**SOCIOL 1CO3** [**Canadian Society: Social Problems, Social Policy, and the Law**](https://sociology.mcmaster.ca/courses/canadian-society-social-problems-social-policy-and-the-law)

Professor Sandra Colavecchia Class Times & Location:

Office: Kenneth Taylor Hall 612 Wednesdays and Fridays 3:30-4:20pm LRW-B1007

Office hours: by appointment

Phone: (905) 525-9140 ext. 21344

E-mail: [colaves@mcmaster.ca](mailto:colaves@mcmaster.ca) (Do not use email through Avenue-to-Learn)

Instructional Assistant: Gerald Bierling

Office: Kenneth Taylor Hall 642

Office hours: posted on Avenue

Phone: (905) 525-9140 ext. 26513

Email: [soc1a06@mcmaster.ca](mailto:soc1a06@mcmaster.ca) (Do not use email through Avenue-to-Learn)

**Course Description**

In this course sociological perspectives are used to understand social problems in Canada. The course will examine how social issues and social problems intersect with social policy and the law. We will examine social policy and the law in five main areas of Canadian society: intimate relationships and families, the labour market, immigration, health, and the criminal justice system. Sociological analysis will inform our evaluation of social policy and the law. The course offers an applied perspective on contemporary social problems as students will have an opportunity to study and evaluate contemporary social policy and legislation. The course aims to develop academic and professional skills including critical thinking and effective communication skills.

**Course Objectives**

The learning outcomes of this course are consistent with McMaster’s Undergraduate Degree Level Expectations. (see

<http://cll.mcmaster.ca/COU/pdf/Undergraduate%20Degree%20Level%20Expectations.pdf>).

In this course students will learn about contemporary issues, social policy, and the law in Canadian society. This connects to several of the undergraduate degree level expectations including developing a depth and breadth of knowledge and development of critical thinking and communication skills.

**Required Readings**

Readings are available on Avenue. There is no cost for the readings.

**Class Format**

This course is an in-person course. Lectures, tutorials, and exams are in-person. Tutorials will start approximately 3 weeks after the start of term. Announcements will be made about the start of tutorials on Avenue and in lecture.

**Course Evaluation-Overview**

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| --- | --- |
| Mid-term Exam | 25% |
| Paper #1  (Guidelines and rubric can be found on Avenue; paper submitted to Avenue) | 20% |
| Paper #2  (Guidelines and rubric can be found on Avenue; paper submitted to Avenue) | 20% |
| Tutorial Attendance and Participation | 10% |
| Final Exam | 25% |

**Course Evaluation-Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mid-term Exam Worth 25%; Multiple Choice, True/False questions. Mid-term Exam is based on readings and lectures. | 25% |
| Tutorial Attendance and Participation | 10% |
| Paper #1 (Guidelines and rubric can be found on Avenue; paper submitted to Avenue); Due on Wed Oct. 5, 3pm | 20% |
| Paper #2 (Guidelines and rubric can be found on Avenue; paper submitted to Avenue); Due on Wed Nov. 16, 3pm | 20% |
| Final Exam Worth 25%; Multiple Choice, True/False questions. Final Exam based on readings and lectures. Final Exam is non-cumulative. | 25% |

**Calendar of Topics and Readings**

| **Date** | **Topic** | **Readings** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Wed Sep 7 | Introduction to the Course | No readings |
| Friday Sep 9 | Introduction to a Sociological Perspective and Social Problems | Brym; Kendall et al; Tepperman and Albanese.  All readings are available on Avenue. A detailed list of readings is also available on Avenue. |
| Wed Sep 14 | Canadian Families: The State and Social Policy (part 1) | Baker |
| Friday Sep 16 | Canadian Families: The State and Social Policy (part 2) | MacDonald, Woodward, Crawford, Monsbraaten. |
| Wed Sep 21 | Overview of Paper #1 Requirements |  |
| Friday Sep 23 | Work-Life Conflict and Social Policy | Tremblay |
| Wed Sep 28 | Investing in Families and Children | Krull, Butler, Racco |
| Fri Sep 30 | National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (no classes) |  |
| Wed Oct 5 | Labour Market and Social Policy (part 1)  **Paper #1 Due by 3pm.**  **(submitted to Avenue)** | Pupo et al |
| Fri Oct 7 | Labour Market and Social Policy (part 2) | McQuigge, les Perreaux, Babad |
| Oct 10-14 | Mid-term Recess |  |
| Wed Oct 19 | Labour Market and Social Policy (part 3) | McFarland and McGugan, Gray |
| Fri Oct 21 | Labour Markets, Inequality, and the Future of Work | Lehmann and Adams, Yalnizyan, Boisvert |
| Wed Oct 26 | Mid-term Exam Review | No readings |
| Fri Oct 28 | **Mid-term Exam** |  |
| Wed Nov 2 | Overview of Paper #2 Requirements | Paper guidelines and rubric available on Avenue |
| Fri Nov 4 | Immigration and the Canadian Mosaic (part 1) | Satzewich and Liodakis |
| Wed Nov 9 | Immigration and the Canadian Mosaic (part 2) | Harford, Ann, Alhmidi |
| Fri Nov 11 | Migrant Workers | Arat-Koc, Thompson, Black |
| Wed Nov 16 | Criminal Justice System: Family Violence  **Paper #2 Due by 3pm (submitted to Avenue)** | Ursel, Kulha, Hasham and Gillis |
| Fri Nov 18 | Criminal Justice System and Marginalized Groups | Dickson-Gilmore, Mas, Rosenthal, Anderson |
| Wed Nov 23 | Class, Health Inequality, and Social Justice (part 1) | Hornosty and Germov. Beeston, Paris, Payne, Blackwell, Fraser |
| Fri Nov 25 | Class, Health Inequality, and Social Justice (part 2) | Porter |
| Wed Nov 30 | Racialization, Ethnocultural Diversity, and Health | Hornosty, Amin, Adhopia |
| Fri Dec 2 | Health, Inequality, and Disability | Shuey et al, Trick |
| Wed Dec 7 | Final Exam Review | No readings assigned |
|  | **Final Exam During Final Exam Period** |  |

**Course Policies**

**Absences, Missed Work, Illness**

In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”.

**Avenue to Learn**

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

## Turnitin.com

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via Avenue to Learn (A2L) plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work through A2L and/or Turnitin.com must still submit an electronic and/or hardcopy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com or A2L. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more information please refer to the [Turnitin.com Policy](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

**University Policies**

**Academic Integrity Statement**

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

· Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.

· Improper collaboration in group work.

· Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

**Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities policy.

**Academic Accommodation for Religious, Indigenous or Spiritual Observances (RISO)**

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, Indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students requiring a RISO accommodation should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

**Conduct Expectations**

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, whether in person or online.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

**Copyright and Recording**

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, including lectures by University instructors.

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

**Faculty of Social Sciences E-mail Communication Policy**

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student’s own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion.

**Course Modification**

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

**Extreme Circumstances**

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.

**Grades**

Grades will be based on the McMaster University grading scale:

MARK GRADE

90-100 A+

85-90 A

80-84 A-

77-79 B+

73-76 B

70-72 B-

67-69 C+

63-66 C

60-62 C-

57-59 D+

53-56 D

50-52 D-

0-49 F