

SOC 260 A1
Inequality and Social Stratification
Spring Term 2022

- Instructor:** Dr. Andriko Lozowy
- Office Hours:** See me after class, or email to make an appointment.
- Email:** alozowy@ualberta.ca In the subject line please remind me that you are emailing about Soc 260. Do not message me through eclass. I aim to respond within 24 hours on weekdays. I will not respond to any emails where the answer to the question can be found on the course outline, or on posted on eclass.
- Course Delivery:** This course is taught in person. There are no asynchronous components.
- Course Day & Time:** Lecture
Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00Am - 11:50Am
Business 2-05

Course runs, May 9 - June 15

COURSE PREREQUISITE

Prerequisite: SOC 100 or consent of instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to the study of structured social inequalities and poverty; major theoretical approaches; findings from key empirical studies, with emphasis on Canada.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this course, students will have

- gained a broader perspective on social stratification and inequality as interdependent
- gained a deeper understanding of how social structures intersect and affect the possibilities for human interaction based on history, memory, context, trauma, violence, and care.

COURSE FORMAT

The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of formal lectures, assigned readings, audiovisual materials, and discussion.

CLASSROOM POLICIES/ATMOSPHERE

In-Class Participation: Student participation is an integral component of a University Course. Here, we practise listening, speaking, logic, and more listening. I strive to create a welcoming space for discussion, and I would encourage you to take a leap, express your point of view, and allow the idea to foster engagement with the idea. As a rule, comments and responses must be about the idea, and not the person. Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Instead of “how can you think/say that,” say, “from my perspective/experience I wonder about X idea.”

COURSE MATERIALS

Text Book: The Stacked Deck: An Introduction to Social Inequality. By Jennifer Ball; Lorne Tepperman. 2nd Edition. Rent a digital copy here for \$44.98 https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/the-stacked-deck-jennifer-ball-lorne-tepperman-v9780199036776?gclid=Cj0KCQjwpImTBhCmARIsAKr58cy7Sq8A3ke4Nzm3Y1P4OpGWLqaxYo-kJZj2bSI5gAqFP79WLGPoDmIaAsGeEALw_wcB

EVALUATION

May 16 - 10% Literature Review Proposal - 300 -word assignment + hand in pdfs of 3 choose articles.
May 25 - 30% Exam 1.
June 6 - 25% Literature Review - 750 words - please follow the guide below.
June 16 - 35% Final Exam.

EXPLANATORY NOTE ON COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Exams will be a combination of Multiple Choice and Written responses. For written questions, you will be awarded points based on your ability to synthesize responses to each question by making connections across all the material we have covered in class. This means that each student may have slightly different responses, but I am looking for your analytical capability to clearly make connections. I will expect that grammar, punctuation, and style will be imprecise - and you will not lose marks because of this.

PAST (OR REPRESENTATIVE) EVALUATIVE MATERIAL

Sample questions will be discussed in class and/or made available on eClass prior to each exam.

GRADING

Marks for graded course requirements are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below. The percentage mark resulting from all graded components produces the final letter grade for the course. Marks for grades are not curved or scaled.

| Letter | % | Pts | Descriptor |
|--------|--------|-----|--------------|
| A+ | 95-100 | 4.0 | Excellent |
| A | 90-94 | 4.0 | |
| A- | 85-89 | 3.7 | |
| B+ | 80-84 | 3.3 | Good |
| B | 75-79 | 3.0 | |
| B- | 70-74 | 2.7 | |
| C+ | 66-69 | 2.3 | Satisfactory |
| C | 62-65 | 2.0 | |
| C- | 58-61 | 1.7 | |
| D+ | 54-57 | 1.3 | Poor |
| D | 50-53 | 1.0 | Minimal Pass |
| F | 0-49 | 0.0 | Fail |

LECTURE SCHEDULE

| Week | Date(s) | Topic | Reading(s) | Notes |
|------|--------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Mon May 9 | Theories of Social Inequality | Ch 1 | |
| 1 | Wed May 11 | Populations Under Discussion | Ch 2 | |
| 2 | Mon May 16 | Employment Income | Ch 3 | Hand in Assignment 1 of 2 by 23:59 |
| 2 | Wed May 18 | Childhood | Ch 4 | |
| 3 | Mon May 23 | No classes, Victoria Day | | |
| 3 | Wed May 25 | Exam 1 | Ch 1, 2, 3, 4 + All eclass content + films + discussions | Exam 1 of 1 |
| 4 | Mon May 30 | Formal Education | Ch 5 | |
| 4 | Wed June 1 | Housing and Transportation | Ch 6 | |
| 5 | Mon June 6 | Access to Food | Ch 7 | Hand in Assignment 2 by 23:59 |
| 5 | Wed June 8 | Access to Health | Ch 8 | |
| 6 | Mon June 13 | Access to Law | Ch 9 | |
| 6 | Wed June 15 | Canada and Inequality | Ch 12 | |
| 6 | Thur June 16 | Exam 2 | Cumulative, with a focus on 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12 + All eclass content + films + discussions | Exam 2 of 2 |

ATTENDANCE, ABSENCES, AND MISSED GRADE COMPONENTS

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult the Attendance section of the University Calendar.

Absence from Term Work

Students are required to contact me within two working days following the missed exam or term work (or as soon as possible, considering the circumstances) to apply for an excused absence. Excused absences are not automatic and are at my discretion. Below is a list of acceptable documentation to support an absence:

- For incapacitating medical illness, students can present one of the following:

- o “University of Alberta Medical Statement” signed by a doctor (this cannot be required, but must be accepted if provided in lieu of other documents).
- o “Request for Excused Absence or Deferral of Term Work” Faculty of Arts form
- For all other cases, such as domestic afflictions or religious convictions, the student should submit documentation appropriate to the situation. This could include the following:
 - o For a death in the family – a copy of the death certificate
 - o For a religious conflict – a letter from the church or pastor
 - o For a car accident – a copy of the accident report
 - o For other serious afflictions – consult the Instructor or Department about appropriate documents

Policy for Missed Term Exams: I

If you miss the final exam, you will have 5 days to write a make-up exam. Missing a final exam is a serious situation and if we can plan for it we can work out an arrangement.

In the case of a missed exam because of an emergency (something related to an injury, trauma, family member, illness, meteor, lightning strike, etc, I will need official documentation, an ambulance bill, doctor's note, death certificate, etc. In the event of an emergency that causes you to miss an exam, please be in touch as soon as possible.

Absence from Final Exam

If you miss the final exam, you must formally apply to your Faculty Student Services office to be considered for a deferred final exam within two working days from the date of the missed exam (or as soon as possible, considering the circumstances). I cannot approve or deny requests for deferred final exams. Refer to the Absence from Final Exams information provided in the Attendance section of the University Calendar for full details.

Date of Deferred Final Exam: Students approved for a deferred final exam will write the exam within two weeks of the date of the final examination missed and not later than August 31. The time and place of the deferred final exam will be determined by the instructor who will make this information available to all students in the course.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

Policy for Written Assignments and Late Assignments:

When writing work to hand in for this course, or most any academic course, the emphasis is placed on evaluating your writing. Academic writing ought to be clear, concise, and most importantly it needs to be written by you. When you quote and reference other works, be clear about who and where these other ideas or writings come from. Embed quotes within writing, do not make quotes do your work. Please use a spell check. Never, ever use This, That, It, at the beginning of a sentence, instead use a subject or a specific object, otherwise, the reader will not understand what you mean. Note - if you are reading this now, you will not

make this mistake. For those of you who miss this hint, you may not know why you have been given a deduction of 10% for failing to read and abide by the rule.

Assignments have a deadline of 23:59 on given days. As soon as you go beyond the deadline, your work will be graded, and 5% will be deducted for each subsequent 24hour period. So, if the work is due on May 16 at 23:59, and you hand in work on May 18 at 00:01, this will be -10%.

Grades

University has become increasingly competitive in recent years. When assignments and exams are graded, you should know that a) the instructor, and or the reader/marker has the experience to apply rigorous standards to each and every piece of work that is graded, b) the instructor, and or the reader/marker are bound by a code of ethics that means each and every piece of work is graded in the most objective way possible by focusing on the words and or responses on the page (often we aim to do this by anonymizing written work, and exams as part of the evaluation process, c) yes, grades may be challenged in formal ways, the first step is by contacting the instructor, the second level may be to contact the department chair. When challenging a grade, effort is made to clarify the reasons why a grade is the result of an evaluation. In most cases, the grade remains the same, but what has changed, is the student's perception and understanding of why a certain grade was arrived at. Please do not simply write an email that says, "Hey Prof - can I get a grade bump!" - because the answer will always be no, and once again, if such an email is received, you can be sure to receive a -10% applied to your entire course grade. If you are concerned about your grades or the feedback you have received please take the matter seriously, write in a formal way, and we/ I will make every effort to offer clarity on the matter.

Lastly, please respect the fact that your final grade has fallen where it has, and because of the tight field of competition, your evaluations need to matter as an analogue for your performance within a range of students.

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

The best all-purpose website for student services on campus, including academic, financial, health, safety, career development services and more is <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students/>.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promote an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information or to register for services visit Academic Accommodations.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

"The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <https://www.ualberta.ca/governance/>) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University."

Students are expected to engage in the highest level of honesty in their work. It is possible, however, to violate academic integrity even if you believed you were being honest. The onus is on students to understand the University of Alberta's expectations regarding academic integrity. Not knowing is not an excuse. Resources and more information on the standards of Academic Integrity and the Code of Student Behaviour can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/currentstudents/academic-resources/academic-integrity/>.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the Academic Discipline Process.

AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDING

“Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the Instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or Instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).”

LEARNING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

TRADITIONAL TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

COURSE OUTLINE POLICY

"Policy about course outlines can be found in Course Requirements, Evaluation Procedures and Grading of the University Calendar."

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