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## **SOCIOLOGY: UNDERSTANDING POWER AND ANTI-OPPRESSION**

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### **Social & Community Services**

<b>Course Code:</b> GSSC1064	<b>Co-Requisites:</b> Please see Course Related Information	<b>Pre-Requisites:</b> Please see Course Related Information
<b>Applicable Program(s):</b> C100 - Early Childhood Education C160 - Early Childhood Education	<b>Core/Elective:</b> Core Core	
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Liberal Arts & Sciences, Faculty	
<b>Approved by:</b>	Zeenat Janmohamed, Chair, School of Social and Community Services	
<b>Approval Date:</b>	Saturday, June 10, 2023	
<b>Approved for Academic Year:</b>	2023-2024	
<b>Contact Hours:</b>	42.00	
<b>Credit Hours:</b>	3.00	

### **Course Description**

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This course offers students an introduction to the field of sociology - the study of society and human social relations. Students will learn key sociological approaches and how these are used to understand a) the connection between our everyday life experiences and our wider society, and b) the issues, identities, communities and institutions that make up our society. Structured along the Social Justice/Anti-Oppression Framework, this course will explore how power operates within society and its impacts on marginalized identities and communities. Students will develop critical thinking skills as they are challenged to think from a sociological perspective - that is to engage in deep and critical analysis of how seemingly individual and/or current issues are connected to wider and deeply rooted processes, patterns and events. This course is designed to meet a number of the Ministry of Advanced Training and Skills Development requirements for completion of the Community Worker Program and a number of the requirements for registration in the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers. The program's foundation in anti-oppressive and social-justice practice, trains students in community organizing and development skills and promotes individual and community self-determination and empowerment.

### **Essential Employability Skills**

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This course contributes to your program by helping you achieve the following Essential Employability Skills:

- EES 1      **COMMUNICATION:** Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience. (P, E,)
- EES 2      **COMMUNICATION:** Respond to written, spoken or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication. (P, E,)

EES 3	NUMERACY: Execute mathematical operations accurately. (E,)
EES 4	CRITICAL THINKING & PROBLEM SOLVING: Apply a systematic approach to solve problems. (T, P, E,)
EES 5	CRITICAL THINKING & PROBLEM SOLVING: Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems. (T, P, E,)
EES 6	INFORMATION MANAGEMENT: Analyze, evaluate and apply relevant information from a variety of sources. (T, P, E,)
EES 7	INFORMATION MANAGEMENT: Locate, select, organize and document information using appropriate technology and information systems. (P, E,)
EES 8	INTERPERSONAL: Show respect for diverse opinions, values, belief systems and contributions of others. (P, E,)
EES 9	INTERPERSONAL: Interact with others in groups or teams in ways that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals. (P, E,)
EES 10	PERSONAL: Manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects. (P, E,)
EES 11	PERSONAL: Take responsibility for one's own actions, decisions and consequences. (P, E,)

Note: "T" means elements of the skill are taught; "P" means elements of the skill are practiced; "E" means elements of the skill are evaluated; "C" means the skill culminates.

## Course Learning Outcomes

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When you have earned credit for this course, you will have demonstrated the ability to:

CLO 1	GSSC CLO 1 - Define sociology, the sociological perspective and other key sociology concepts and explain their relevance to Community Work;
CLO 2	GSSC CLO 2 - Identify key characteristics of the major sociological approaches and the Anti- Oppression (AOP) Framework;
CLO 3	GSSC CLO 3 - Apply sociological analysis (or critical thinking) to connect individual and/or current issues to wider social contexts;
CLO 4	GSSC CLO 4 - Demonstrate professional conduct through an ability to work in large and small groups in ways that are inclusive, anti-oppressive, reliable (present and participative) and ethical.
CLO 5	GSSC CLO 5 - Integrate the Anti- Oppression Framework into a critical and complex evaluation of the multiple and diverse ways social issues and oppressions intersect, interrelate and connect to different communities and stakeholders at all levels of society.
CLO 6	GSSC CLO 6 - Demonstrate the digital proficiency and practices required in an online learning environment.

## Delivery Methods/Learning Activities

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This online course will feature synchronous (real-time) class lectures, small and large group discussions, interactive activities, 1-minute papers, mixed synchronous and asynchronous group and individual assignments; quizzes/tests; films/videos and discussion boards.

## Learning Resources

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### LIST OF TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER TEACHING AIDS:

Major Course Text:

\*Little, W. (2016). *Introduction to Sociology* (2nd Cdn ed.). Open Stax College.

Retrieved from <https://opentextbc.ca/introductiontosociology2ndedition/>

Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License, except where otherwise noted. \*Select chapters from this text are posted in Weekly Learning Modules on GBC's Learning Management System (Brightspace).

Please Note: Weekly readings may also come from sources other than the above text.

Readings should be treated as background and supplemental to classroom discussion and lectures.

Students should also keep informed of current events through various news media.

## Course Related Information

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No Co-Requisites or Pre-Requisites.

### Academic Appeals Policy:

All students have the right to appeal academic issues. Please review the Academic Appeals Policy at:

[www.georgebrown.ca/policies/](http://www.georgebrown.ca/policies/)

## George Brown Related Information

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### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL LAND

We would like to acknowledge that George Brown College is located on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the land of other Indigenous Peoples who have lived here over time.

### PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

College programs are designed to deliver program learning outcomes that relate to the unique content of a particular area of study. To review the specific program learning outcomes for your program, please go to your program page on the George Brown College website at <https://www.georgebrown.ca/>

### IMPORTANT PROGRAM INFORMATION

Students are advised to consult program coordinators regarding specific requirements for successfully completing their program, including adding/dropping courses and other issues that might disrupt their course of study.

### RETENTION OF COURSE OUTLINES

Students are expected to retain their course outlines to support learning in the course and for future use in applications for transfer of credit to other educational institutions.

## COLLEGE POLICIES

It is essential that students review all college policies, including Academic Policies available at <https://www.georgebrown.ca/policies>.

## DIGITAL LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to have access to a computer and to the internet. There may also be additional technology-related requirements to participate in a course that are not included in the course materials fee, such as headphones, webcams, specialized software, etc. Details on these requirements can be found in the course outline for each course.

The Library Learning Commons (LLC) has a limited number of devices including laptops and portable WIFI devices to support students; however, the LLC cannot guarantee access to a device for all students.

## ACCESSIBLE LEARNING SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Accessible Learning Services facilitates academic support and services for George Brown College students with physical, sensory, learning, medical or mental health disabilities. Delivered in collaboration with academic departments and other service areas, these services are available to students in all programs at all campuses.

George Brown College is committed to upholding a student's right to individualized and timely accommodation that promotes dignity, independence, autonomy, equity, and inclusion for the student. In addition to our current supports, we are working to eliminate barriers by increasing access to alternate formats, planning accessible buildings and classrooms, enhancing employee training, and adopting inclusive practices in placement and on campus.

Only those involved in a student's accommodation plan shall be alerted to their registration with Accessible Learning Services, and a student's registration with Accessible Learning Services will not be identified on the student's official college transcript and/or graduation documentation. For more information, please visit the Accessible Learning Services website at <http://www.georgebrown.ca/accessible-learning-services/> or call 416-415-5000 ext. 2622 or email [letstalk@georgebrown.ca](mailto:letstalk@georgebrown.ca)

## EQUITY STATEMENT

George Brown College values the diversity of our students, employees, and community partners, and is committed to providing a learning environment where all people are safe and respected. Comments, behaviours, or interactions that are inconsistent with our values may be a violation of the following college policies: Sexual Assault and Sexual Violence, Human Rights Discrimination and Harassment, and the Prevention of Workplace Violence and Harassment. These types of actions or comments are not acceptable and will not be tolerated. The commitment and cooperation of all students and employees is required to maintain a welcoming environment in which to learn and work.

Support and information are available through a Human Rights Advisor at [diversity@georgebrown.ca](mailto:diversity@georgebrown.ca) or the Sexual Violence Response Advisor at [svra@georgebrown.ca](mailto:svra@georgebrown.ca)

For information on the relevant policies visit <https://www.georgebrown.ca/diversity/>

## TEXT-MATCHING DETECTION SOFTWARE

Text-matching detection software assists faculty and students in preventing and detecting plagiarism. Faculty may use such software to check the originality of the academic work students submit in a course by comparing submitted assignments to those contained in publicly accessible internet sites, and academic journals, as well as databases of submitted papers and other sources. Faculty may not submit any student work that contains personally identifiable information through a text matching/anti-plagiarism tool or require students to do so.

Automated text matching software will be made available to all academic staff and students to promote academic integrity and appropriate documentation of sources. Professors may choose to use the college-approved automated text matching detection software in their courses. Students are permitted to submit draft assignments prior to the due date, and to receive the screening report that is also available to professors.

## Student Evaluation System

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Below is a list of evaluation methods included in this course along with the course learning outcomes (CLO) and essential employability skills (EES) assessed by each. In some cases, program learning outcomes (PLO) assessed may also be indicated.

### Quiz (5%)

Quiz on Course Outline - Multiple Choice/Scantron

Validates Outcomes: CLO 4, CLO 6, EES 3, EES 5, EES 8, EES 11

### Paper (20%)

1 Minute Papers (x10) - In own words and in any format, a one-page discussion or summary of the week's reading(s).

Validates Outcomes: CLO 1, CLO 2, CLO 3, CLO 5, CLO 6, EES 1, EES 2, EES 7, EES 10, EES 11

### In-Class Assignments (60%)

Thematic Assignments: In-Class Group or Discussion Board Component (5%)+ Individual Written Component (10%)

Validates Outcomes: CLO 1, CLO 2, CLO 3, CLO 4, CLO 5, CLO 6, EES 1, EES 2, EES 4, EES 5, EES 6, EES 7, EES 8, EES 9, EES 10, EES 11

### Participation (15%)

[Review Professional Conduct Guidelines, P.2] - Students' commitment, preparation, class engagement and demonstration of CWRK values in class and on Discussion Board

Validates Outcomes: CLO 3, CLO 4, CLO 5, CLO 6, EES 1, EES 2, EES 4, EES 6, EES 8, EES 9, EES 10, EES 11

## Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition

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Prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR) is a process that gives students the opportunity to obtain academic credit for one or more courses in a certificate, diploma or degree based on demonstrated prior learning acquired through life experiences before enrollment in a program. More information regarding PLAR can be found on the GBC website at: <http://www.georgebrown.ca/plar/>

- This course is PLAR eligible, please see Program Coordinator/Chair for more information.

## Grading System

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The passing grade for this course is 50% / "D"

Final Grade	Percentage	Weight
A+	90-100	4.0
A	86-89	4.0
A-	80-85	3.7
B+	77-79	3.3
B	73-76	3.0
B-	70-72	2.7
C+	67-69	2.3
C	63-66	2.0
C-	60-62	1.7
D+	57-59	1.3
D	50-56	1.0

Refer to the Evaluation System on this outline for information on how marks are distributed. More detailed information on assessments may also be found in your Course Section document.

As per Office of the Registrar Policies:

"A" Range = GPA 4.0-Consistently exceeds (course) requirements; shows evidence of being well-organized; shows original and creative thinking and a superior grasp of subject matter.

"B" Range = GPA 3.0-Shows consistent performance and evidence of being well-organized, shows elements of original and creative thinking; has a strong grasp of subject matter

"C" Range = GPA 2.0-Applies the subject matter appropriately; comprehends the subject matter."

"D" Range = GPA 1.0-The student inconsistently applies and communicates knowledge of the subject matter

"F" Range = GPA 0.0-The student fails to apply and communicate an understanding of the subject matter.

Additional information regarding grading for this course may also be found in the "Course Related Information" section of this course outline.

## Legend

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### Terms

- ILO: Indigenous Learning Outcome
- Apprenticeship LO: Apprenticeship Learning Outcome
- CLO: Course Learning Outcome
- DPLO: Degree Program Learning Outcome
- EES: Essential Employability Skill
- EOP: Element of Performance
- GELO: General Education Learning Outcome
- LO: Learning Outcome
- APO: Additional Program Outcome
- PLA: Prior Learning Assessment
- PLAR: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition
- PLO: Program Learning Outcome