



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER SEMESTER 2014

SO 3630 (A3) – Sociology of Work and Industry – 3 (3-0-0) UT 45 Hrs.

INSTRUCTOR: René R. Gadacz, Ph.D **PHONE:** 780.539.2831
OFFICE: C-306 **E-MAIL:** rgadacz@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Daily; by appointment; drop-ins welcome

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE(S): SO 1000 or equivalent

REQUIRED TEXT(S)/RESOURCE MATERIALS: T. Adams, S. Welsh, 2008, The Organization and Experience of Work. Thompson/Nelson: Toronto.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: Sociological analysis of the changing nature, content, and meaning of work; the diversity of industrial contexts and organizational forms, the underlying economic forces (including global) that shape work and work contexts; and the consequences for individuals and society from Canadian and comparative perspectives.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 (3-0-0) UT 45 hours

DELIVERY MODE(S): lectures, class discussion, group work, class presentations, written tests, written and oral projects

OUTCOMES: Students will learn about the influence work and labour has on our personal lives and society in regards to standard of living, personal identity, health, happiness, relationships, and the way we spend our time. Students will become familiar with topics like organizational design, employee-employer relations, industrial psychology, labour market economics. Students will learn about the many

different kinds of work/occupations as well as the meaning and future of work and employment in a global and post-modern economy.

SIDE EFFECTS: Dizziness, rash, itching, trouble breathing. Changes in vision and fainting may occur, including unusual fatigue. Seek medical attention if other side effects occur. Limit alcohol intake.

TRANSFERABILITY: **Grade** of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Transfers to: UA, AU, UL, AF, KUC.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Please refer to the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at – www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/

GRADING CRITERIA:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE

GRADING CONVERSION CHART

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A⁺	4.0	95 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 94	
A⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B⁺	3.3	76 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 75	GOOD
B⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS:

Mid-Term Exam (20%)..... February 27

Final Exam (30%)..... TBD

Daily Current Events Analysis (5%)..... *starts* February 14

Daily Chapter Section Discussion (10%)..... *starts* February 16

Project Proposal and Annotated Bibliography (10%)..... January 30

Project Presentation and Class Hand-Out (25%)..... *starts* March 18 +/-

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

EXAMS will consist of glossary terms/concepts to define, and/or short essay questions based on all lecture and text materials.

The **DAILY CURRENT EVENTS ANALYSIS** involves selecting a current Canadian media story on any aspect of work, labour markets, jobs and employment, etc., and presenting a short analysis (to generate class discussion) tied into information in our textbook. The **DAILY CHAPTER SECTION DISCUSSION** involves presenting and commenting (to generate class discussion) on the contents of a section of a chapter we are currently on, e.g. Chapter 3, page 37-38, “Scientific Management and Fordism.”

The **PROPOSAL** and **ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY** is a clear statement (2-3 pages) of field research on a work setting with which you may have experience (e.g. business office, oil patch, retail, warehouse, industrial, IT firm, volunteer, etc.), and your choice of issue/topic you wish to examine in the context of that particular workplace. **Notice that Chapters 11 to 17 of the Adams and Welsh text are on different “kinds” of work; a particular chapter will therefore serve as the foundation/basis for your project (e.g. service work [chapter 13], non-standard work [chapter 15], etc., though I’m hoping no one will use criminal work [chapter 17] as the basis for their project ☺**. The bibliography will consist of a minimum of 8 books and/or peer-reviewed journal articles that you intend to use to research your chosen topic.

The **PRESENTATION** and **CLASS HANDOUT** involves a 40-50 minute formal class presentation based on your chosen issue/topic. You will also prepare a 1-2 page fact sheet summarizing your presented topic, to be distributed to your classmates. The

sheet should include relevant facts, findings, statistics (if applicable), including several 'recommended' readings.

ATTENDANCE AND EXAM POLICIES:

Attendance at lectures is strongly encouraged, as is your participation in class discussions. In addition –

1. More than **3** absences (without medical or other *legitimate* documentation, etc.) could result in being barred from writing the final exam
2. All exams, averaged (where applicable), must have a passing mark to obtain a passing grade in the course; otherwise, the final mark shall be 'F'

PLEASE NOTE:

🚫 Missed exams cannot be accommodated *unless* the situation is an unexpected personal or family emergency for which both can be documented.

🗨️ What the semester course work entails will be discussed in detail as classes get underway and as the course progresses.

♥️ For the semester course work students will work individually.

Late course work (or any assignment/course component) will result in a deduction of 5% PER DAY, up to and including the day of a late submission. Assignments will not be accepted after 2 days unless immediate or prior arrangements based on exceptional circumstances have been made. Documented personal or family emergencies will, of course, be accommodated.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE – Week of (Winter 2014):

January 7, 9 – Outlines; course requirements, organizational meeting; Adams and Welsh (A & W), Chapter 1 – introduction to the sociology of work...

January 14, 16 – Chapter 1 cont'd; Chapter 2 - Organizations

January 21, 23 – Chapter 2 cont'd; Chapter 3 - Skill

January 28, **30** – Chapter 3 cont'd; Chapter 4 – Work, Alienation, Well-Being
PROJECT PROPOSALS DUE ON 30TH

February 4, 6 – Chapter 4 cont'd; Chapter 5 - Unions

February 11, 13 – Chapter 5 cont'd; Chapter 6 – Occupational segregation

February **18, 20** – **WINTER BREAK, no classes [February 17-21 inclusive]**

February 25, **27** – Chapter 6 cont'd; Chapter 7 – Discrimination and Harassment
MID-TERM EXAM ON 27TH

March 4, 6 – Chapter 7 cont'd; Chapter 8 – Younger and Older Workers

March 11, 13 – Chapter 8 cont'd; Chapter 9 – Work-Family Conflict

March **18, 20** – Chapter 9 cont'd; Chapter 10 – Labour Market/Employment Trends
PROJECT PRESENTATIONS START ON 18TH

March 25, 27 – Chapter 10 cont'd; Chapter 18 – Getting a Job; Project Presentations
continue...

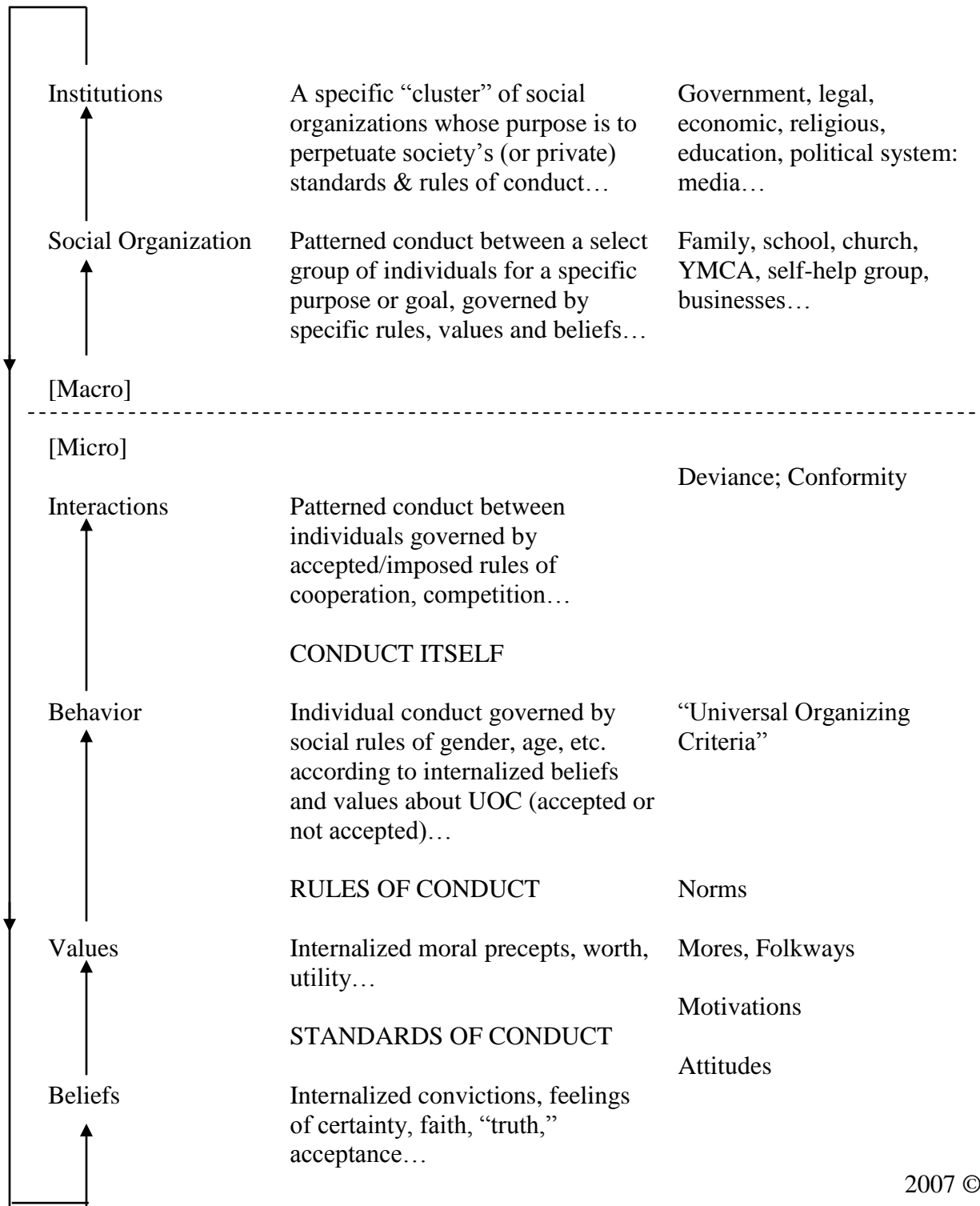
April 1, 3 – Chapter 18 cont'd; Project Presentations continue...

April 8, 10 – Project Presentations cont'd;

[Classes end Monday, April 14, 2014]

GENERAL SCHEME OF SOCIETY

“The Social System”



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Six Ways To Make This Course More Valuable:

- 1. Participate, to engage your learning**
- 2. Question, to enhance your learning**
- 3. Read, to expand your learning**
- 4. Reflect, to measure your learning**
- 5. Apply, to transfer your learning**
- 6. Innovate, to adapt your learning**