



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES
Sociology and Social Policy
SOSC 111**

***Sociology: Foundations and Concepts*
20 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Study period: 17–20 October 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 21 October to 12 November 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 and Wednesday 3.10 pm – 4pm New Kirk LT303

Names and contact details

Dr el-Ojeili and Dr Snyder are responsible for the administration of SOSC 111. You should direct all queries about the course to either one of them (see contact details below). Any queries about tutorials or extensions should be addressed to Dr el-Ojeili, unless otherwise advised.

Dr Chamsy el-Ojeili

Dr Ben Snyder

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Communication of additional information

Any additional course information will be posted 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 forward messages received from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

Prescription

This course provides an introduction to the foundations of sociological thought and their application and relevance to contemporary society. It explores key sociological concepts and debates, such as globalisation, inequality, risk, social movements, medicalisation, and technology.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. recognise the main theoretical and conceptual areas of contemporary sociology, with particular reference to the contributions of Karl Marx, Max Weber, and Emile Durkheim (*assessed through essay one and the final examination*);
2. understand important drivers of social change (*assessed through essay two and the final examination*);
3. apply central sociological concepts to everyday issues (*assessed through essay two and the final examination*).

Teaching format

Lectures and tutorials.

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

There are 9 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 myAllocator system. To gain full value from the course you should attend all lectures and tutorials.

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 One 2000 words	20%	1	8 August
2	Essay Two 2500 words	30%	2,3	9 September
3	Final Exam (2 hours)	50%	1,2,3	21 October to 12 November 2016

Essay 1:

Weighting 20%

Word Limit: 2000 words

Due Date: 8 August

Course learning objective 1

One of the main objectives of this course is to introduce you to some of the main theories in Sociology. This essay is about one of the major theorists – Marx, or Weber, or Durkheim. We have given you a choice of topics plus a list of primary and secondary readings.

Choose **ONE** of the following three topics:

EITHER

Marx

'Alienation' was a central concern for the young Karl Marx. Discuss the dimensions of this alienation in connection to Marx's critique of capitalist society, and comment on the contemporary relevance of this concept.

OR

Weber

One of Weber's key concepts was that of 'rationalisation', by which he meant the eradication of mystery and emotion from everyday life and their replacement by rational calculation and control. Examine the contribution which Weber attributed to 'the Protestant ethic' in this process.

OR

Durkheim

A central focus of Durkheim was on the transition from mechanical to organic solidarity as societies entered modernity by means of an increasingly complex division of labour. Describe Durkheim's thinking about this transition, and discuss his concept of anomie, which he associated with these changes.

Essay 2

Weighting 30%

Word Limit 2500 words

Due Date: 9 September

Course learning objectives 2 and 3

This essay is based on lectures and readings in Block Two of the course – *What causes social change?*

Details of the second essay will be made available through Blackboard.

Final Examination

Weighting 50%

Duration 2 hours

Date: between 21 October to 12 November 2016

Course learning objectives 1, 2 and 3

The Final Examination is compulsory and is a 'closed book' examination. The exam day and time will be confirmed after the mid-trimester break. Information about the final examination will be discussed in the final lecture.

Submission and return of work

You must submit your written work in two ways.

1. Submit written work electronically through Blackboard at or before 4pm on the due date. Your assignments will be submitted to Turnitin via a link on Blackboard. Please use the electronic cover sheet found on Blackboard.
2. Submit a paper copy to the assignment box at the SACS Office, Level 9, Murphy Building, by 4pm on the due date.

Your paper copy should include:

- a. a completed SOSC111 cover sheet
- b. a printed receipt to show that you have submitted your assignment electronically to Turnitin via Blackboard.

Your essay **MUST NOT** be placed in individual staff pigeonholes, or under staff office doors, or handed to lecturers or tutors. The Assignment Box is cleared at 4pm every day. All work is date-stamped, recorded and then handed to the appropriate markers.

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**.

We aim to have all assignments that have been handed in on the due date marked within two weeks of the due date.

Assignment Cover Sheets

All written work submitted for assessment in Sociology and Social Policy 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. You may wish to have a front sheet of your own, but a School Cover sheet must be used. This is critical to accurate identification and recording of your work.

Turnitin

Essay one and essay two must be submitted to Turnitin as well as in hard copy. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted essays to material available on the web and to previously submitted essays.

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 coordinator **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.

Set texts

There is no set text or book of student notes for this course. All essential and recommended readings will be placed on Blackboard by the Course Coordinators

Recommended reading

Tony Bilton et al. (eds) (2002) *Introductory Sociology* (Fourth Edition) Palgrave. See also Bilton et al (1996) *Introductory Sociology* (Third Edition) Macmillan Press.

(Bilton (2002) was used in previous years so you may well find second-hand copies available).

Beilharz, P. and Hogan, T. (eds) (2012). *Sociology: Antipodean Perspectives* (Second Edition), Oxford University Press.

Giddens, A. (2009) *Sociology* (Sixth Edition), Polity.

Gregor McLennan, Allanah Ryan and Paul Spoonley (2000/ 2003) *Exploring Society: Sociology for New Zealand Students*, Pearson Education New Zealand Ltd.

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

Based on feedback on sosc 111 in 2015, lectures will be recorded and made available to students

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

Head of School: Prof Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich, MY1019
Phone: 463 6528, Email: brigitte.bonisch-brednich@vuw.ac.nz

International Student Liaison: To be advised

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, MY1115
Phone: 463 5874, Email: sarah.wright@vuw.ac.nz

School Manager: La'Chelle Pretorius, MY918
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School Administrators: Suzanne Weaver, Debbie Evans, Gill Blomgren, MY921,
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School of Social and Cultural Studies: www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs

Lecture Schedule

1 Intro and Admin – July 11

Block 1: How and why did sociology develop?

2 What is sociology? – July 13

3 The coming of modernity – July 18

4 Marx – July 20

5 Weber – July 25

6 Durkheim – July 27

Block 2: What causes social change?

7 Globalization – August 1

8 Post-modernity – August 3

9 Work and Labour – August 8

10 Technology – August 10

11 Medicalisation – August 15

12 Ideology – August 17

Block 3: What causes solidarity and conflict?

13 Ritual – September 5

14 Collective Memory – September 7

15 New Social Movements – September 12

16 State, Power, and Surveillance – September 14

17 Inequality – September 19

18 Violence – September 21

19 Imperialism – September 26

Block 4: Who am I? What is normal?

20 Identity – September 28

21 Deviance – October 3

22 Everyday life – October 5

23 Emotions – October 10

24 Conclusion/Exam preparation – October 12