

CARLETON UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY
SOCI2000A
FALL 2023
FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIOLOGICAL INQUIRY

Instructor: Jamilah Dei-Sharpe (Ms. Dei-Sharpe)

Virtual Office Hours: Thursday 11 AM-12 PM

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Course meets: Friday 2:35-4:35 PM

Lab: Friday 4:35-5:35 PM

Course Description:

Sociological research is essential for understanding how we navigate the world and the people around us. This course introduces you to the research process used in social science, focusing on how sociologists turn social issues, interests, theories, and debates into social research. The first two classes begin with an overview of the nature of inquiry in the social sciences. The remainder of the course focuses on introducing you to the significant steps, concepts, and decisions involved in social science research, from developing a research question to research design to data collection, analysis, and reporting. You will learn about the significant decisions researchers typically face at each stage in the research process and how their choices can affect the research outcome. The types of critical decisions the course will look at include the development of viable research questions from theory, developing testable hypotheses from a research question, the choice of whether to use quantitative and qualitative methods to investigate the research question, choosing your study population; dealing with ethical issues; and the many research techniques available, including survey research, field research, experimental research, and unobtrusive methods.

Course objectives

This course will teach you the theoretical, methodological, and practical foundations of sociological research. By the end of the period, you will be able to:

1. Understand the sociological explanation for how we know what we know
2. Identify the fundamental social theories that foreground qualitative and quantitative research
3. Identify the research procedures for designing and executing qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods research.
4. Understand basic principles of measurement, reliability, and validity.
5. Understand how to identify and mitigate ethical concerns and biases within the research process.
6. Be able to navigate scholarly databases and retrieve relevant literature for a study
7. Be able to write an academic literature review.

8. Be able to select a research topic, statement of purpose and design to execute research projects.

Diversity and Inclusion in Learning:

In this course, you are expected to learn from your texts, your teacher and one another. This requires striving towards understanding each other, but it does not imply striving towards finding agreement. Our class will be racially, religiously, politically, culturally, generationally, and economically diverse. We will be of different gender identifications and sexual orientations, and our lived experiences and reactions to the course material will reflect this diversity. Sharing our perspectives and interpretations on the course material will enhance everyone's learning experience, and you are encouraged to openly express any disagreements with the authors you will read, with your classmates, or with the Professor in the different participation forums available for this course. However, you are expected to conduct yourself in such a way that shows the utmost respect to others who may – or may not – share your views. Derogatory comments and hateful behaviour towards others (and their views) will not be tolerated.

Carleton University acknowledges the location of its campus on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin nation. In doing so, Carleton acknowledges it has a responsibility to the Algonquin people and a responsibility to adhere to Algonquin cultural protocols.

Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation:

Following the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar Regulations, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50	WDN = Withdrawn from the course	DEF = Deferred	

Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Plagiarism, Etc.

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and almost anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website here:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/>

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please get in touch with PMC at **613-520-6608** or **pmc@carleton.ca** for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*).

*The deadline for contacting the Paul Menton Centre regarding accommodation for December complete fall and late fall examinations and fall/winter midterm examinations is November 15, 2023.

For Religious Obligations:

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class or as soon as possible after the need for housing is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

For Pregnancy:

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class or as soon as possible after the need for housing is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

For Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and support, visit www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and the university, resulting from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform nationally or internationally. Be sure to contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else's work as your own and is a serious academic offence. For the details of what constitutes plagiarism, the potential penalties, and the procedures, refer to the section on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar. Students must familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties.

What are the Penalties for Plagiarism?

A student found to have plagiarized an assignment may be subject to one of several penalties, including but not limited to a grade of zero, a failure or a reduced grade for the piece of academic work; reduction of the final grade in the course; completion of a remediation process; resubmission of academic work; withdrawal from course(s); suspension from a program of study; a letter of reprimand.

What are the Procedures?

All plagiarism allegations are reported to the Dean of FASS and Management faculty. Instructors and departmental chairs prepare documentation. The Dean writes about the alleged plagiarism to the student and the University Ombudsperson. The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level, it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.

Assistance for Students:

Academic and Career Development Services: <https://carleton.ca/career/>

Writing Services: <http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/group-support/pass/>

Important Information:

- Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
 - Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
 - The course instructor determines standing in a course, subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until the Dean has approved them.
 - Carleton University is committed to protecting the privacy of those who study or work here (currently and formerly). To that end, Carleton's Privacy Office seeks to encourage the implementation of the privacy provisions of Ontario's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) within the university.
 - Following FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account. To get your Carleton Email, you must activate your [MyCarletonOne account](#) through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the [MyCarleton Portal](#).
 - Please note that you can link your MyCarletonOne account to other non-MyCarletonOne accounts and receive emails from us. However, to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid MyCarletonOne address. Therefore, it would be easier to respond to your inquiries if you sent all emails from your Connect account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <https://students.carleton.ca/>.
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Course Requirements & Evaluation

Assessment	Deadline	Weight
Attendance/Participation	On-going	20%
Annotated Bibliography	October 6	15%
Midterm Test	October 20	20%
Literature Review	November 17	25%
Final Test	TBD	20%

Late Policy and extensions

The student-professor relationship is about mutual trust, grace, and compassion. I understand that unexpected circumstances and stressors may impact the quality of your work and your capacity to submit on time. For this reason, everyone has 48 hours (2 days) grace past assignment deadlines if unexpected circumstances require that you take extra time. You do not need to inform me or the teaching assistant(s) unless you require longer than 48 hours. Additional time beyond two days will be considered a formal extension that requires advance notice and formal acceptance to avoid accruing late penalties. Assignments submitted beyond the 48-hour grace period will receive a 5% decrease for up to 5 days maximum. A zero will be issued if the assignment is received beyond five days without formal permission. A teaching assistant cannot grant formal permission. To request an extension, please send a standard email to JamilahDeiSharpe@cunet.carleton.ca.

Attendance/ Participation – 20%

Your engagement within labs, online discussion forums, and attendance measures participation for this course. You are also encouraged to engage in class discussions, and the system is designed to be interactive and peer-to-peer oriented.

Attendance (in-class & labs) – 10%

Participation (online discussion forums & labs) – 10%

Midterm Test – 20% - October 20

The midterm test will assess students on the content from weeks 1-5. The midterm will be in class.

Final Test – 20% -

The final exam will assess students on the content from weeks 8-12. The exam will be scheduled by the university between December 10 and 22.

Annotated Bibliography & Literature Review Assignment

You must submit an annotated bibliography and literature review assignment for this course. After the library session on citations, research, and databases, you are encouraged to begin developing the annotated bibliography assignment. You will use the work from the annotated bibliography to design your literature review.

Step 1: Annotated Bibliography – 15% due October 6

- Select ten scholarly articles and write an annotated bibliography of these ten articles. [See the Annotated Bibliography on Brightspace.](#)

Step 2: Literature Review – 25% due November 17

The literature review has several components students are encouraged to work on independently throughout the semester. You will use the same sources from your annotated bibliography within your literature review. You can add more literary sources than the annotated bibliography 10-15 max. You will receive training on literature review writing during our library session. Review Creswell Chapter 2 for more details and see [Literature Review on Moodle.](#)

- Introduction, presentation of scholarly debate, conclusion
- research topic
- problem statement
- research question
- state prospective research method and design to explore/answer the research question
- academic discussion on your research topic and how your research is contributing to this debate
- themed based on the similar and dissimilar arguments within the literature and concludes with the gap that your research will fill

Style Guide

All assignments must follow the following style guide:

- **Part I - Annotated bibliography:** no page limit, ten properly formatted abstracts (for ten sources)
- **Part II - Literature Review Final:** 6-8 pages, 10-15 scholarly sources
- APA citation/formatting <https://library.carleton.ca/guides/help/apa>
- 1.5 spacing
- Times new roman/ arial
- 12 pt font

Teaching assistant(s)

- Graders – assignments, midterm, final exam
- Invigilating tests/exams
- Facilitating labs: recap lectures with examples and case studies, support the development of annotated bibliography and literature review assignments, especially navigating computerized databases.
- Conduct midterm and final test review sessions.

Weekly Schedule

Foundations of Sociological Inquiry

*Subject to change throughout the course

Week	Date	Theme	Required Readings
Part I: Foundations of Sociological Inquiry			
1	September 8	Science and the Social World	Creswell Ch 1 p.22-28 Little p.68-69
2	September 15	Research Steps & Literature Review Librarian visit	CH 2 & 3 Ch 1 p.29-36
3	September 22	Research Ethics	Creswell CH 4 Ethics PDF CH4
Part II: Quantitative Research			
4	September 29	Design & Sampling International Student Services Office Visit	Cardwell Ch 1 Creswell CH 7 on Quantitative CH 6 on Quantitative Purpose Statement
5	October 6	Surveys and Experiments	Annotated Bibliography Due Creswell Ch 8 Little p 69-75
6	October 13	Analysis and Reporting	Creswell Ch 5, 8
7	October 20	Midterm Test	
8	October 23 rd – 27 th	No Class: Reading Week	

Part III: Qualitative Research			
9	November 3	Design & Theory	Creswell CH 7 on Qualitative Creswell CH 6 on Qualitative Purpose Statement
10	November 10	Interviews & Field Work	Creswell CH 9 Little p.76-84
11	November 17	Afrocentric & Indigenous Research	Literature Review Due Ryder et al. (2020) Reviere (2001)
12	November 24	Analysis & Reporting	Creswell CH 5, 9
13	December 1	Mixed Methods & Research Careers Last Day of Class	Creswell CH 10
	TBD	Final Exam	

All Reading (s)/Textbook (s):

Subject to revisions*

All readings and textbooks will be accessible on Brightspace.

Caldwell, S. (2010). *Statistics unplugged*. Belmont, USA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.

Creswell, J. (2009). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Du Bois, W. E. B. (2000). The study of the [Black] problem. *The American Academy of Political and Social Science Annals* 13, 1-16.

Ethics PDF "Chapter 4: The Ethics of Social Research" Qualitative Practice

Little, W. (2016). *Introduction to Sociology 2nd Canadian Edition*. Victoria, BC: Rice University Press.

Kienzle, Harry J. (1970). Epistemology and Sociology. *The British Journal of Sociology* 21(4), 1-13.

Reviere, R. (2001). Toward an Afrocentric research methodology. *Journal of Black Studies* 31(6),1-20.

Ryder, C., T. Mackean., J. Coombs., H. Williams., K. Hunter., A. Holan., R. Ivers. (2020). "Indigenous research methodology weaving a research interface." *International Journal of Social Research Methodology* 23(3), 1-14.

Important Dates and Deadlines: Fall 2023

- August 29, 2023: Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in full fall, early fall, and fall/winter courses.
- September 1, 2023: Last day to receive applications from potential fall (November) graduates.
- September 4, 2023: Statutory holiday. University closed.
- September 5, 2023: Academic orientation (undergraduate and graduate students).

Orientation for new Teaching Assistants.

All new students are expected to be on campus. Class and laboratory preparations, departmental introductions for students, and other academic preparation activities will be held.
- September 6, 2023: Fall term begins. Full fall, early fall, and fall/winter classes begin.
- September 12, 2023: Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in early fall courses.
- September 19, 2023: Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in full fall, late fall, and fall/winter courses.

Last day to withdraw from early fall courses with a full fee adjustment.

Graduate students who have not electronically submitted their final thesis copy to the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs will not be eligible to graduate in fall 2023 and must register for the fall 2023 term.
- September 22-24, 2023: Full summer and late summer term deferred final examinations will be held.
- September 30, 2023: Last day to withdraw from full fall and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
- October 1, 2023: Last day for academic withdrawal from early fall courses.

Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for Oct/Nov final examinations from the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.
- October 6, 2023: December examination schedule (fall term final and fall/winter mid-terms) available online.

- October 9, 2023: Statutory holiday. University closed.
- October 13, 2023: Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in early fall term undergraduate courses, before the official Oct/Nov final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
- October 15, 2023: Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the winter term from applicants whose documents originate from outside Canada or the United States.
- October 20, 2023: Last day of early fall classes.
- Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned in early fall courses, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.
- Last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for early fall courses.
- October 23, 2023: Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in late fall courses.
- October 23-27, 2023: Fall break, no classes.
- October 28-29,
November 4-5, 2023: Final examinations in early fall undergraduate courses will be held.
- October 30, 2023: Late fall classes begin.
- November 10, 2023: Last day to withdraw from late fall term courses with a full fee adjustment.
- November 15, 2023: Last day for academic withdrawal from full fall and late fall courses.
- Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for December full fall and late fall examinations and fall/winter midterm examinations from the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.
- Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the winter term.
- November 17-19, 2023: Early fall undergraduate deferred final examinations will be held.

- November 24, 2023: Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in full fall term or fall/winter undergraduate courses, before the official December final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
- December 1, 2023: Last day for receipt of applications from potential winter (February) graduates.
- Last day for graduate students to submit their supervisor-approved thesis, in examinable form to the department.
- Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in late fall term undergraduate courses, before the official final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
- December 8, 2023: Fall term ends.
- Last day of full fall and late fall classes.
- Classes follow a Monday schedule.
- Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.
- Last day that can be specified by an instructor as a due date for term work for full and late fall courses.
- Last day for receipt of applications for undergraduate degree program transfers for winter term.
- December 9, 2023: No classes or examinations take place.
- December 10-22, 2023: Final examinations in full fall and late fall courses and mid-term examinations in fall/winter courses will be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
- December 22, 2023: All final take-home examinations are due on this day, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.
- December 25,

2023 through
January 3, 2024
inclusive:

University closed.