



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL POLICY

SOSC 222

INVESTIGATIONS IN THE SOCIAL WORLD

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 29 February to 29 June 2016

Teaching dates: 29 February to 5 June 2016

Easter break: 24–30 March 2016

Mid-trimester break: 25 April to 1 May 2016

Study period: 6–9 June 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 10–29 June 2016

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/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lectures: Monday 14.10–16.00pm Hugh Mackenzie HMLT103

Tutorials: Tutorials will start in week 2 of the trimester.

Names and contact details

Dr el-Ojeili is the course coordinator responsible for SOSC 222. Please direct all queries about the course to him:

Dr Chamsy el-Ojeili

Room: Murphy 1016

Tel: 463 6740

Email: chamsy.el-ojeili@vuw.ac.nz

Office Hours: By appointment

Communication of additional information

Additional information will be communicated in lectures and 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

SOSC 222 examines a range of notable sociological studies, exploring questions of historical context, assumptions about knowledge, methods, conceptual development, and critical debates. The course is designed to familiarise students with some notable investigations in the discipline, and to encourage a critical understanding of the various methodological approaches on offer when studying the social world.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of a number of seminal sociological studies, in terms of concepts, methods, epistemological assumptions, and historical context;
- Demonstrate a critical awareness of the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches to studying the social world;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the different considerations in assessing social investigations.

Teaching format

The course will be taught by three members of the Sociology and Social Policy Programme. This course will be taught through 12 two hour lectures (one 2 hour lecture per week) and 9 weekly tutorials. Tutorials will begin in the second week of trimester. These tutorials are voluntary, and students attending are expected to have read the set readings and be prepared to discuss them in class.

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.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	ESSAY 1: The essay will be worth 25% of the final grade, approx. 2000 words	25%	1, 2, 3	15 April
2	ESSAY 2: The essay will be worth 35% of the final grade, and approx. 3000 words.	35%	1,2,3	13 May
3	EXAM: 2 hour exam	40%	1,2,3	Exam period 10 June to 29 June 2016

Essay One: a list of first essay questions will be available in the first two weeks of the trimester. Students will be asked to write a critical essay on one of the studies explored in the course.

Essay Two: TBA

Exam: the exam will cover the material presented in lectures and readings, taking the form of short answer questions.

Submission and return of 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, 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. Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk, between **11.00 am and 3.00 pm only** from Monday to Friday.

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 supervisor *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.

You are advised to always keep a copy of any work you submit for assessment.

Set texts

Readings for each week's lectures and tutorial sessions will be made available as PDFs on Blackboard.

Recommended reading

A list of recommended readings for each lecture will be made available through blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

Student feedback

SOSC 222 is being run for only the second time in 2016. Feedback will be sought at the end of the course, and enhancements based on this feedback will be made.

Student feedback on University courses may 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
- 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
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- 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
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- 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

School Contact Information

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