

Grande Prairie Regional College
SO3010: Sociology of Gender (section A3)
January, 2007 ~ April, 2007

Instructor: Murray Shaw

Classroom: A212

Class times: Mondays, 6:00pm – 8:50pm

Office: C410

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Office hours: Make an appointment, or drop by the office.

Course prerequisites: Introductory sociology

Course Description

In this course, we will address a range of questions regarding the role of gender as a major organizing principle of contemporary social life. This will include questions such as:

- How are gender roles and identities socially constructed?
- How does gender intersect with race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, age and other dimensions of identity?
- How does gender influence social life and social organization within major social institutions such as media, family, the workplace, schools, religion, politics, and popular culture?

By taking this course:

- Students will gain the ability to recognize, define, and understand core issues in the sociology of gender.
- Students will gain a working knowledge of women's issues, men's issues, and how dominant ideas about gender are formed, changed, and maintained in our society today.
- Students will get a sense of the role of gender in their own lives.

Course Materials:

- Text: Nelson, Adie. (2006). Gender in Canada. Third Edition. Prentice Hall.
- Additional readings will be made available in class or on blackboard.

Course Requirements:

40 %	2 exams	Multiple choice
15 %	Commentaries	The term paper will be broken down into 6 short (1-2 page) commentaries, exploring different aspects of the role of gender in your life.
25 %	Term paper: Gender autobiography	This will be your 'final paper', a synthesis of your weekly reflection papers and the course material.
10 %	Annotated bibliography	Summaries of the articles and chapters used in your autobiography.
10 %	Discussion group participation	

Course outline

The following is a list of some of the topics that will be covered in this course. A more detailed outline with specifics on dates, topics, and readings will be available at the beginning of the course.

- Sex, gender, and sexuality
- Sociological theories of gender
- Gender socialization
- Gender inequality
- Symbolic representations of gender
- Gender, crime, and violence
- Gender and families
- Gender and the workplace
- Gender and labour markets
- Gender, the state, and social policy

Grading system

Grades will be assigned on the *Letter Grading System*.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4	90 – 100	Excellent
A	4	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	First Class Standing
B ⁺	3.3	76 – 79	
B	3	73 – 75	Good
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	Satisfactory
C	2	64 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 63	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	Minimal Pass
D	1	50 – 54	
F	0	0 – 49	Fail

Academic behavior

It is expected that all students will respect the rights of all other members of the class. This means:

- No disruptive behavior such as private discussions during lecture/discussion sessions that distract other students or prevent them from hearing the main discussion going on.
- When participating in a discussion, stating your ideas and opinions in class in a way that does not offend others.

Policy on academic dishonesty: You will not present the work of others as your own. Any incident of academic dishonesty or plagiarism will lead to a failing grade. The instructor reserves the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services.