Preparing for the Canadian Classroom

LA&PS International
York International
Land Acknowledgement

York University recognizes that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which York University campuses are located that precede the establishment of York University. York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat. It is now home to many First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.

Centre for Indigenous Student Services: https://aboriginal.info.yorku.ca/about-us/

Native Land Digital: https://native-land.ca/
Zoom Etiquette

This Webinar is being recorded

Ask us questions using the Q&A Feature
By the end of this webinar, new incoming international students will have more knowledge about:

- The unique characteristics of the Canadian post-secondary education system.
- The various ways students may be evaluated in their classes.
- The value of group work in a Canadian classroom setting.
LA&PS FULL-TIME STAFF AND STUDENT STAFF TEAM:

Tony Vo (he/him)
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUCCESS & ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR, LA&PS

Tiffany Guan (she/her)
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUCCESS & ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR, LA&PS

Nusaiba Mustafa (she/her)
TEAM LEAD, INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUCCESS
York International Full-time, and Student Staff Team:

Nikita Cruz (she/her)
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXPERIENCE COORDINATOR
STUDENT SUCCESS PORTFOLIO

Kate Phan (she/her)
STUDENT SUCCESS
STUDENT COORDINATOR

Sharneela Inesa (She/her)
ORIENTATION AND TRANSITION
STUDENT COORDINATOR
Agenda for Today:

• Icebreaker: Map Annotation
• What to expect at YU
  - Dates and Deadlines
  - Grading System
  - eClass + Course Outlines
  - Contesting Grades
• Expectations vs. Reality
• Testing your knowledge - Menti
• Resources
• Q&A
Icebreaker: Map Annotation
**Dates and Deadlines**

- **Sessional Dates**: Class start/end, Reading Week, Exam period
- **Course Add/Drop Deadlines**
  - Refund table
- **Financial Deadlines**
- **Holidays and University Closures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>FALL (TERM F)</th>
<th>YEAR (TERM Y)</th>
<th>WINTER (TERM W)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Classes start</td>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>January 8</td>
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<td>Last date to announce components of final grades</td>
<td>September 20</td>
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<td>Fall Reading Week¹</td>
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<td>Fall Study Day²</td>
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<td>Fall examinations³</td>
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<td>Winter Reading Week¹</td>
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<td>Winter Study Days²</td>
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<td>Winter examinations³</td>
<td>April 10-25</td>
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<td>Notes</td>
<td>Passover begins at</td>
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Grading System

York University uses 9-point GPA
Passing grades differ between programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Exceptional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Very good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Competent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Fairly competent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Passing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Barely passing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Marginally failing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Failing</td>
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Course Outlines

Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
SU 2021

SOC 1010.6.0 Introduction to Sociology: How New Streaming Sociological Imagination

Course Format: Online & Blended, Primarily Synchronous
Course credit exclusion: GLSOC 2510.6.0
Course start date: May 11, 2021
Course end date: Aug. 10, 2021

Course Instructor: Professor Deborah Davidson
For email contact, please use email: drdpk@yorku.ca

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 am – 2:30 pm

Six of the 24 classes will be asynchronous. The work for the asynchronous classes must be completed by the date that follows.

This course will be offered through remote synchronous delivery and will have primarily synchronous sessions during the day and live posted. Part of each class will be devoted to organized small group work.

If you have an LDA, please make sure you notify me as early as possible so that I can accommodate you as early as possible.

Please refer to our eClass site for instructions about our Zoom classes.

The course text and all required resources are free and available online!

We will spent time watching live streaming films to learn how to understand sociologically, and to understand sociology through film.

Expanded Course Description

Our key concept for the course, and one that is fundamental to sociology, is the sociological imagination. In this course, students are invited to think about their experiences and place within society. We will unpack taken-for-granted aspects of social life such as ethnicity and gender, and how they are introduced to a systematic understanding of the world. We will focus on the theories and methods of sociology. We will explore major social processes associated with cultural change. We will employ how social interactions shape and are shaped by social institutions like the family or economy. Our objective is to have you understand yourself and your place in the world differently, that is sociologically.

More specifically, in this course, we will develop sociological imaginations by looking at social relationships, social meanings, and social issues through Canadian film and TV documentaries, drama, and comedies selected.

Course Outlines

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Evaluation

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>Value (% of final grade)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Four Scheduled Quizzes</td>
<td>May 27, June 10,</td>
<td>2 x 10% each = 20%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>July 15, August 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Assignment 1</td>
<td>June 8 to Tumbling by 3.00 pm</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Assignment 2</td>
<td>July 29, Tumbling by 3.00 pm</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Work - Includes attendance, participation, contribution, individual and group work, and peer review</td>
<td>Term 1, 10%</td>
<td>2 x 10% each = 20%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Term 2, 10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation &amp; Pledge</td>
<td>1% for each, May 13</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Learning Skills Modules</td>
<td>100% at completion is required, May 28, 3:00 pm</td>
<td>8%</td>
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</table>

Schedule

Please see our eClass site for further details.

Term 1

Class 1: May 11 Welcome & Course Introduction
I look forward to meeting you and telling you about the course, and learning a bit about you!

Class 2: May 13 The Problem of Sociology, Synchronous Class
Thought for today: From The Promise of Sociology, Chapter 1 of The Sociological Imagination:

"The sociological imagination enables us to grasp history and biographies and the relations between the two within society. That is its task and its promise..."

Paraphrase the most fruitful distinction with which the sociological imagination works between ‘the personal troubles of mine’ and ‘the public issues of social structure’. This distinction is an essential tool of the sociological imagination and a feature of all classic work in social science."

(Mills, 1959, pp. 6-6 & 6-8, highlight is mine). APA note citation! It is attributed to Mills.

Be prepared for Class 3 by reading Chapter 1 of our course text: An Introduction to Sociology. Come prepared with notes and questions!

Class 3: May 18 Introducing You to the Discipline of Sociology, Synchronous Class

Thought for today: "If private troubles are widely shared with others, they indicate that there is a common social problem that has its source in the way social life is structured. At this level, the issues are not adequately understood as merely private troubles. They are best addressed on public issues that require a collective response to resolve (Little, 2016, p. 35)" (note this is cited in APA format).

Note that all readings should be completed prior to each class.

Required reading: Chapter 1 of our course text: An Introduction to Sociology

Class 4: May 25 What’s a social interaction got to do with it? Synchronous Class

Thought for today: From Shakespeare’s As You Like it, “all the world’s a stage, and all the men and women merely players.”
**Contesting Grades**

**What does contesting your grade mean?**
If at the end of a course, you feel that your grade was not justified, you may submit a formal written appeal for reappraisal to the department.

Contesting marks at university is possible, but you won’t always be able to get higher marks. Instead, speaking to your instructors is a good way to understand how you can do better in your next assignment.

- **Do attend your professor or Teaching Assistant's office hours to discuss your mark.** This will not always result in your marks being raised, but it is a good opportunity for you to understand what you could have done differently in the assignment.

- **Don’t demand higher grades.** Although it is understandable to be upset when your hard work does not give you the marks you expect, you still want to address your instructors cordially and with respect.
Expectations vs. Reality
Expectation vs. Reality

**Expectations:**

**Degree Requirements:** I will follow the Degree progress report every year and that would be enough to meet requirements

**Tutorial:** University will be all about only attending the lectures and professors will explain everything

**Resources for Studying:** Learn everything from the professors and lectures

**Reality:**

I need to book an appointment with an academic advisor at least once a year to make sure I am on the right track and fulfilling all the requirements for graduation

In lectures, professors cover the main content and I need to attend tutorials for TAs to provide me with additional resource and support for a better understanding of the course

There are more resources available like Peer Tutoring, SPARK, and SNACK to get assistance from
Testing your Knowledge
Join Menti Meter with code: 8832 9931
Important Resources

- Academic Advising: [https://advising.students.yorku.ca/locations](https://advising.students.yorku.ca/locations)
- Immigration Advising: [https://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/international-student-advising/](https://yorkinternational.yorku.ca/international-student-advising/)
- Student Accessibility Services: [https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/](https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/)
- E-class: [https://eclass.yorku.ca/my/](https://eclass.yorku.ca/my/)
- GPA Calculator: [https://students.yorku.ca/york-gpa-calculator](https://students.yorku.ca/york-gpa-calculator)
- Course Add/Drop Deadlines: [https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/2023-2024/fall-winter](https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/2023-2024/fall-winter)
- Refund table: [https://sfs.yorku.ca/refunds/tables](https://sfs.yorku.ca/refunds/tables)
- Academic Honors: [https://registrar.yorku.ca/graduation/academic-honours#LA&PS](https://registrar.yorku.ca/graduation/academic-honours#LA&PS)
- LA&PS International 1-on-1 Peer Support appointments: [https://www.yorku.ca/laps/students/international/peer-mentorship-program/one-on-one-appointment/](https://www.yorku.ca/laps/students/international/peer-mentorship-program/one-on-one-appointment/)
Upcoming Webinars:

- **JUNE 14**: Studying in Canada: Building your Timetable & Course Enrollment
- **JUNE 21**: Ask me Anything with International Student Ambassadors
Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

- Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS) offer bi-weekly sessions to help YOU excel in your transition to university and Canada:
  - Thursdays, 10am-11:00am EST
  - Every 2 weeks between June 15th- August 3rd, 2023

Learn about different useful topics & gain tips for your first year including:
- First-Year Anxiety and Wellness Support
- Job Hunting 101 as an International Student
- Making Friends and Getting involved at York
- How to get "As" in your first year

REGISTER NOW for one (or all!) of our upcoming sessions at this link: https://www.yorku.ca/laps/students/international/peer-mentorship-program/
Q&A