respect for diversity. Please feel free to talk with me about your questions or concerns about equity in our classroom or in the STFX community in general. If I cannot answer your questions or help you address your concerns, I encourage you to talk to the Chair/Coordinator of the Department/Program or the Human Rights and Equity Advisor. Please note that a Human Rights and Equity Advisor will soon be appointed. In the meantime, students, faculty, or staff may also contact the Director of Human Resources at hr@stfx.ca or the Office of the AVP&P".