



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 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Study period: 19–23 October 2015

Examination/Assessment Period: 23 October to 14 November 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Wednesday 3.10 pm – 4.00 pm – KK LT303

Friday 3.10 pm – 4.00 pm – KK LT303

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Rhonda Shaw

Murphy Building, MY 1007

Tel: 04 463 6134

E-mail: rhonda.shaw@vuw.ac.nz

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Course Coordinator: Dr Ben Snyder

Murphy Building, MY 1020

Tel: 04 463 6748

Email: ben.snyder@vuw.ac.nz

Office Hours: Wednesday 12.00 pm – 2.00 pm

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 |
| July 17 | What is sociology? (BS) |
| July 22 | Origins of sociology and European modernity (BS) |
| July 24 | Exploring contemporary New Zealand society (BS) |
| July 29 | Diversity, stratification and inequality (BS) |
| July 31 | Power, status, class and ethnicity (BS) |
| August 5 | Sociological methods (BS) |
| August 7 | Ethics in research (RS) |
| August 12 | Becoming masculine and feminine (RS) |
| August 14 | Doing Gender (RS) |
| August 19 | Work and the gendered division of labour (RS) |
| August 21 | Sexuality in Aotearoa/New Zealand (RS) |
| September 9 | Domestic and intimate partner violence (RS) |
| September 11 | Aotearoa/New Zealand as a settler society (DP) |
| September 16 | Racial and ethnic differences (BS) |
| September 18 | Racism and resistance (BS) |
| September 23 | Sport and gender performativity (RS) |

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------------------|
| September 25 | Families, identity and diversity (RS) |
| September 30 | New family formations (RS) |
| October 2 | Disability in Aotearoa/New Zealand (RS) |
| October 7 | What is globalization? (BS) |
| October 9 | Globalization and national identity (BS) |
| October 14 | Youth (sub)cultures and consumerism (BS) |
| October 16 | Conclusion |

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.

Tutorials start in week 3. There are 9 tutorials for this course and students are expected to attend at least 6 of them. <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables/tutorial-sign-up>

The person to contact about tutorial enrolment is the SOSC 112 Senior Tutor.

Mandatory course requirements

There are 9 tutorials for this course and students are expected to attend at least 6 of them. This will ensure students have the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the core sociological themes explored in the course (see course prescription) and to develop oral communication and teamwork skills through participating in the tutorial exercises.

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must submit all in-term assignments and assessments (Essay 1 and Essay 2) and sit the final 2 hour examination at the end of the course. In order to demonstrate the achievement of all the Course Learning Objectives you must obtain at least 35% for any assignment (i.e., the essays and examination).

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

The expectations are that students will work 10 hours per point, therefore a 20 point course equates to 200 hours over the trimester. This includes scheduled contact time, individual or group study, and work on assessment tasks.

In addition to attending the lectures (24 hours for the trimester) and tutorials (6 – 9 hours) students can expect to spend on average, approximately 40 hours reading preparation for the course, 30 hours preparing for Essay 1, 25 hours preparing Essay 2, and 35 hours preparing for the Final Examination.

Assessment

| Assessment items and workload per item | | % | CLO(s) | Due date |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----|------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2000 word essay | 30 | 1, 2, 3 | 4pm, August 21 |
| 2 | 1500 word essay | 20 | 3, 5, 6 | 4pm, October 16 |
| 3 | Final Examination (2 hours) | 50 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 | Exam period: 23 October to 14 November 2015 |

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

Essay 1

Weighting: 30%

Due: 4pm, Friday, August 21

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

1. Say you wanted to investigate the following hypothesis: The richest New Zealanders tend to commit white-collar crimes, such as tax evasion and money laundering, because they tend to have the right social connections to pull it off (e.g. friends who are bankers, accountants, etc.). Which research method(s)—quantitative, qualitative, or “mixed methods”—would you use to investigate this issue and why?
2. ‘New Zealand is one of the most privileged nations in the world, but is also deeply unequal.’ Critically discuss this statement drawing on your knowledge of New Zealand in comparison to other OECD countries and your knowledge of inequality within New Zealand.
3. Drawing on examples to illustrate your answer, discuss how the concept of intersectionality helps us to understand the relationship between gender, ethnicity, and class in New Zealand.
4. Critically discuss the extent to which recent transformations in work represent gains and losses for men and women. How have these transformations affected gender inequality?

Essay 2

Weighting: 20%

Due: 4pm, Friday, October 16

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

1. What is racism? Does it exist in New Zealand? In your answer discuss the difference between racism and racial discrimination as well as the difference between institutional, personal/cultural, and internalised racism.
2. Sociologist Stevi Jackson argues that in their domestic practices, heterosexual couples are both ‘doing gender’ and ‘doing heterosexuality’. Discuss, drawing on New Zealand examples.

3. Critically discuss whether the extension of rights of marriage and parenthood to lesbians and gay men undermines normative heterosexuality or 'heterosexualises' other sexualities.
4. 'New Zealand national identity is a social construct.' Critically discuss this statement drawing on your knowledge of how national identities are "invented" and maintained over time.

Marking Criteria

Please refer to the 'Tutorial, Lecture & Essay Writing Guide', which will be handed out at the first lecture and posted on Blackboard.

The Final Examination

Weighting: 50%

During examination period, 23 October to 14 November 2015

It will be a closed book exam and 2 hours in length. More information will be handed out in tutorials closer to the time and at the last lecture, on October 16.

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 emailed 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.

Assignment Cover Sheets

All written work submitted for assessment in Sociology courses 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.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Assignments are due on the dates stated. If for some serious reason you don't think you can get an essay in on time, see your course co-ordinator *prior* to the due date and discuss the problem. Extensions of time are not permitted except for illness, or bereavements.

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 name and contact details: |
|-------------------------------------|

Student feedback

SOSC 112 was evaluated in 2013 and student feedback was positive. Students indicated interest in more information about topics relating to gender, globalisation, and subcultures. Lecture content includes this material. The Course Evaluation details for SOSC 112 will be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

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/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

CONTACT INFORMATION

| | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Head of School: | Prof Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich MY1019 Phone: 463 6528, Email: brigitte.bonisch-brednich@vuw.ac.nz |
| International Student Liaison: | Dr Hal Levine, MY1023 Phone: 463 6132, Email: hal.levine@vuw.ac.nz |
| Māori and Pacific Student Liaison: | Dr Trevor Bradley, MY1101 Phone: 463 5432, Email: trevor.bradley@vuw.ac.nz |
| Students with Disabilities Liaison: | Dr Sarah Wright, MY1102 Phone: 463 9980, Email: sarah.wright@vuw.ac.nz |
| School Manager: | La'Chelle Pretorius, MY918 Phone: 463 6546, Email: lachelle.pretorius@vuw.ac.nz |
| School Administrators: | Suzanne Weaver, Heather Day, Alison Melling, MY921, Phone: 463 5317; 463 5258; 463 5677, Email: sacs@vuw.ac.nz |
| School of Social and Cultural Studies: | www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs |