



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES
Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

Sociology and Social Policy

SOSC 112

**New Zealand: Sociological
Perspectives**

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2013

Important dates

Trimester dates: 15 July to 17 November 2013

Teaching dates: 15 July to 18 October 2013

Mid-trimester break: 26 August to 8 September 2013

Study period: 21–25 October 2013

Examination/Assessment Period: 25 October to 16 November 2013

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Class times and locations

Lectures:	Monday & Thursday 1.10 - 2.00 pm	KK LT 303
Tutorials:	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 3.10 – 4.00 pm	VZ101
	Friday 9.00 – 9.50 am, 10:00 – 10.50 am	VZ101
	Monday 4.10 – 5.00 pm	MY301
	Monday 3.10 – 4.00 pm	MY401
	Tuesday 11.00 – 11.50 am, 12.00 – 12.50 pm	MY103
	Tuesday, Wednesday 1.10 – 2.00 pm	KK104
	Tuesday 2.10 – 3.00pm, Wednesday 11.00 – 11.50 am	KK103
	Monday 2.10 - 3.00 pm	KK105
	Tuesday 11.00 – 11.50 pm	VZ509

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator:

Dr Rhonda Shaw

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Office Hour: Tuesday 1.00 – 2.00pm

Course Lecturers:

Dr Allison Kirkman

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Email: allison.kirkman@vuw.ac.nz

Office Hour: TBA

Dylan Taylor

Murphy Building, MY 1006

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Email: dylan.taylor@vuw.ac.nz

Office Hours: Monday & Thursday 2.00 - 3.00pm

Communication of additional information

Additional information related to the course will be made available on BlackBoard. You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

Prescription

The sociological analysis of New Zealand society.

Course content

July 15	Introduction (RS)
July 18	Exploring New Zealand society and the sociological imagination (DT)
July 22	Origins of sociology and European modernity (DT)
July 25	Aotearoa/New Zealand as a settler society (DT)
July 29	Sociological methods (AK)
August 1	Ethics in research (AK)
August 5	Inequalities, divisions and diversity (DT)
August 8	Sociological perspectives on sexuality (RS)
August 12	Sociological perspectives on sport and gender (RS)
August 15	Public and private work: divisions of labour (RS)
August 19	Doing Gender I (AK)
August 22	Doing Gender II (AK)
September 9	Class, status and stratification (DT)
September 12	Racial and ethnic differences (DT)
September 16	Majorities and minorities (DT)
September 19	Ethnicity, class and inequality (DT)
September 23	Families and identity (RS)
September 26	Families and diversity (RS)
September 30	New family formations in contemporary New Zealand (RS)
October 3	Religion in contemporary New Zealand (DT)
October 7	What is globalization? (DT)
October 10	Globalization and national identity (DT)
October 14	Contemporary youth cultures and other sub-cultures (DT)
October 17	Conclusion (RS)

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

This course aims to introduce you to sociological approaches to the study of New Zealand society. Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Understand and explain a sociological perspective
2. Understand how New Zealand is unique, but also displays similarities with some other societies
3. Critically reflect on how current social patterns in New Zealand reflect a mix of recent changes and historical continuities
4. Understand and discuss how class, ethnicity, gender and age operate in New Zealand society
5. Understand selected aspects of major social processes and key institutions of New Zealand society
6. Explain how these processes and institutions relate to social identities and inequality

Teaching format

Lectures and tutorials.

While attendance at lectures is not compulsory, students are expected to regularly attend the lectures.

There are nine tutorials for this course and students are expected to attend at least 6 of them. Tutorials start in week 3. Details about tutorial classes will be available at the first lecture. Enrolment for tutorial classes will be done using the S-Cubed system. The person to contact about tutorial enrolment is Teaching Fellow Dylan Taylor.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- Submit Essay 1 and Essay 2
- Attend at least 6 out of 9 tutorials
- Attend the 2 hour exam at the end of the course

Workload

University guidelines stipulate that a 20-point course should require 13 hours per week, including class time, of student work.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 2000 word essay	30	1, 2, 3	23 August
2 1500 word essay	20	3, 5, 6	11 October
3 Final Examination (2 hours)	50	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	TBA

This course requires two essays (50% internally assessed) and an examination (50% externally assessed).

Essay 1

Weighting: 30%

Due: 4pm, Friday, August 23

Write a 2000 word essay on one of the following 4 topics:

1. The American sociologist C. Wright Mills famously argued that 'the sociological imagination enables us to grasp history and biography and the relations between the two within society'. Use sociological concepts to explore how your personal biography is linked to New Zealand history and how this, in turn, relates to your 'chances in life'.
2. From the 1960s onwards New Zealand's national identity has become increasingly contested. Using sociological concepts, discuss key events and social processes that lead to this shift.
3. Identify the ethical issues you need to be aware of when undertaking qualitative sociological research and discuss some of the strategies that can be used to prevent ethical problems arising.
4. Describe a social setting (e.g., a work place, sports club, bar) and analyse how gender influences the social relations within that setting.

Essay2

Weighting: 20%

Due: 4pm, Friday, October 11

Write a 1500 word essay on one of the following 4 topics:

1. Drawing on relevant examples, discuss the view that families and parenting are increasingly impacted by technological change.
2. Some sociologists argue that the significance of unpaid work in the domestic sphere is in decline. Critically discuss this view.
3. A New Zealand blogger, who gave her name as 'Burnt Out Teacher', recently wrote the following about her experiences as a South Auckland primary school teacher: 'I honestly still can't believe what I've seen in my own country. I saw kids... who only had tomato sauce for dinner. Kids who didn't eat anything at all, for days at a time.... Kids eating from the rubbish bins.... I saw kids' bones through their clothes; dried faeces and mould on their clothes. I had a class in which only 10 out of 28 kids had shoes (and those shoes almost all had huge holes).' Some people blame government policy, others 'bad parents.' How can sociology help explain child poverty in New Zealand today?
4. Describe how national and global influences shape and influence one contemporary New Zealand youth subculture. In what ways can an understanding of this subculture shed light on the wider processes and effects of globalization?

The Final Examination

Weighting: 50%

During examination period, 25 October to 16 November 2013

It will be a 'closed book' exam and 2 hours in length. More information will be handed out in tutorials closer to the time.

Submission and return of work

It is the policy of the Sociology and Social Policy programmes that all written assignments must be **handed in by 4.00pm on the due date.**

Assignments must be placed in the assignment box on level 9, Murphy Building, to the side of the lifts. They **MUST NOT** be placed in individual staff pigeonholes, or under staff office doors, or handed to lecturers or tutors.

In addition to submitting a hard copy, essay one and essay two must be submitted to Turnitin to check for academic integrity.

This is to ensure that all work is properly recorded when submitted, and to avoid problems that have arisen in the past, when work has "gone missing".

The Assignment Box is cleared at 4.00pm on the due date, all work is date-stamped, and its receipt recorded, and then handed on to the appropriate markers. Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk, between **2.00 and 4.00 pm only** from Monday to Friday.

Students must keep a photocopy of every written assignment.

Unless students have followed this procedure, the staff will accept **no** responsibility for pieces of written work claimed to have been handed in.

Assignment Cover Sheets

All written work submitted for assessment in Sociology and Social Policy papers must have a School Assignment Cover sheet. Copies can be located on the reception counter at the Administration Office, and on the Assignment Box, on level 9 of Murphy building. This is critical to accurate identification and recording of your work. Assignments must be placed in the assignment box on level 9, Murphy Building, to the side of the lifts. The Assignment Box is cleared at 4pm on the due date, all work is date-stamped, and its receipt recorded, and then handed on to the appropriate markers. Every effort will be made to return marked assignments within two-weeks of the due date.

Penalties

Late submissions for student assignments in all Sociology and Social Policy undergraduate courses are subject to a penalty. The exact deduction will be calculated on the basis of one half mark per day late for each 10 marks, i.e. 1 mark will be deducted each day for an assignment worth 20% of the total course mark.

Note: assessment work will not be accepted for marking more than 7 days after the due date or 7 days after an approved extension date. Work must still, however, be submitted to meet the mandatory course requirements.

Materials and equipment and/or additional expenses

There are no additional materials required for this course with the exception of the course readings.

Practicum/placement/field trip/internship arrangements

There are no other arrangements for this course.

Set texts

Each student should buy the set text since ready access to and familiarity with its contents will be required throughout the course.

McLennan, Gregor, Ruth McManus and Paul Spoonley (2010) *Exploring Society: Sociology for New Zealand Students* (Third Edition), Auckland: Pearson Education.

Students can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz.

Recommended reading

An extensive list of readings related to each set of lectures and assignments will be available as a separate document in the first lecture. This supplementary document, called the Tutorial & Essay Writing Guide will also be available on Blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. Two class representatives will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Representatives' names and details in this box:

Class Rep names and contact details:

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Please note that SOSC 112 is taught by new lecturers in 2013. You will have an opportunity to participate in the evaluation of this course.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

School Contact Information

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