

**St. Francis Xavier University  
Department of Sociology**

**Sociology 101.12  
Fall, 2021**

**Dr. David Lynes  
Nicholson Tower Rm 616**

**Foundations of Sociology**

This course will provide an overview of what it means to study people and society from a variety of sociological perspectives. The first part of the course traces the development of these perspectives along with the related methods sociologists use to study society. From here, the sociological concerns with Culture, Society, everyday social Interaction, and a variety of Social Institutions will provide the background for a review of the more substantive areas of sociological investigation which will be taken up in the Sociology 102 Introductory sections offered next term.

Upon completion of the course, you should have a thorough understanding of how Sociology refers to and depends upon specifically sociological perspectives which will be shown to be distinct from, while still interested in, other disciplines that are also concerned with the human condition (Psychology, Philosophy, Anthropology, Economics, etc.). You should also appreciate to what extent sociological practice is based on these perspectives and the range of issues and concerns it studies. Finally you will understand – and hopefully be influenced by – the nature of the sociological commitment to encouraging a well-informed, critically aware, and humanely concerned citizenry.

**Course Readings**

There is no textbook for this course. Instead, a series of readings and video presentations will be assigned as the course proceeds. These resources will be either posted or linked to on the course Moodle page.

**Evaluation**

Mid-Term Test -----	25%
Term Assignment -----	25%
In-class Exercises -----	5%
Participation -----	10%
Final Exam -----	35%

**Important Dates:** The Mid-Term Test will be held on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> 2021. The Due Date for the Term Assignment is Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021 (Note: Be sure to consult the posted guidelines for the term assignment before you begin to work on it). The Final examination will be held during the regular exam period, on the day assigned by the Registrar's Office. This date will be posted by the Registrar's office early in the term. The

deadline to drop a three-credit first term course is Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021. Students can drop a course online, in Banner in order for the course grade-to-date to be omitted from your official university transcript.

### **Attendance, Respect, and Academic Integrity**

Regular class attendance is important and expected of everyone enrolled in the course. Please be sure you are familiar with the regulations on course attendance and withdrawal as outlined on page 14 of the University Calendar. Note also that plagiarism and academic dishonesty are considered very serious academic offenses which can seriously and permanently impact your academic record and career. What constitutes such offenses and how they will be responded to is outlined in the the University Calendar on page 14 under “Academic Integrity”.

Everyone learns more effectively in a respectful, safe and equitable learning environment, free from discrimination and harassment. I invite you to work with me to create a classroom space that fosters and promotes values of human dignity, equity, non-discrimination and respect for diversity. Please feel free to contact the Human Rights and Equity Advisor Megan Fogarty if you have questions or concerns about equity in any class or in the StFX Community in general. Megan can be contacted by email at [mfogarty@stfx.ca](mailto:mfogarty@stfx.ca) or by telephone at 902-867-5306.

Course materials are designed for use in Sociology 101.12 at StFX University only and are the property of the instructor, unless otherwise stated by the instructor. Copying this material for distribution, online posting, or selling of this material to third parties without permission is subject to Canadian Copyright Law and is strictly prohibited.

### **Office Hours**

My office is in Nicholson Tower, Room 616, however for this first term, office hours will be held virtually, meaning I may not physically be in the office during these times and the “meeting” will be on line. The virtual office hours are:

Tuesday	12:00 to 2:30
Thursday	11:00 to 1:00

There will be times when I am unable to be in the virtual office during the posted office hours due to committee and department meetings or unforeseen circumstances. If this happens, please send an email message and I will get back to you as soon as I can. Other times can be arranged by appointment if you are unable to make those listed. Contact me through e-mail to arrange a meeting or to ask any questions.

E-mail: [<dlynes@stfx.ca>](mailto:dlynes@stfx.ca)

Phone: 902 867-3802

**Schedule of Topics**  
(Subject to modifications)

The class meets in Rm \_\_\_ on Monday @ 12:45 to 2:00 pm & Wednesday @ 11:15 to 12:30

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
Sept. 8 <sup>th</sup>		Introduction
Sept. 13 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup>	The Sociological Imagination	The Beginnings of Sociology
Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Modernity	Modernity (continued)
Sept. 27 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>	Sociology and Science	Emile Durkheim's Social Facts
Oct. 4 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup>	Capitalism and Karl Marx	"Wage, Labour & Capital"
Oct. 11 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving (No Class)	<b>Mid-Term Test</b>
Oct. 18 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Modern Times</i>	Symbolic Interaction
Oct. 25 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>	Erving Goffman	Philip Zimbardo
Nov. 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ethnomethodology	Manufacturing Consent <b>(Term Assignment Due)</b>
Nov. 8 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Study Break – No Classes</b>	
Nov. 15 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	The Social Construction of Reality	Adorno & The Culture Industry
Nov. 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>	The Culture Industry Continued	Art & Mechanical Reproduction
Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup> & Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Analysis	Choosing Sociology

Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>

Review – Final Exam Overview