

St. Francis Xavier University
Soci 216 -- Canadian Society
Course Syllabus Winter 2018

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Office Hours: Monday 10am-12
Thursday 11:05am -12

Introduction: This course will introduce students to some of the most salient social issues in Canadian society. This course applies a critical sociological lens to the society in which we live. We will explore many of the central social issues shaping Canadian society today, including what it means to be a Canadian, problems in Canadian society including the decline of democracy, education, colonialism, multiculturalism, racism, sexism, food security, the environment, poverty, globalization & more. Drawing on theories of intersectionality, we will also consider how power and privilege intersect along difference axes, particularly ethnicity, racialization, class and gender. We will examine why these issues are so important and how the state has traditionally attempted to resolve these matters. From our readings and class discussions, we will explore these issues by considering how various sociological theories approach them. I expect students to be **active producers** rather than passive consumers of ideas. Thus, classes will involve discussion and lecture.

Required Materials:

Class text:

Canadian Society Soci 216 Coursepak

Additional readings available on Moodle
films, websites will be announced in class

Evaluation:

There are four requirements to complete this course.

Participation	20% (Moodle/in class discussion/2 one-page response papers)*
Quiz 1	20%- February 1, 2018
Quiz 2	20% - March 8, 2018
Final Exam	40% (date determined by Registrar's office)

*Alternative to Class/Moodle Participation: Academic Essay Due April 2, 2018

In the event of a class cancellation due to storm - please go to Moodle for class assignment (e.g., film, discussion)

Participation requirements:

You are expected to attend classes and to come to class **prepared**, having read the assigned

readings and prepared to discuss the readings. You may be called upon at any time to respond to a question about the reading. You will also be participating in group discussions in class from time to time. To ensure you come to class prepared, you will submit a response to a question on Moodle prior to attending class (if there is no question you are required to submit a one-page response to the class readings) each week on Moodle (see syllabus) You will be evaluated on quality of your response (as well as the quantity of responses). You are required to submit 10 responses on Moodle (in other words you can miss two). These responses must be submitted before Sunday - noon. (Late responses will NOT be accepted even due to illness – as you have two passes). The Moodle responses are not meant to replace attendance. Every effort should be made to attend classes and attendance will be taken into consideration in the participation grade, however, if you are not able to attend at least 75% of classes (missing 7 or more classes), as an alternative to participation you may submit an 8 page paper (SEE MOODLE).

Reading schedule: Reading responses are due by Sunday at noon (unless indicated otherwise), prior to the dates they are assigned on the syllabus. ADDITIONAL REQUIRED (AND RECOMMENDED) READINGS MAY BE ADDED.

Date

January 4 Intro to Canadian Society (In class response) Submit Moodle response to next week's readings before January 7 noon.

January 8-11 What does it mean to be a Canadian? Canadian Identity
Disenchanted Wonder: Collecting Canadian Identity through the CB
"Seven Wonders of Canada" Project by James F. Cosgrave and Patricia Cormack Role of state in defining Canada (recommended):
<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/state/>

January 15-18 Democracy and individualism
Am I free by George Pavlich
Rising Inequality, Declining Democracy by Bruce Campbell
 DECEMBER 12, 2011
 Neoliberalism discussion

January 22-25 Education
Knowledge Commodified and the New Economies of Higher Education
 by Magda Lewis (2010)
Neoliberalism and postsecondary education: A view from the colleges
 by Kevin MacKay (2014)

January 29-Feb1 (Quiz 1) Jan 29 Education con't - Residential Schools

Reclaiming history: The residential school system in Canada
<http://wherearethechildren.ca/en/timeline/research/>

Feb. 1 QUIZ

- February 5-8 LECTURE - Kwame Mason “*Soul on Ice*” Feb. 5 - 7pm SCHW110
Chapter 2 - *Aboriginal Peoples in Canada: Repairing the Relationship* By Augie Fleras (Coursepack)
- Feb. 12-15 Chapter 3 - *Immigrants and Immigration* By Augie Fleras (Coursepack)
- Feb 25-Mar 1 Chapter 4 - *Multiculturalism as Canada-Building Governance* by Augie Fleras (Coursepack)
- March 5-8 *Violence against women in Canada* (2013) Statistics Canada
#Me too CBC pod cast “Is Sexual Harassment in the workplace still a problem:” (October 15, 2017)

Mar. 8 QUIZ

- March 12-15 ‘*Problems in the Media*’ in *Social Problems in a Diverse Society* by D. Kendall, E. Thompson, V. Nygaard
- March 19-22 Chapter 1 - *Food and Agriculture* by Terrance J. Wade / Ivy Lynn Bourgeault / Elena Neiterman
Film: *Hijacked Future* (2008)
- March 26-29 *The Environment and a Globalizing Sociology* Randolph Haluza-DeLay
Debra J. Davidson
- Mar. 30-Apr.4 Chapter 5- *Canada-Building* by Augie Fleras (Coursepack)
Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (United Nations) 2015
The Sustainable development goals (2015) summary