

**SOCIOLOGY 100.16: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY**  
**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY, 2011-2012**  
**DR. P. CORMACK**

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Office Hours: First Term - Monday: 11:15-1:15, Tuesday: 9:10-11:00, Friday: 10:10-12:15

Second Term - Monday: 11:15- 12:15, Tuesday: 9:10- 11:00, Friday: 10:15-11:15

Sociology studies everything that can be defined as social. This ranges from the etiquette of simple face-to-face interaction to institutions like the economy, the state, and the family. In this course students are invited to think about how so much of our social world is treated as natural, or “just the way things are”. We will begin to think about how, for example, gender behavior, social inequalities, authority, work relations, the economy, etc. are collectively achieved and defended realities and why this is the case.

Required Reading: Reading Kit (available in the bookstore – look for the course number and my name on your kit)

Required Viewing: “Meltdown” (CBC documentary in 4 parts) at <http://www.cbc.ca/doczone/meltdown/>

Evaluation:

- Monthly quizzes (6) x 5 points = 30 points (The last Wednesday of each month)
- December Exam = 20 points
- Essay (due February 15) = 20 points
- Final Exam = 30 points

Readings:

- Rousseau, J.-J. from The Social Contract.
- Hobbs, T. from Leviathan.
- Comte, A. from Course of Positive Philosophy.
- Durkheim, E. “Preface to the Second Edition”, The Rules of Sociological Method.
- Sartre, J.-P. “Anti-Semite and Jew”.
- Merton, R. “The Self-Fulfilling Prophecy”.
- CBC, “*Meltdown, Hour 1: The Men Who Crashed the World*”

\*\*\*\*\* **Quiz #1: Sept. 28** \*\*\*\*\*

- Gladwell, M. “The Matthew Effect”.
- Patry, M. W., Stinson, V., & Smith, S. M. “The Reality of the CSI Effect”.
- Parnis, D. and J. Du Mont. “Symbolic Power and the Institutional Response to Rape: Uncovering the Cultural Dynamics of a Forensic Technology”.
- Haggerty, K. “Ethics Creep: Governing Social Science Research in the Name of Ethics”.

- Brym, R. "Hurricane Katrina and the Myth of Natural Disasters".
- Miner, H. "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema".
- *CBC, "Meltdown, Hour 2: A Global Tsunami"*.

\*\*\*\*\* **Quiz #2: Oct. 26**\*\*\*\*\*

- Newson, J. "Recovering the University as a Collective Project".
- Gadamer, H.-G. "The Idea of the University".
- Durkhiem, E. from Suicide.
- Weber, M. "Science as a Vocation".
- Ritzer, G. "The McDonalidization of Society".
- Marx K. and F. Engels, "The Communist Manifesto".
- Reiter, E. "Modern Times in the Hamburger Business".
- *CBC, Meltdown, Hour 3: Paying the Price*"

\*\*\*\*\* **Quiz #3: Nov. 30**\*\*\*\*\*

### DECEMBER EXAM – See exam schedule

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- Goffman, E. "The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life".
- Simmel, G. "The Stranger".
- Michalko, R. "Blindness Enters the Classroom".
- De Beauvoir, S. "Introduction" to The Second Sex.
- Smith, D. "The Authority of the Male Voice".
- *CBC, Meltdown, Hour 4: After the Fall*".

\*\*\*\*\* **Quiz #4: Jan. 25**\*\*\*\*\*

- Sennett, R. and J. Cobb, "Some Hidden Injuries of Class".
- Lehmann, W. "Becoming Middle Class: How Working-Class University Students Draw and Transgress Moral Class Boundaries".
- Du Bois, W.E.B. "The Souls of Black Folks".
- James, C. E. "Schooling, Basketball and U.S. Scholarship Aspirations of Canadian Student Athletes".
- Goffman, E. "Stigma and Social Identity".
- Gerstel, N. "Divorce and Stigma".

\*\*\*\*\* **Quiz #5: Feb. 29**\*\*\*\*\*

- Vaughan, D. "Uncoupling: The Social Construction of Divorce".
- Grekul, J. "Sterilization in Alberta, 1928 to 1972: Gender Matters".
- Lemert, E. "Paranoia and the Dynamics of Exclusion".
- Rosenhan, D. "Being Sane in Insane Places".
- Milgram, S. "Behavioral Study of Obedience".
- Becker, H. "Becoming a Marijuana User".
- Sacks, H. "On Suicide Threats Getting Laughed Off".

\*\*\*\*\* **Quiz #6: March 28**\*\*\*\*\*

### FINAL EXAM – See exam schedule

**Plagiarism:** Please familiarize yourself with the university plagiarism policies and punishments. You are responsible for understanding them and abiding by them. All academic offences and penalties can be found at - <http://www.mystfx.ca/services/registrar/policies/>

**Classroom Equity Policy:** For all members of our class to learn effectively, this classroom must be a safe learning environment. To ensure safety for all students, the policy in this class is that no one shall be discriminated against or harassed on the basis of age, race, color, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, physical disability or mental disability, an irrational fear of contracting an illness or disease, ethnic, national or Aboriginal origin, family status, marital status, source of income, political belief, affiliation or activity, an individual's association with another individual or class of individuals having any one or more of the characteristics referred to in the list above. (For more information on *St. Francis Xavier University Discrimination & Harassment Policy*, please refer to Marie Brunelle, the Human Rights and Equity Advisor)

**Electronics:** No electronics will be allowed in this class without express permission from me. This is to ensure that students are not distracted by your laptops, smart phones, etc. Please also make sure that your phone ringer is turned down. This rule is also to uphold the equity policies that students not be subject to images, words, etc. that they might deem offensive.