

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

Sociology 102.21  
Winter Term, 2021

Dr. David Lynes  
Nicholson Tower Rm. 616

**Key Issues in Contemporary Sociology**

This course is designed as a follow-up to the Sociology 101 course by showing how the foundational Sociological theories and research perspectives are “played out” in the form of contemporary social thought and research. A range of the more substantive areas of the field will be introduced and are divided into four main categories: 1) Criminal Justice and Social Control; 2) Sanity, Insanity, and Mental Health; 3) Racism, Colonialism, and Civil Rights; 4) Media, Technology, and Popular Culture.

**Course Readings**

There is no textbook for this course. A series of readings will be made available through the course Moodle site. These readings will be assigned and posted as the course progresses.

**Evaluation**

Mid-Term Test -----	25%
Term Essay Assignment -----	25%
Occasional Exercises -----	5%
Participation -----	10%
Final Exam -----	35%

**Important Dates:** The Mid-Term test will be held on Tuesday, **February 23, 2021**. The Due Date for the Term Essay Assignment is Thursday, **March 18, 2021**. The last day to drop second-term half courses is Friday, March 19, 2021. The Final examination will be held during the regular exam period, on the day assigned by the Registrar's Office. This date will be available early in the term. **Note: Be sure to consult the distributed guidelines for the term assignment before you begin to work on it.**

**Attendance, Plagiarism, Academic Dishonesty**

Regular 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 outlined on page 13 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 on page 13-14 of the University Calendar.

## Office Hours

Office hours are virtual this term. To arrange a meeting, send me an email and we can arrange a time. I will be available most of the day every Wednesday, but if you are unable to meet then, many other times are available as well. At the prearranged meeting time, join into the Collaborate virtual classroom, accessible via the Moodle page for the course.

You can also use e-mail any time to ask questions and discuss the course, in lieu of a virtual meeting.

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

Phone: 867-3802

Feel free discuss any aspect of the course or the Sociology program more generally at any time during the term.

Everyone learns more effectively in a respectful, safe, and equitable learning environment free from discrimination or 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. These values and practices are in accord with the StFX Discrimination and Harassment Policy which can be found at <http://www.mystfx.ca/campus/stu-serv/equity/>. Please feel free to discuss with me any questions or concerns you have about equity in our classroom or in the StFX community. If I cannot answer your questions or help you address your concerns, I encourage you to talk to the Chair/Coordinator of the Department/Program or the Human Rights and Equity Advisor.