

Sociology 210A-002 (3 credits)
CANADIAN SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Winter 2017 – Term 1 (September – December 2017)

Instructor: Dr. Debra Pentecost

Office: ANSO 156

Office hours: Wednesday, 12:00-1:30 pm or by appointment

Office telephone: (604) 822-5625 (no voicemail)

Email: Debra.Pentecost@ubc.ca

Lectures: Monday and Wednesday, 2:30 - 4:00 pm

Location: MCLD 254 (2356 Main Mall)

Course Description

The objective of this course is the development of a *sociological* understanding of the society we live in. In so doing we will critically examine Canada's social structure. Through exploration of a number of key issues, questions, and debates we will examine relevant topics, such as: fostering national identity through cultural consumption; examining the power of the mass media; in addition to focusing on issues of food security and sustainability; housing; and punishment and rehabilitation. We will also highlight historical and contemporary forces of resistance and change.

Organization:

The course will be organized as a combination of lectures, class discussions and films. Attendance is an essential component of the course. Therefore, students are expected to read all assigned readings and to come to class prepared to *actively* participate both in the large lecture format and in small groups. Lectures will introduce material to provide context for, or supplement, required reading material. Group activities, such as discussions, video viewing, and problem solving, will reinforce and assess understanding of both required reading and lecture material.

Required Texts:

- **Textbook:** Cormack, Patricia & James Cosgrave. 2013. *Desiring Canada: CBC Contests, Hockey Violence and Other Stately Pleasures*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- **Course Readings:** Will be available through our **Course Connect** site, uploaded under the tab "**Library Course Reserves**"

Course Evaluation:

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| ○ Midterm exam | 25% | (Wednesday, Oct. 11 th – Week 6) |
| ○ 2 Social Issue Assignment Papers
(length: 1500 – 1700 words each) | 20% | (Wednesday, Nov. 15 th – Week 11) |
| | 20% | (Wednesday, Nov. 29 th – Week 13) |
| ○ Final Exam | 25% | (In final exam period) |
| ○ Class attendance/Participation | 10% | (Lecture log optional) |

Lecture Log: Comprised of journal entries where you write down comments/questions that arise for you during our class time. Many students will not be avid contributors to class discussion and the lecture log is a place to keep track of your responses to the course content. Please note: A lecture log **is not** comprised of your lecture notes.

Student Responsibilities

Keys to success in this course include regular class attendance and participation, and keeping up-to-date with assigned readings. Second-year courses can be intensive and it is imperative that you keep current with your readings. You are especially encouraged to contribute to class discussions.

Late Assignments / Deferred Exam Policy

Assignments must be handed in, in class, at the **BEGINNING** of the scheduled class on the due date. A **2% penalty** will be applied if an assignment is submitted after the lecture, through to midnight of that first day.

THERE WILL BE A 3% PENALTY PER DAY FOR LATE ASSIGNMENTS – unless there is a valid emergency or health reason for the delay. As detailed below, verification of this will be required.

If you are going to be absent on the date an assignment is due, you must have someone deliver your work to the Sociology Department at UBC prior to the beginning of class. The paper/assignment must be date-stamped and deposited in the **student paper drop-off box** located outside of the General Office in the ANSO building.

Please DO NOT slide assignments under office doors.

Missed exams

You are expected to attend all exams at the appropriate time and date unless there is a valid emergency or health reason for not doing so. You should always phone if you are unable to attend an exam. If you are unable to get a hold of Debra Pentecost in her office, please contact by email. You will be expected to provide written, formal proof of the problem you experienced (e.g.: doctor's note, service station bills, towage fees, obituaries etc.). In all cases, it is your responsibility to contact Dr. Pentecost PRIOR TO the scheduled exam, unless an emergency precludes this, and arrangements will be made for a make-up exam.

If medical, emotional or personal problems affect your attendance or academic performance, please contact the faculty of **Arts Academic Advising** Office, Buchanan D111, phone (604) 822-4028. www.arts.ubc.ca/academic-advising/

Early Alert:

In addition to the services provided by Arts Academic Advising, the university has launched a website, “**Early Alert**,” designed to aid students who are facing difficulties. Faculty may identify concerns that we have about students using “Early Alert.” The program allows academic, financial, or mental health concerns to be identified sooner and responded to in a more coordinated way. This will provide students with the earliest possible connection to resources like academic advising, financial advising, counseling, or other resources and support to help you get back on track.

During the semester I will do my best to reach out and offer support if I am concerned about your academic performance or wellbeing. You are also encouraged to speak with me should you need assistance.

For more information, please visit <https://facultystaff.students.ubc.ca/systems-tools/early-alert/information-students>

Course Policies

- The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the Disability Resource Centre.
- The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and exams.
- Please let Debra Pentecost know in advance, preferably in the first two weeks of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds.

- Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, cannot assume that they will be accommodated, and should discuss their commitments with the instructor before the drop date.
- Students should **retain a copy of all submitted assignments** (in case of loss) and keep **all marked assignments** in case they wish to apply for a “Review of Assigned Standing.”. Students have the right to view their marked final exams with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The exam remains the property of the university and will not be returned to the student.

Tutoring

Students who have tutors should be aware that tutors are not to do a student’s work for them.

Respectful Learning Environments

We will work to maintain the highest standards of respect inside the SOCI 210 classroom. This includes respect towards each other, towards me, and extending from me to each of you.

I am here to support your academic learning and welcome opportunities outside of official class time for students to review course material. This support can take place during official office hours or by appointment. Email is generally not a good place to discuss substantive questions or engage in debates concerning course material.

Use of Laptops & Electronic Devices

Relevant to respectful learning environments, much has been discussed about the distracting and disruptive potentials of cell phones and laptops in the classroom. Recognizing that it can be very hard to resist checking email, viewing posts, texting, or surfing the web in class, **please refrain from doing so**. Professors do know when students are not paying attention and are engaged elsewhere. Such use is also distracting for your fellow students and therefore is not respectful of their learning space. **Please do not use your laptop for anything other than taking notes and activities related to class**. Please also refrain from using any handheld devices during class and remember to put these devices on silent mode and keep them out of sight.

Academic Integrity - Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the use of another author’s research, ideas or language without proper attribution. There are many ways to do plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious form of academic misconduct. Please review the UBC Calendar “Campus-Wide Policies and Regulations,” under “Academic Honesty and Standards” for the university policy of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty.

For detailed information, visit the UBC Library Academic Integrity Resource Centre

- Academic Integrity + Plagiarism: <http://help.library.ubc.ca/planning-your-research/academic-integrity-plagiarism/>
- UBC Learning Commons “Academic Integrity” webpage: <http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/academic-integrity>

Readings - Topics and Reading Requirements

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| 1) Sept 6 | <u>Introduction to Course</u> |
| 2) Sept 11/13 | <u>Fostering National Identity: Public Visions</u>
Readings: <i>Desiring Canada</i>
Introduction + Chapter 1 “Contesting Canada at the CBC” |
| 3) Sept 18/20 | <u>Fostering National Identity: Private Visions</u>
Reading: <i>Desiring Canada</i>
Chapter 2 ‘Always Fresh, Always There’: Tim Hortons and the Consumer-Citizen |

- 4) Sept 25/27 **Cultural Identity Consumption I**
Desiring Canada
 Monday: Chapter 4 "Peace, Order and Good Gambling"
 Wednesday: Chapter 5 "The Funny State Apparatus"
- 5) Oct 2/4 **Cultural Identity Consumption II**
Desiring Canada: Chapter 3 'Our Game': Hockey, Civilizing Projects, and Domestic Violence + Conclusion
- 6) Oct 9 **** Class Cancelled ** Thanksgiving Holiday**
- Oct 11 **MIDTERM (In-class)**
- 7) Oct 16/18 **Food Security: Political Economy I**
 Course Reserve: Miller, Sally. "It Begins with Food: Food as inspiration and imperative for social change."
- 8) Oct 23/25 **Food Security: Political Economy II**
 Course Reserve: Mehta, Michael. "The Impact of Agricultural Biotechnology on Social Cohesion"
 Eaton, Emily. "Regulating and Promoting Biotechnology in Canada"
- 9) Oct 30/Nov 1 **Food Sustainability I**
 Course Reserve: Pechlaner, Gabriela. "The Sociology of Agriculture in Transition: The Political Economy of Agriculture after Biotechnology"
 Lau, Lucy. "Vancouver's First Zero-Waste grocery store to open this fall"
- 10) Nov 6/8 **Alternative Visions**
 Course Reserve:
 Lau, Lucy. "Green Living: Downtown Eastside's Sole Food Street Farms Help Entire City."
 CBC News: Andrew Chang interviews Sole Food Street Farm co-founder and author, Michael Abelman
- 11) Nov 13 **** Class Cancelled ** Remembrance Day Observed**
- Nov 15 **Affordable Housing**
 Excerpts from *The Tyee's* "The Housing Fix: Solutions Journalism on Canada's Housing Crisis." <http://thehousingfix.ca>
- 12) Nov 20 **Affordable Housing**
 Excerpts from *The Tyee's* "The Housing Fix: Solutions Journalism on Canada's Housing Crisis." <http://thehousingfix.ca>
- Nov 22 **Punishment and Rehabilitation: Restorative Justice**
 Course Reserve: Rhymes, Deena. "On Making *The Meaning of Life*: An Interview with Hugh Brody."
- 13) Nov 27/29 **Punishment and Rehabilitation: (con't)**
 Course Reserve: Excerpts from the Government of Canada, Correctional Service Canada website, re: Aboriginal Corrections.

Final Exam Period: Runs from December 5th – December 20th, 2017