

**Sociology 1000 – Introduction to Sociology**  
**Fall 2008**  
**Grande Prairie Regional College – Hinton Campus**

**Instructor:** Nancy Robbins

**Contact Info:** [nancypat@telus.net](mailto:nancypat@telus.net)

**Class Times:** Monday at 11:30 to 2:20

**Required Text:** Sociology Sixth Canadian Edition by Macionis and Gerber. Prentice Hall, 2007

**Recommended Text:** Prentice Hall Reference Guide for Canadian Writers by Harris and Jewinski. Prentice Hall, 2009.

**Course Description:** This course examines the theory, methods and substance of sociology. How societies and individuals are shaped and modified by culture, socialization, deviance, stratification, group processes, industrialization and social movements will be covered.

**Student Evaluation:**

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Chapter Quizzes (11)             | 22% |
| Sociological Investigation       | 15% |
| Survey                           | 5%  |
| Bibliography                     | 5%  |
| Final Research Paper             | 45% |
| Class Participation / Attendance | 8%  |

Quizzes (Value 22%): There will be 11 weekly quizzes starting September 15; each will be in a multiple choice format. Quizzes are available online through Blackboard at the end of class and are available until the start of the next class. Each quiz is based on the weekly reading, class lecture and discussions and any other relevant material. Quizzes must be taken in the week that they are assigned and there will be no “make up” quizzes available. No exceptions will be made.

Sociological Investigation Assignment (Value: 15%): This assignment is designed to get students thinking about their topic for their term paper. Using sociological imagination and the steps for sociological research discussed in class two, students will design a research project. This assignment aims to help students think clearly about their research, finalize their research tool and design the steps they need to consider in order conduct research to complete their final research paper.

*Due Date: September 29, 2008*

Survey (Value 5%): Students will be able to first design their survey in the Sociological Investigation Assignment, receive feedback from the instructor and then re-design their survey for credit and for their term paper.

*Due: October 20, 2008*

Bibliography (Value 5%): Based on feedback from the Sociological Investigation Assignment, students will submit their literature review bibliography for review and credit.

*Due: November 3, 2008*

Final Research Paper (Value 45%): The research paper will be a continuation of the ideas and research method designed in the Sociological Investigation Assignment, Survey and Bibliography.

For the term paper, the following are mandatory requirements:

- correct spelling and grammar
- neat presentation
- application of theory
- double spaced
- organization and headings
- footnotes or endnotes
- bibliography
- table of contents
- copy of survey

Recommended format is

- 1.) Cover page
- 2.) Table of contents
- 3.) Body of paper with headings for each of the steps discussed in the Sociological Investigation Assignment and the class on Sociological Investigation
- 4.) Appendices (if required)
- 5.) Bibliography

Failure to complete a bibliography and appropriate footnotes or endnotes means a failure of the term paper. Late assignments will not be accepted after the end of term.

*Due: December 15, 2008*

#### **A few notes...**

Due dates: Due dates are assigned for a reason. Late work is usually marked with grade deductions and will be accepted in extenuating circumstances; but note, extensions are RARELY given! However, if needed, please see me to discuss why you cannot meet a deadline for the written assignment. Late work is subject to penalties regardless of the circumstances.

Submission of papers: Assignments and papers are to be submitted on time, typed, spell checked, stapled and neatly presented without any kind of plastic implements attached to the instructor at the start of class or by fax to the YREC office in Hinton. Students are also required to email a copy of their paper to the instructor to [nancypat@telus.net](mailto:nancypat@telus.net).

**Please do not use the drop box under Blackboard as I will not receive it!**

I will email you to let you know that I have received your assignment. If you don't hear from me, then I haven't received your paper – it is YOUR responsibility to follow up! If you are late submitting your paper, I will not make a special trip into Hinton to the YREC office to receive it!

Questions regarding assignments: I am always available for questions by email or in person. Please be sure to consult with me prior to the due date.

Sources / Documentation / Plagiarism: Footnotes or endnotes are required for all written work. The MLA format is preferred; however, if you are more familiar with another method, please feel free to use it as long as it is consistent and correct.

Bibliographies are also required and must be done correctly. Please consult the reference book for assistance or ask me.

Taking something from the Internet? Be sure that your source is reliable and credible and not related to any hate group or illegal activity.

Written work is checked for plagiarism. Unsure what plagiarism is? Consult regulations set out by GPRC at the webpage below if you have any doubts. What happens if you are caught plagiarising? You fail the course – no debate.

<http://www.gprc.ab.ca/downloads/documents/Student%20Misconduct%20Plagiarism%20and%20Cheating.pdf>

Class Participation and Attendance: Attendance is mandatory for this course. Please let me know in advance if you are unable to attend classes. Your mark for attendance is based on the number of classes you attend.

Homework assignments will be given throughout the term for class discussion and part of your class participation / attendance mark will be based on completion of these exercises.

Behaviour in class: Students are required to be awake, without their cell phone ringing and paying attention in class. Please come to class prepared for the day's discussion and topic. Respect of your fellow students is a given. While you may disagree with your colleague's opinion to specific issues, please show respect and dignity to each other.

Abuse of any kind is not tolerated or acceptable.

Blackboard: If you are unfamiliar with Blackboard or are lacking in confidence on what to do, please let me know ASAP and I will give you a brief tutorial to help you out. If you don't ask for help, I can't give it!

Information on Grades: Students will receive a percentage mark on all written work and quizzes in this course. You will also be given by either email or in person a breakdown of your marks on your written work.

At the end of term, your final percentage mark will be translated into a letter grade according to regulations stipulated by GPRC.

Grades for quizzes will be available immediately upon completion of the quiz online; all other grades will be made available to the student by email or in person in a timely fashion (usually next class). Marks are posted on Blackboard as soon as they are recorded so they may be available in less than a week. Please consult Blackboard before emailing me as if your mark is not in Blackboard, your work most likely has not been marked yet.

I am happy to discuss any grades at any point during the course and at the end of the course in person or by email. Grades are confidential and will only be discussed with the student.

Grades are not changed and are considered final. I am, however, willing to discuss any concerns that you have regarding grading as long as it is respectable and with dignity. There are no re-writes or re-submissions of any work because of poor grades.

| Alpha Grade | Percentage Range | Descriptor   |
|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| A+          | 90-100           | Excellent    |
| A           | 85-89            |              |
| A-          | 80-84            | Very Good    |
| B+          | 76-79            |              |
| B           | 73-75            | Good         |
| B-          | 70-72            |              |
| C+          | 67-69            | Satisfactory |
| C           | 64-66            |              |
| C-          | 60-63            |              |
| D+          | 55-59            | Poor         |
| D           | 50-54            | Minimal Pass |
| F           | 0-49             | Failure      |

## Course Outline

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| September 8  | <b>Introduction to sociology</b>   |
| September 15 | <b>Sociological Investigation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 1 (pages 1-13); Chapter 2</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #1</i></li> </ul>   |
| September 22 | <b>Culture and Society</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 1 (pages 14-25); Chapter 3 (pages 54-69); Chapter 4</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #2</i></li> </ul>  |
| September 29 | <b>Socialization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 5</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #3</i></li> <li>• <i>Sociological Investigation Assignment Due</i></li> </ul>  |
| October 6    | <b>Deviance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 9</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #4</i></li> </ul>   |
| October 13   | <b>Thanksgiving (no classes)</b>   |
| October 20   | <b>Social Stratification / Global Stratification</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 10; Chapter 12 (pages 290-296;305-311)</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #5</i></li> <li>• <i>Survey Due</i></li> </ul>  |
| October 27   | <b>Social Class / Poverty</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 11; Chapter 12 (pages 296-302)</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #6</i></li> </ul>  |
| November 3   | <b>Gender Stratification / Sexuality</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 13; Chapter 8 (pages 182–185;193-195;201-206)</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #7</i></li> <li>• <i>Bibliography Due</i></li> </ul> |

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| November 10 | <b>Remembrance Day (no classes)</b>  |
| November 17 | <b>Race &amp; Ethnicity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 14</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #8</i></li> </ul>                                    |
| November 24 | <b>Family</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 18</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #9</i></li> </ul>  |
| December 1  | <b>Work / Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 16; Chapter 20</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #10</i></li> </ul>                           |
| December 8  | <b>Population and the Environment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading: Chapter 22 (pages 566-571;585-596)</li> <li>• <i>Quiz #11</i></li> </ul> |
| December 15 | <i>Final Research Paper due</i>  |