

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: SOC-101-Perspectives on Canadian Society

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM:2025W

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face-to-Face

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Dr. Alex Ipe

EMAIL: ipe@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Paul 334

HOURS: Thursday: 1000 - 100; Friday: 100 - 200, or by appointment

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to the critical analysis of modern society with an emphasis on the Canadian context. Students use basic sociological concepts to discuss thematic areas such as family, education, religion, health, crime, technology, mass media, and the environment.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

C+ in English 12

C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S): Not applicable

EQUIVALENCIES: Not applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

Describe the central sociological perspectives - including functionalism, conflict theory, symbolic interactionism, and feminist approaches - and apply these to select aspects of Canadian society.

Analyze selected thematic areas in sociology such as family, education, religion, health, crime, technology, mass media, and environment as they pertain to Canadian society.

Identify scholarly debates in the field of sociology as they pertain to course topics and assess their relationship to real-world examples.

Communicate sociological ideas and concepts clearly, concisely and accurately.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION/INFORMATION

Technology and Society by Anabel Quan-Haase. Oxford University Press. 2020

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION/ACTIVITY/ EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
January 6 to 10	Introduction: Chapter 1	
January 13 to 17	Introduction Continued: Chapter 1	
January 20 to 24	Creativity & Innovation: Chapter 2	
January 27 to 31	Creativity & Innovation Continued: Chapter 2	
February 3 to 7	First Video Assignment (February 4) & Theories of Technology Ch: 3	
February 10 to 14	First Test (February 11) & Technology & Capitalism: Ch 7	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
February 17 to 21	READING BREAK	
February 24 to 28	Ethics: Chapter 12 & Writing & Digital Communication: Ch 5 (Pg. 95 to top of pg. 103) & First Group Discussion (February 28)	
March 3 to 7	Writing & Digital Communication Continued	
March 10 to 14	Second Test (March 11) & Second Video Assignment (March 14)	
March 17 to 21	Sherry Turkle & Reclaiming Conversation (Special Lecture Format) & The Surveillance Society: Ch 11 (Special Lecture Format)	
March 24 to 28	Second Group Discussion (March 25) & The Collapse of Technological Societies: Lecture Only	
March 31 to April 4	Optional Bonus Assignments (April 1 and 4)	
April 7 to 11	Review for Final Test & Final Test - Last Class (April 11)	

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page.https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams)

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Test#1 (Chapters 1 and 2)	25%
Test#2 (Chapters 3, 5: Pg. 95 to top of pg. 103, Ch 7: Pg. 140 to Pg 154 & Ch 12)	25%
Test#3 (Ch 11)	14%
Two In-Class Video Assignments (#1 = 10% and #2 = 10%)	20%
Two Group Discussions (#1=8% and #2=8%)	16%
Optional Bonus Mark Assignments	4%
If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the Grade Review and Appeals policy for more information.	TOTAL 100% (104%)

https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1_14.pdf

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

In Class Test #1 and #2 and #3

The tests will consist of approximately 30 multiple-choice questions, and a short answer component. The short answer section is composed of two questions. **Your responses on this component should clearly explain concepts and/or theories, and be written in a way that clearly articulates your ideas.** You should take care with respect to spelling and grammar; while marks will not be deducted for basic spelling and grammatical mistakes, if I cannot understand what you are trying to say, you will lose points. **Quality is what is critical – not quantity.**

The dates of the tests are as follows: **Test#1 = Tuesday, February 11; Test#2 = Tuesday, March 11; and Test#3 = Friday, April 11.**

The class before every test – if possible – will constitute an informal review class; in essence, a review class is like a tutorial session where students come to class with prepared questions on the lecture content they will be tested on. As such, *the review classes are directed by students, and work best when students arrive with items to discuss.*

The tests themselves are NOT cumulative.

THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM IN THIS CLASS, ONLY A THIRD TEST.

Group Discussions (16%):

In talking about social phenomena, it is inevitable that we will discuss issues or topics that some may deem to be controversial. While an effort will be made to get students to participate in class discussions on many of these issues, it has been the experience of this Instructor that most students feel intimidated by the prospect of speaking up in class; this is very understandable; making one's opinions heard in a class of 40 or so students can be a daunting experience.

In order to alleviate this concern, the class will be broken up into small groups where students can more comfortably express their opinions on a given topic. During the course of the term, two such discussion groups will be held as follows: **Friday, February 28 and Tuesday, March 25**. The required readings for the discussion assignments and their respective instructions can be found on D2L.

In order to be fair to all students, the following conduct will be penalized:

- Depositing your questions with the instructor or sending them with another student and not participating in the discussions.
- Not attending the discussion sessions without a legitimate excuse.
- Doing the review sessions before class and then just coming to class to hand in the review session.

In-Class Video Assignments (2 x 10% = 20 %)

On **Tuesday, February 4 and Friday, March 14**, a documentary video will be shown that will highlight various issues related to technology. Immediately after each video, students will be required to answer a question directly related to the material presented in the documentary on their own or with others. The response to this question must be in sentence form and clearly articulated; in other words, do not make vague or incomplete statements. The quality of the response is what is important, not how long the answer is. In this respect, limit your answer to ONE page, single spaced. Once again, this does not mean you have to write one page, but try your best not to submit a response that is longer than one page.

Bonus Marks (1% x 2 = 2%)

Two of the lectures near the end of the term will have a very different structure to the other lectures in this course. These lectures are entitled, ***Reclaiming Conversation and The Surveillance Society (Chapter 11)***.

In this respect, the first part of these classes will constitute a time in which the instructor will summarize the important ideas of each lecture. The second part of each class will require students to optionally break into groups of 2 to 4 people and proceed to answer one or two critical thinking questions inspired by the content of the two lectures. The group will select a recorder who will write down the group's answer (s) to the presented question (s), which will then be submitted at the end of each class. **It should be emphasized that students have the option to do the bonus mark exercises on their own if they wish.** The response(s) to the critical question(s) should NOT EXCEED one page per question. The quality of the response is what is important, not the length.

The critical thinking exercises will not be graded, but the instructor will review the submitted work to ensure that the group made an effort in answering the question (s). **Any response that is reasonable will be automatically accepted** and everyone in the group will receive a bonus grade of one percent that will be added to their final grade at the end of the term. Since there will be two such assignments, students can expect to receive a maximum of two bonus marks, assuming they have completed both assignments. **If the group work, however, shows a serious lack of effort, the group members will not receive the full participation mark of one percent.**

Optional Bonus Assignments - 2% (1% for each)

On **Tuesday, April 1 and Friday, April 4** students will have an opportunity to earn bonus marks of up to two percent that will be added to their final grade upon completion of the course. **Since this component is purely optional, students can elect not to complete the exercise associated with the bonus marks.** The first exercise itself requires students to watch a video and then to answer one question associated with the video; and the second exercise will be an in-class reading assignment. As long as students provide a reasonable response in the assignments, they will automatically earn the bonus marks. However, if the response shows a serious lack of effort, it will not earn the full one percent per assignment. Students who miss this assignment can receive the bonus marks provided they have a legitimate reason.

Missed Tests and Assignments

IF STUDENTS MISS TESTS OR ASSIGNMENTS, OR GROUP DISCUSSIONS, IT IS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR AS SOON AS PRACTICALLY POSSIBLE WITH RESPECT TO THEIR ABSENCE. IN ORDER TO MAKE-UP THE MISSED COURSE COMPONENT, STUDENTS NEED TO PROVIDE A LEGITIMATE REASON, OTHER WISE THEY WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO ON THE MISSED COMPONENT. IN ADDITION, STUDENTS WHO WAIT UNTIL THE TERM IS OVER TO DISCUSS WHY THEY MISSED HANDING IN ASSIGNMENTS, WRITING TESTS, OR TAKING PART IN GROUP DISCUSSIONS, WILL NOT BE ACCOMODATED. LASTLY, IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO FOLLOW-UP ON E-MAILS INFORMING THE INSTRUCTOR OF MISSED TESTS AND ASSIGNMENTS, AS SOMETIMES E-MAILS ARE NOT RECEIVED DUE TO TECHNICAL ISSUES OR DUE TO USING AN INCORRECT ADDRESS.

Digital-Recording in the Classroom

In order to ensure free and open discussion of ideas by the students, **digital recording of the proceedings by means of laptops, cell-phones or other equipment is not permitted** in class. Exceptions, however, will be made for students who are visually impaired or are unable to write due to physical disability. Furthermore, *Laptops are permitted only if they are being used to take notes or access D2L. If it appears that students are not using laptops in a constructive manner, they will not be permitted to bring laptops to class.*

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

Sociology is in the Department of Social Sciences

Chair: Katie Waterhouse

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit camosun.ca/services.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising
Accessible Learning	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning
Counselling	camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre
Career Services	camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services
Financial Aid and Awards	camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services
International Student Support	camosun.ca/international
Learning Skills	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills
Library	camosun.ca/services/library
Office of Student Support	camosun.ca/services/office-student-support
Ombudsperson	camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson
Registration	camosun.ca/registration-records/registration

Support Service	Website
Technology Support	camosun.ca/services/its
Writing Centre	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>
Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines: <https://camosun.ca/cal>

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence Policy:

<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education.

To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

Changes to this Syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.

