

WELCOME

Welcome to the Department of Sociology & Criminology at UCC! As a new or returning student we hope you will have a great experience here. We are a warm and friendly department made up of world class researchers. Our academic staff and professional services staff are all deeply committed to working together to ensure you have an excellent research led teaching and learning experience, on a variety of topics that seek to both better understand our social world and make a difference. In undertaking your undergraduate or postgraduate programme with us you will develop your sociological and/or criminological imagination and in these times of accelerated social change this is such an important time to engage with social issues and social problems through a sociological or criminological lens.

The Department of Sociology and Criminology is committed to the safety and well-being of all students and staff and will provide as much face to face teaching as is feasible within an evolving situation.

Given the context of the current Covid-19 pandemic restrictions we will be reinforcing public health guidance throughout the year, for example, the importance of physical distancing, wearing masks and frequent hand sanitising. You will see a change to campus with frequent hand sanitising stations and spaces marked out to accommodate social distancing.

Teaching and learning on our programmes will consist of a blended model with as much face to face teaching and learning as is possible alongside online lectures, seminars and directed learning.

All learning materials to be made available online (this will include a combination of recorded lectures, PowerPoint presentations, online learning exercises and readings) and staff will be available for one to one student consultation, as is our practice.

Those students unable to attend class due to illness, quarantine, or concerns about underlying medical conditions, will have online access to all classes including E-seminars. Please refer to the UCC information pages at the following link: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/emt/covid19/>

The Department office will be open in Askive and we ask that you contact us to make an appointment. Masks are to be worn in the building.

We know you will have a great experience with us, despite the challenges, develop many transferrable skills and especially critical thinking skills that will take you into your future careers and life. We also encourage you to engage with the wider opportunities that UCC has to offer such as the various clubs and societies and we wish you an excellent year ahead!

Professor Maggie O'Neill
Head of the Department of Sociology & Criminology
University College Cork

Welcome to Sociology!

We live in times of unprecedented social change. The transforming effects of the Covid 19 pandemic have brought many questions into sharper focus, such as those on humanity's mistreatment of nature, rapid loss of biodiversity, the interrelationship between class, race and health inequalities, the widening gap between rich and poor, to name but a few. At the same time, we witness the rise in far-right populism and various new forms of social movement resistance, including Black Lives Matter. Is there a better time to study Sociology?

Our programme offers a rich and varied choice of modules on subjects as diverse as social theory, research methods, cities, culture & art, migration, race & ethnicity, crime and deviance, class, gender, sexualities, climate change, sustainable development, media, trauma, memory, health and illness. We deliver research-based teaching that combines theory and practice in ways that encourage students to question the social world as it is and think about the world as it could be.

While Covid-19 does pose some challenges for the traditional delivery of our programme, we will continue to offer a rigorous and scholarly teaching and learning experience to our students through our award-winning teaching and supervision. The Department of Sociology and Criminology remains committed to the safety and well-being of all students and staff and, therefore, will commit to as much face-to-face teaching as is feasible, in line with current Covid-19 pandemic restrictions and public health guidelines.

Teaching and learning in the Department of Sociology and Criminology's programmes will be delivered via a blended model, combining a mixture of face-to-face and online teaching and learning. The programme will include lectures and weekly seminars. Some lectures and seminars will be delivered face-to-face though it is possible for you to opt to do both fully online.

The sections below contain further information regarding the mode of delivery for each module. If you have any queries regarding social theory seminars, please contact our co-ordinator, Dr Amin Sharifi Isaloo (amin.sharifiisaloo@ucc.ie). If you have any questions regarding a particular module, please contact the coordinator of that module. Please do not hesitate to email me if you have any further questions at t.skillington@ucc.ie. We very much look forward to guiding you on your learning journey.

Dr Tracey Skillington
Director of the Undergraduate Programme in Sociology

Welcome to Year 1

Congratulations on choosing to study Sociology at UCC. We are excited to welcome you to the 1st Year of Sociology and we look forward to working with you over the coming academic year.

On this booklet, you will find the 1st year *roadmap*. This booklet provides you with the information you need about the 1st year course. It is in place to guide you during your 1st year and you need to read it carefully.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the 1st year Sociology comprises 1 hour lecture every week and 1 hour seminar every week during the 1st semester:

- SC1005 and SC1012 seminars- will be delivered face-to-face and online in the 1st semester. Students will have a choice to sign up for one of the face-to-face or online seminar slots.
- SC1005 and SC1012 lectures - will be delivered online

*The 2nd semester details and the timetable will be announced by December 2021.

Please note that Covid-19 pandemic is an ongoing & changing situation, in which protocols may eventually enable conventional face to face or a 'blended' mode of delivery. Updates on the situation will be communicated through CANVAS.

We will be recording attendance at seminars.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that attendance at face-to-face or online lectures and seminars is crucial. Your lecturers and tutors will introduce you to various aspects of what can often be a complex discipline. If you do not attend your lectures and seminars and you do not read readings and materials uploaded on Canvas, you will miss an important opportunity to learn and you will be poorly prepared for the various forms of assessment that appear along the way.

Please do not hesitate to email me (amin.sharifiisaloo@ucc.ie) if you have any questions. We hope you will have an enjoyable and productive first year learning with the Department of Sociology.

Dr Amin Sharifi Isaloo
Coordinator of the 1st and 2nd Undergraduate Programmes
& Tutors Coordinator in Sociology

MISSION STATEMENT

Sociology & Criminology at UCC is at the cutting edge of teaching and research on the intersection between society, economy, ecology, politics, crime and culture. Staff pride themselves in being leaders in frontier research on sociological, criminological and anthropological theory, participatory, ethnographic and creative methodologies, political and cultural transformation, social inequalities, gender, sexuality, identity, migration, crime, violence and social justice, climate change, sustainable development, health, cities and societies of the future. Embracing the University's ethos of 'independent thinking', the department offers a unique platform to acquire theoretical and methodological skills applicable to a wide range of research areas. Placing a strong emphasis on academic freedom in the interest of community service, social justice and societal relevance, the department of Sociology & Criminology strives to maintain its distinctive profile as a centre of research and teaching excellence, enabling our students to understand our contemporary society in the light of social justice, ideals and core values, so that we may think our way through our present challenges and imaginatively reinvent ourselves.

COVID-19 STATEMENT

Unfortunately, Covid-19 restrictions mean that all visits to the Departmental offices must be by appointment only. Visitors will not be permitted entry without prior appointment. Masks must also be worn in all Department of Sociology and Criminology buildings.

Please contact Caroline Healy (caroline.healy@ucc.ie) or Gemma MacCarthy (gemmamccarthy@ucc.ie) for visiting the main Sociology office and other offices.

Please note; these are all subject to change and dependent upon the Covid-19 restrictions and public health guidance. Refer to the UCC information pages at the following link: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/emt/covid19/> . We draw your attention to the Covid Tracker App and also the UniCoV project. Please also view the FAQ's <https://www.ucc.ie/en/emt/covid19/student-faq/>

CONTENT

Introduction	7
Course Structure	7
Lectures	8
Seminars	8
Staff Availability	8
Main Office	8
Resource Centre	9
Undergraduate Student Experience Committee	9
Tutor Coordinator	9
Guid to Abbreviations	9
Timetable	10
Year's Work Required	10
Presentation of Work	10
Avoiding Plagiarism	10
Bibliography	11
Deadline & Penalties	11
Assessment	12
Late Submission	13
Course Materials	13
Guideline for Reference	13
Late Registration	13
Guidance for Self-directed Study	13
Academic Mentor	14
Course Content & Outline	15
Lectures Schedule	20
Online Introductory Lectures	20
Seminars Timetable	21

INTRODUCTION

As a first-year University student, you will encounter a range of subjects known as academic ‘disciplines.’ Each discipline has its own particular origins and history and has developed its own language, theories, and set of concepts. Economists, for example, talk of "the market", psychologists of "the mind" - and sociologists of "society". Sociology shares many common interests with history, geography, philosophy, English literature, music, etc., but Sociology has its own distinctive perspectives, its own questions and its own ways of obtaining answers.

What is Sociology? This ‘Introduction to Sociology’ course will enable you to see how:

- (a) Sociology offers crucial insights on, and understandings of, various aspects of the contemporary world (including culture, religion, gender, class, age, the economy, globalization, the environment, migration, ethnicity, the media, etc.).
- (b) Sociology is a discipline that engages in comparative research, comparing past societies with the present, and comparing other societies with our own.
- (c) Sociology is a discipline informed by a variety of theoretical paradigms.
- (d) Sociology is a research-based discipline.
- (e) Sociology is a discipline relevant to political, cultural, economic and social policy.
- (f) Sociology is a discipline that addresses key social problems confronting societies around the world.
- (g) Sociology is a discipline relevant to many career paths, including those in social research, public administration, media, human resources, the arts and culture.
- (h) Sociology is a discipline not definable by or reducible to one particular political position or ideology – sociology is not ‘socialism’, ‘feminism’, ‘ecologism’, etc.

Learning outcomes: At the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe the field of sociology and outline its historical development.
2. Identify key people and their theories in the discipline of sociology.
3. Demonstrate knowledge and comprehension of sociological concepts by applying them to analyse contemporary social issues.
4. Understand sociological theories and concepts and relate them to particular problems, issues and debates.
5. Analyse aspects of modern society by applying sociological theories and methods.
6. Formulate and explain particular social phenomena in terms of general sociological theories.
7. Critically evaluate debates on issues in contemporary society.

Course Structure:

The first year sociology course is taught in two modules: SC1005 and SC1006 for Arts students; SC1012 and SC1013 for Social Science students. SC1005 (Arts) and SC1012 (Social Science) are taught in Semester 1 (five credits); SC1006 (Arts) and SC1013 (Social Science) are taught in Semester 2 (ten credits). SC1005 and SC1012 will be delivered by three lecturers in the first semester (September – December). SC1006 and SC1013 will be delivered by three lecturers in the second semester (January – April).

- All learning materials will be made available online (this will include a combination of recorded lectures, PowerPoint presentations, online learning exercises and readings) and staff will be available for one to one student consultation during their office hours.
- Those students unable to attend class due to illness, quarantine, or concerns about underlying medical conditions, will have online access to all classes including E-tutorials.

LECTURES:

First Arts (B.A.) SC1005/SC1006 (Initial Lecture: Monday, September 27th, 2021, 12-1 p.m., face-to-face (Boole 4) and online)

Monday 12 noon - 1 p.m. online/fully asynchronously

Thursday 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. online/fully asynchronously

* Please note that only 1 video of your lectures will be uploaded on your Canvas every week. In other words, you will have only one lecture every Monday which will be pre-recorded and uploaded on canvas. There is also a lecture slot on Thursdays but if something were to take place at that time, you will be notified ahead of time.

First Social Science / Social Work (B.Soc.Sc/BSW) SC1012/SC1013 (Initial Lecture: Monday, September 27th, 2021, 12-1pm face-to-face (Boole 1) and online)

Monday 12 noon - 1 p.m. online/ fully asynchronously

Tuesday 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. online/fully asynchronously

*Please note that only 1 video of your lectures will be uploaded on your Canvas every week. In other words, you will have only one lecture every Monday which will be pre-recorded and uploaded on canvas. There is also a lecture slot on Tuesday but if something were to take place at that time, you will be notified ahead of time.

SEMINARS:

Students will need to sign up online for seminars. This can be done on Canvas. Seminar attendance will be recorded. Over the years, we have noticed a positive correlation between seminar attendance and participation, and high end of year marks. At the seminars, the tutors will discuss the material covered in class and develop writing and referencing skills. All seminars will be running from Monday 4th October, 2021.

STAFF AVAILABILITY: Please check the website of the Sociology Department or email to the related staff member.

LECTURERS:

SC1005 and SC1012

Dr Kieran Keohane (k.keohane@ucc.ie)- Sociology's Classics: An Introduction.

Dr Myles Balfe (m.balfe@ucc.ie)- Introduction to Medical Sociology.

Dr Amin Sharifi Isaloo (amin.sharifiisaloo@ucc.ie) - Introduction to Sociology of Religion and Fundamentalism.

SC1006 and SC1013

Dr Ger Mullally (g.mullally@ucc.ie)- Power, Governance and Social Movements

Dr Tom Boland (tom.boland@ucc.ie) - Understanding Modernity through Dystopian fiction

Dr John O'Brien (johnobrien@ucc.ie) – Deviance, Crime, Punishment and Social Control

MAIN OFFICE:

The main office is located on the First Floor, Askive, Donovan Road.

The office is currently closed to visitors. You must only come to the department if you have a prior appointment and you will be required to wear a mask.

Please contact Ms Gemma Mc Carthy (gemmamccarthy@ucc.ie) for an appointment.

RESOURCE CENTRE

The Department of Sociology has a Resource Centre that provides reading materials for all courses in Sociology. The Resource Centre is located on the ground floor of ASKIVE, the main Sociology building on Donovan Road.

Opening Hours during semester: Paula Meaney (P.meaney@ucc.ie) from the Resource Centre will be available online. Email your queries and they will be responded to from Monday to Friday 9.30 to 1pm.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE

The Department has an Undergraduate Student Experience Committee which consists of elected student representatives for the different courses and years, and a number of members of staff. The committee meets twice each semester and enables students to contribute to the business of the Department. Students are urged to exercise their right to do this by direct participation on the committee or by channelling suggestions, comments and/or complaints through their representatives. The Department is proud of the fact that it was one of the first departments at UCC with such a committee, but its effectiveness depends upon the importance given to it by students.

TUTOR COORDINATOR

The Coordinator of First Year teaching is Dr Amin Sharifi Isaloo. If you have any queries regarding the course, please contact him. His email address is amin.sharifiisaloo@ucc.ie, and his office is located on the first floor of the Askive building on Donovan Road, across from Honan Chapel.

*Further details about the Department, its curriculum, the members of staff, research activities and publications can be found on the department's homepage.

Guide to Abbreviations: Academic Staff

ASI	Dr. Amin Sharifi Isaloo
JO'B	Dr John O'Brien
GM	Dr. Gerard Mullally
KK	Dr. Kieran Keohane
MON	Prof. Maggie O'Neill
MB	Dr. Myles Balfe
POM	Dr. Patrick O'Mahony
TOK	Dr. Theresa O'Keefe
TB	Dr. Tom Boland
TS	Dr. Tracey Skillington

Guide to Abbreviations: Buildings

ANX	- Lecture Room at rear of Criminology building on Donovan Road
BHSC	- Brookfield
C- CE	- Civil Engineering Building
CONN	- Connolly Building
FSB	- Food Science Building
Kane	- Kane Science Building
ORB	- O’Rahilly Building
SAF	- Safari - Criminology building on Donovan Road
WDL	- Windle Anatomy Building
WGB	- Western Gateway Building
WW	- West Wing, Quad

Timetable

Please check the Department Timetable in the Undergrad Section of our website:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/sociology/>

YEAR’S WORK REQUIREMENTS

The modules offered may contain a year’s work component, i.e. work to be carried out during the year. The requirements for individual modules can be found in the outlines contained in this booklet. This work is an integral part of the module concerned, and it is also an indispensable source of feedback for the student. Please check the Book of Modules for full details.

You are strongly advised to ensure that you fulfil all module work requirements, and that you do so in accordance with the deadlines laid down. Past experience shows that students who neglect to fulfil year's work requirements either fail or get poor results.

Presentation of Work

All essays must be submitted through Canvas for semester 1 and 2. Some modules may require hard copies of your work. If it is necessary to submit a hard copy of your essay, your lecturer will advise you on submission instructions. The hard copy must have a cover sheet detailing:

Student’s name

Student’s ID number

Year of Student, i.e. 1st, 2nd or 3rd year.

Title of Degree e.g., BA, or BSocSc.

Level of Study, Joint Honours, Single Honours (honours or minor), Language and Cultural Studies Course

Title, e.g., Sociology of Deviance, Social Theory, etc.

Essay Title

Date of Submission

A **signed** departmental **cover sheet** which can be downloaded from our website at

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/sociology/undergraduate/current/#d.en.856758> must be submitted with all written work. and in hard copy.

We regret that we are unable to accept work that does not contain this information.

All written works should contain margins sufficient to allow for the lecturer’s comments. Where possible, students should type or word-process their assignments. We also recommend that students keep a copy of the work they submit, as it may need to be resubmitted at the end of the year for inspection by the external examiner.

Avoiding Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the presentation as one's own material taken from another source – typically a book, article, an online / internet source or another student's work. You may of course draw on other people's work – it is an essential part of intellectual activity – and students are often unsure how much they are entitled to do this. There are two key points to remember. First, your essay should be substantially your own work. If you find that it consists largely of material taken from other sources, you may be in danger of plagiarism; at the very least it suggests that your essay is highly derivative and lacking in originality. Second, when you draw on the work of another, you must acknowledge your source and indicate clearly how you have drawn from it and how much. If you are quoting directly, you must use quotation marks and address it within parentheses; if you are summarising (it may be relevant to your own argument to do so), you must make this clear and also clearly distinguish those sections which are your own and which come from another source. The consistent use of one specific reference system is essential throughout the project. The Department recommends the currently most widely used system, the Harvard system of referencing.

Guidelines for the use of this system are to be found at:

<http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm>

Plagiarised work will be given a mark of 0%.

Bibliography

You are required to provide a bibliography with every written academic assignment. A bibliography is a list of all the sources you have found useful in the preparation of the assignment. Full bibliographic details of each source cited in the body of the text must be given in the bibliography. The ordering of the items and the format of your bibliography are important. It is recommended that you follow the format used by the Harvard system.

Guidelines for the use of this system are to be found on our website:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/media/academic/sociologydepartment/ReferencingHarvardDeptofSociologyUCCfinalSeptember2017.pdf> , on Canvas and at: <http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm>

Deadline and Penalties

All course work must be submitted by the stated deadlines. The deadlines for each course are either set out in the course description or will be communicated in class. A signed departmental cover sheet which can be downloaded from our website at <https://www.ucc.ie/en/sociology/undergraduate/current/#d.en.856758> must be submitted with all written work. A standardised set of penalties will be applied to late work. These are:

1-3 days late:	a 5% deduction will be made from the assigned mark
4-7 days late:	a 10% deduction will be made from the assigned mark
8-14 days late:	a 20% deduction will be made from the assigned mark

Example: If a piece of work is given a mark of 60% by the lecturer and the work is 1-3 days late the mark recorded for examination purposes will be 57%. If the work is 4-7 days late the recorded mark will be 54% and if 8-14 days late it will be 48%.

We regret that we cannot accept work that it submitted 14 days or more after the submission deadline. In the interest of fairness, and as required by the terms of the Arts Faculty Staff-Student Handbook (1997:14), these rules will be rigorously enforced. Exceptions will be made only on production of a medical certificate relating to the period preceding the deadline.

Return of Work: In the Arts Faculty's Staff-Student Handbook (1997:15) "it is suggested that work normally be returned not later than two weeks after submission". The department is committed to complying with this,

but it may not always be possible in every case if the number of essays received by an individual lecturer is unusually large.

ASSESSMENT

SC1005 and SC1012 are examined by **continuous assessment** (for 5 credits) which will comprise one 1000-word written assignments (50 marks), plus one 1,500-word assignment (50 marks).

SC1006 and SC1013 are assessed by **continuous assessment** (for 10 credits) which will comprise 2 x 1500 word essays (60 marks each) plus 1x1200 word seminar based Learning Journal (60 mark) and participation (20 marks). Participation will be assessed by Learning Journal and in-class exercises.

SEMESTER 1

Assignment One (Mark 50%)- 1st Semester

Topics set: Oct 14th 2021 (Thursday)
Submission date: Nov 11th 2021 (Thursday)

For this assignment, you will be asked to write a 1000-word essay on your chosen topic. The essay question will be circulated on Canvas.

Assignment Two (Mark 50%)- 1st Semester

Topics set: Nov 15th 2021 (Monday)
Submission date: Dec 13th 2021 (Monday)

For this second assignment, you are required to write a 1,500-word essay on a chosen topic. The essay question will be circulated on Canvas.

SEMESTER 2

Assignment One (Mark 60%)- 2nd Semester

Topics set: Feb 3rd 2022 (Thursday)
Submission date: March 1st 2022 (Tuesday)

Assignment Two (Mark 60%)- 2nd Semester

Topics set: March 7th 2022 (Monday)
Submission date: April 14th 2022 (Thursday)

Learning Journal (Mark 60%)- 2nd Semester

Submission date: April 11th 2022 (Monday)

Participation (Mark 20%)

Each assignment will assess students on the basis of the following competencies and skills:

- The student's ability to formulate or identify a sociological research question.
- The student's ability to carry out a library search, to identify six sources (both books and journal articles) that are relevant to the research topics chosen.
- The student's ability to compile a bibliography (listing of all references).
- The student's ability to write an essay outlining how the sources you have chosen have informed your arguments in relation to the two topics chosen for discussion.
- The student's ability to apply the guidelines provided for in-text referencing of source ideas and arguments presented below (see 'Guidelines for Referencing').

Late Submissions:

All assignments should be submitted through Turnitin on the above dates. Late submissions will result in penalties (loss of marks). Please note that students who do not submit assignments run the risk of failing first-year sociology. In exceptional circumstances, an extension of up to 2 weeks may be given (e.g., presentation of a medical cert). No extension can be given beyond this two-week period. An extension will not be considered in circumstances where no evidence of illness or otherwise is provided.

COURSE MATERIALS

The Department of Sociology has a Resource Centre that provides many of the recommended readings for your courses. Students join by paying a deposit of €10.00 which is held to ensure the return of borrowed materials. The deposit is refundable and may be obtained at the end of the academic year or completion of degree course. Paula Meaney, the Resource Centre co-ordinator, will also be happy to give you advice and guidance.

We would also encourage students to familiarise themselves with the University library (Boole Library) early on in the academic year, learn how to use the catalogue, and discover where the sociology books and academic journals are shelved. You will find in the Boole Library a large number of introductory texts to the discipline of Sociology.

GUIDELINES FOR REFERENCING

The Department of Sociology uses the **Harvard Style of Referencing**. Guidelines for referencing can be found on the department's homepage and on Canvas.

LATE REGISTRATION

Those who transfer into sociology after the start of the term will need to contact Dr Amin Sharifi Isaloo to register for seminars and catch up on missed work. All assignments will need to be completed before the end of the first term.

GUIDANCE ON SELF-DIRECTED STUDY

Due to Covid-19 health and safety requirements all it is expected that all Sociology modules for 2021-22 will be delivered either partially or wholly online. This may in fact change throughout the course of the academic year as this is an evolving situation. Each module will therefore require some individual or self-directed study. Here is some tips on how you might spend your study time:

- *Required reading:* Be sure to complete any required reading for the week it is assigned. If you neglect to do the reading or leave it for subsequent weeks you may have difficulty catching up or understanding the remaining module material.
- *Further reading:* Make use of the further reading list that many module co-ordinators and lecturers provide. Using the reading list selectively will help you not only to deepen your understanding of key issues, but will also allow you to make connections across readings and themes. This will improve your ability to write critically and analytically.
- *Keep a learning journal.* It is a good idea to take notes on the readings and what is covered in the module. Keep your ideas and reflections on module material in one place by starting a learning journal. Following the lecture you should be looking over any relevant lecture notes and link these to the required reading. More importantly and in addition, you should be reading and taking notes from relevant texts cited in the reading list (or using material you have found yourself) so that you can extend your understanding of the subject.
- *Find your own sources:* No reading list can be exhaustive and there is always scope to use material gained from other sources. The most likely sources of relevant information, which you can locate for yourself, are to be found in the library, books and journals as well as newspapers, scholarly blog, podcasts and online magazines.
- *Essay preparation:* Greater depth of reading will better prepare you for essays. You should spend time not only reading texts and taking notes, but also planning the structure and development of your essay so that the final product is coherent, well-argued critical and analytical, and soundly organised. The notes you've taken on module material are an important resource to draw on too.

ACADEMIC MENTOR

You will be assigned your Tutor as your Academic Mentor. We advise that you try and meet your tutor early in the 1st semester and whenever you need to in their office hours.

Your Academic Mentor and individual module coordinators do need to know of any problems which are affecting your studies. However, UCC Student Well-being (<https://www.ucc.ie/en/students/wellbeing/>) is better placed than academic staff to offer support on physical and mental health, finances and queries

What follows in this booklet are outlines for the modules that are being offered in 1stYear. Please note that more detailed information about individual modules will be available on the Canvas system. All students are advised to sign on for this. They are also advised to open their UCC email accounts as this is the means the department will use to communicate important information to students.

COURSE CONTENT & OUTLINE

FIRST SEMESTER (beginning Monday, September 27th 2021)

1. Dr Kieran Keohane - SOCIOLOGY'S CLASSICS - AN INTRODUCTION

This section of the course will introduce you to some themes and texts from the canon of classical sociology. The 'canon' refers to a number of authors, books and ideas upon which an academic discipline (in this case Sociology) is based. Authors, books and ideas comprising the canon are some of our foundations: how we think about the world now –for better and for worse- is built upon them. They are classical in the sense that these authors and their ideas have stood the test of time. They have not become outdated, redundant or irrelevant. On the contrary, the questions they raise and address are perennial and seem to us as important and urgent now as they were when they were first articulated. They are classics also in the sense that they have been influential far beyond their original audience, and have affected the course of society, politics, literature, art, popular culture and psychology outside of the ivory tower of academic discourse, so much so that we could say the classical canons of sociology are not just books *about* modern society but ideas that have played a crucial role in actually constituting modern civilization. We will explore pieces of work by Marx, Weber, Durkheim, Simmel and Freud, locating these authors and their ideas in their own times and places, contexts and influences, and we will look at the ways in which they continue to exercise a powerful grip on our own lives and times.

Course material

Relevant Readings will be made available on Canvas and in the Resource Centre.

2. Dr Myles Balfe - INTRODUCTION TO MEDICAL SOCIOLOGY

Medical sociology is the branch of sociology that deals with medicine and health. It uses sociological ideas and concepts to look at things like:

- the social causes and patterns of disease.
- how social factors influence healthcare attendance.
- the social organization of medical care.

In this section of the course, we are going to look at an Introduction to Medical Sociology, and the Sociology of the Coronavirus.

Course outline:

1. Introduction to Medical Sociology and health inequalities.
2. The Medical Sociological Imagination.
3. The Sociology of Infectious Disease and Pandemics.
4. Medically significant synanthropic species in Ireland: the case of the Noble False Widow- Quality and continuity of healthcare

Course material

All of the readings that you need for each class will be made available on Canvas.

3- Dr Amin Sharifi Isaloo - INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION AND FUNDAMENTALISM

The local and global significance of Fundamentalism, particularly religious fundamentalism, seems to be growing exponentially in recent times. The term fundamentalism is often wrongly and derogatively used in the media in the last few decades to refer to a broad range of conservative, orthodox and militant religious groups or individuals such as a Bible Baptist TV preacher, a Mormon housewife, and a Jihadi of the Islamic State (ISIS). Indeed, the word has become so overused as to be nearly meaningless.

This section of the course will employ sociological and anthropological theories and concepts to examine the fundamentalist movements and to explore the historical developments, contemporary expressions, and potential forecast of fundamentalist movements across religious, socio-political and geographical boundaries. It will familiarise students with the term fundamentalism and will help to understand and compare fundamentalist movements in the world religious traditions. By examining and exploring this global phenomenon (fundamentalism), students will gain a better understanding of contemporary cultural, social and political paradoxes and they will be able to find answer to questions such as: How do religious fundamentalists describe themselves? How do others describe them? What are the grievances, ambitions and goals of fundamentalists? What are modern characteristics of fundamentalist movements?

In brief, it provides in-depth discussion of a variety of aspects of fundamentalism and examines its relationship with topics such as modernity, secularisation and desecularisation from an academic perspective. Case studies will include an examination of the multiple relationships between fundamentalism and symbols, the correlations between fundamentalism and modernity, and the connections between fundamentalism and political violence.

The classes will follow in the sequence laid out below.

- 1- Introduction and historical background
- 2- From proto-fundamentalist to modern fundamentalist
- 3- Religious resurgence
- 4- Christian fundamentalism
- 5- Jewish fundamentalism
- 6- Islamic fundamentalism
- 7- Tension- modern characteristics of fundamentalist movements
- 8- Case study: fundamentalism and symbols

Recommended readings:

- Eisenstadt, S. N. (1999) *Fundamentalism, Sectarianism, and Revolution: The Jacobin Dimension of Modernity*, Cambridge Cultural Social Studies Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Marsden, G, M. (2006) *Fundamentalism and American culture*, 2nd edition, New York: Oxford University Press.
- Masud, M. K., Salvatore, A., and Bruinessen, M. V (2009) *Islam and Modernity: Key Issues and Debates*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- Rahman, F. (2000) *Revival and Reform in Islam: A Study of Islamic Fundamentalism*, Oxford: Oneworld Publications.
- Riesebrodt, M. (2000) Fundamentalism and the Resurgence of Religion, *Numen*, Vol. 47, No. 3, pp. 266-287.
- Isaloo, A. S. (2017) *Power, Legitimacy and the Public Sphere: The Iranian Ta'ziyeh Theatre Ritual* (2017), London; New York: Routledge.

Note: Relevant and specific readings will be made available in the Resource Centre and on Canvas

SECOND SEMESTER (beginning Monday, January 17th, 2022)

1. Dr John O'Brien – AN INTRODUCTION TO DEVIANCE, CRIME, PUNISHMENT AND SOCIAL CONTROL

Peter Berger (1963: 34) "The first wisdom of sociology is this: things are not what they seem"

The module will address questions of how society defines what is normal and abnormal, right and wrong, good and evil, lawful and illegal, and what should be done about these matters. 'Deviance' addresses normality and acceptability. Every society has such concepts, with these underpinning norms, values and laws establishing proper behaviour. But there is by no means consensus around what these are, and they are a focus of social conflict. To call a person 'deviant' seems unacceptably judgemental and authoritarian, though people also widely hold the idea that certain people are pathological. We will examine if deviance is simply in the eye of the beholder, if there are concrete characteristics that render some people harmful, or if the application of a definition of deviance is largely a reflection of who has the power to label and define others. Crime is an offence punishable by law. But there are also many acts that are not punishable by law that are nonetheless considered to be wrong, evil, shameful and an unacceptable act of harm, which people call criminal. We will inquire as to why certain behaviours are labelled criminal and how society responds to them. For both deviance and criminality the question of 'wrong' from whose perspective, and who has the power to define this is central. Punishment is the imposition of a penalty for a behaviour which is justified by the outcome it is claimed to produce. Social control, finally, addresses the need for order. Even anarchy involves informal social controls to secure a common life. At the other end of the spectrum, control can be authoritarian, depriving people of liberty in the interests of a narrow group, enforced by their agents.

The module will be broken down into a 8 lectures, with 2 per week over 4 weeks.

Week 1. This week we will examine theories of deviance and crime, which attempt to explain why people and behaviours come to be labelled deviant or criminal. It will give a summary of crime in Irish society and the main trends.

Lecture 1: Theories of Crime and Deviance

Lecture 2: Crime Trends

Tutorial

Week 2. In this week we will explore the link between crime and inequality. Certain deprived neighbourhoods have a high concentration of crime and deviance associated with them. We will attempt to explain why. Linked with this is how crime is linked with social position, with the majority of people who come into contact with the

criminal justice system being deprived in some way. We look at the causes for this, and the drug economy as an associated issue.

Lecture 3: Crime, poverty, neighbourhood

Lecture 4: Crime, inequality and social structure

Tutorial

Week 3. In this week we will look at violence and aggression, including sexual violence and aggression. While such offences can seem evil and inexplicable, we will explore what their underlying causes are. We will look at how gender, blocked social mobility, weak social controls, environments where people lack access to justice, weak policing, and emotional dynamics like alienation and shame, emotional intimacy deficits and privilege can help explain the occurrence of these harmful acts.

Lecture 5: Violence and aggression

Lecture 6: Sexual violence and aggression

Tutorial

Week 4. In our final week we will examine how punishment of rule breaking and law breaking operates. We will examine the debates around how to punish justly and effectively. Moving on from the theory, we will look at the practice of punishment in Irish society, looking in particular at prison, which is the most severe form of punishment that the state can inflict on citizens in Irish society.

Lecture 7: Punishments and their justifications

Lecture 8: The criminal justice system

2. Dr Ger Mullally - POWER GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

This section of the course examines the changing dynamics of power in contemporary society. Power is pervasive throughout many types of social relationships, but it is an abstract idea that is explained in various ways by different sociologists. The classic explanation of power can be linked to ideas of authority and legitimacy and is based on the work of Max Weber. The central focus here is the power of the nation-state, directed by government and supported by a modern rational bureaucracy. Under contemporary social conditions, however, forces like globalization alter the role of the nation-state and the distribution of power in society.

The course examines alternative sociological theories of power and authority with a specific emphasis on the relationship between the state and civil society. It considers the emergent mechanisms that are changing the governance of Irish society. The course highlights both the structural and relational nature of power in society and examines the role of social movements in changing contemporary society.

Recommended Reading

- Macionis, John J and Plummer, Ken (2008), Chapter 16: 'Power, Governance and Social Movements', Sociology (4th Edition), Essex: Pearson Education Limited, pp. 502-539.
- Daly, Siobhan (2007), 'Mapping Civil Society in Ireland' in the Republic of Ireland', Community Development Journal, 1-20.

- Hughes, Ian., Clancy, Paula., Harris, Clodagh and Beetham, David (2007), Chapter 11: Is there full citizen participation in public life? Power to the People? Assessing Democracy in Ireland, Dublin: TASC at New Island, pp. 439-470.
- Tovey, Hilary and Share, Perry (2000), Chapter 4: 'The Modernising State', A Sociology of Ireland', Dublin: Gill and Macmillan, pp. 73-92.

Supplementary Reading will be recommended in class.

3. Dr Tom Boland- UNDERSTANDING MODERNITY THROUGH DYSTOPIAN FICTION

Module Content

The Sociological imagination intersects with the Dystopian imagination as our culture enables us to think about society and politics in critical ways. This module focuses on ideas about Culture in Sociology, drawing from the theories of Adorno, Boltanski and Felski, but also exploring how dystopian and related forms of literature and film transmit sociological ideas. Herein, literature is taken as part of the sociological conversation; neither dismissed as mere escapism nor idealised as works of genius; instead, novels and films illuminate contemporary concerns and perspectives. The key question is, what does the current popularity of these sorts of story tell us about society? For instance, is it significant that the contemporary popularity of dystopia almost eclipses the older form of utopian literature?

Centrally the course will examine classic twentieth century dystopias and more contemporary novels and films, particularly those which focus on young adults, technology and social engineering. In addition, we will examine disaster-dystopia in film and literature, from ecological collapse to zombie-films. All of these films will be related back to previous material covered on Mills 'Sociological Imagination', to classical sociological ideas about culture. Themes of state power, consumerism, surveillance, propaganda and social control will be explored in lectures, and students will be encouraged to make their own interpretations of dystopian literature which interests them.

Recommended readings

- Adorno, T. & Horkheimer, M. (1944) 'The Culture Industry' & 'The Dialectic of Enlightenment' – *The Dialectic of Enlightenment* (Multiple copies in library, pdf on Canvas.)
- Boltanski, L. (2019) Reality and its twin: The thematic of conspiracy in political metaphysics. Universität Siegen: SFB 1187 Medien der Kooperation.
- Claisse, F., & Delvenne, P. (2015). Building on anticipation: Dystopia as empowerment. *Current Sociology*, 63(2), 155–169.
- Crook, S. "Utopia and dystopia." Pp 205-220 in Browning, G. Halcli and Webster Frank (eds) *Understanding contemporary society: theories of the present*, London: Sage.

- Felski, R. (2011) Suspicious Minds. *Poetics Today* 32 (2): 215–234.
- Mill, C. W. (1959) *The Sociological Imagination*. Oxford, Oxford University Press.
- Seeger, S. and Davison-Vecchione, D. (2019) ‘Dystopian literature and the sociological imagination’
Thesis Eleven 155(1), pp. 45–63.

LECTURES SCHEDULE (All ONLINE)
(2021 – 2022)

BA1: 1st half of course (beginning September 27th, 2021):

Dr Kieran Keohane	(Monday, September 27 th)
Dr Myles Balfe	(Monday, October 25 th)
Dr Amin Sharifi Isaloo	(Monday, November 15 th)

B.SocSci. / BSW1 1st half of course (beginning September 27th, 2021):

Dr Amin Sharifi Isaloo	(Monday, September 27 th)
Dr Kieran Keohane	(Monday, October 25 th)
Dr Myles Balfe	(Monday, November 15 th)

BA 1: 2nd half of course (beginning January 17th, 2022):

Dr Ger Mullally	(Monday, January 17 th)
Dr Tom Boland	(Monday, February 14 th)
Dr John O'Brien	(Monday, March 14 th)

B.SocSci./BSW1 2nd half of course (beginning January 17th, 2022):

Dr Tom Boland (Monday January 17 th)
Dr Ger Mullally (Monday February 14 th)
Dr John O'Brien (Monday, March 14 th)

First lectures for First Arts and First Social Science begin with an online Introductory Lecture on September 27th (see below).

ONLINE INTRODUCTORY LECTURES 2021– 2022

**First Arts (SC1005) - Monday, September 27th, 2021
at 12.00 pm to 1.00 pm.**

**First Social Science / BSW (SC1012) - Monday, September 27th, 2021
at 12.00 pm to 1.00 pm**

First Year Seminars Timetable

Semester 1 (SC1005) Timetable

Module	Day	From	To	Venue
SC1005/S	Monday	12:00	13:00	C_GG_LT
SC1005/S	Monday	12:00	13:00	C_Boole 1
SC1005/SA	Tuesday	15:00	16:00	C_GG_LT
SC1005/S	Thursday	10:00	11:00	C_KANE_G01
SC1005/S	Thursday	11:00	12:00	C_KANE_G01
SC1005/S	Thursday	14:00	15:00	C_Boole 4
SC1005/S	Thursday	17:00	18:00	C_GG_LT
SC1005/S	Thursday	18:00	19:00	C_GG_LT
SC1005/S	Thursday	16:00	17:00	C_Boole 2
SC1005/S	Friday	12:00	13:00	Kane_G02
Online Seminars: Wednesday 2-3pm & Friday 4-5pm				

Semester 1 (SC1012) Timetable

SC1012/S	Monday	12:00	13:00	WGB 405
SC1012/S	Monday	13:00	14:00	WGB 405
SC1012/S	Monday	15:00	16:00	Civil 110
SC1012/S	Monday	16:00	17:00	Civil 110
SC1012/S	Friday	13:00	14:00	Kane G02
Online Seminars: Tuesday 11-12 & Thursday 4-5pm				

Semester 2 Seminars Timetable and the Tutors Schedule – First Year

SC1006 Seminars Timetable

Face-to-face seminars

SC1006/S	Monday	09:00	10:00	C_BOOLE_6
SC1006/S	Monday	11:00	12:00	C_CONN_S2
SC1006/S	Monday	13:00	14:00	C_ELECT_L2*
SC1006/S	Tuesday	09:00	10:00	C_CONN_J5
SC1006/S	Tuesday	14:00	15:00	C_CONN_S5
Sc1006/SA	Tuesday	15:00	16:00	C_CONN_S5
SC1006/S	Wednesday	14:00	15:00	C_WGB_G09
SC1006/S	Thursday	13:00	14:00	C_FSB_322
SC1006/S	Thursday	15:00	16:00	C_FSB_322
SC1006/S	Friday	11:00	12:00	C_ORB_101

Online Seminars: Wednesday 2-3pm & Friday 4-5pm

SC1013 Seminars Timetable

Face-to-face seminars

SC1013/S	Tuesday	10:00	11:00	C_CEC_G20
SC1013/S	Wednesday	11:00	12:00	C_CONN_S2
SC1013/S	Wednesday	16:00	17:00	C_CONN_S2
SC1013/S	Thursday	12:00	13:00	C_CONN_C
SC1013/S	Friday	10:00	11:00	C_ORB_212

Online Seminars: Tuesday 11-12 & Thursday 4-5pm

We look forward to meeting you all.