

CARLETON UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

SOCI 4700 B
WINTER 2026
HONOURS CAPSTONE SEMINAR

Instructor: Dr. Rania Tfaily

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1 – 2 pm or by appointment

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Brightspace course page link: <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/367663>

Method of Delivery: In-person on Wednesdays 2:35pm-5:25pm

In this course, you are expected to learn from your texts, your teacher and from 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 fellow classmates, or with the Professor in the Brightspace discussion forum that is 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.

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 Description and Objectives:

This course aims to highlight the skills and abilities that students learned in the sociology BA Honours program, support students as they work on a research project, and provide guidance for students as they seek to apply for jobs and/or graduate school. The three main objectives of the course are: 1) students will reflect on the sociological and analytical skills that they developed over the past few years; 2) students will carry out a small-scale research project that is of interest to them to further hone their skills; 3) students will prepare to transition to the job market and/or graduate school.

Learning Outcomes:

After completing this course, you are expected to be able to:

- Develop and effectively communicate analytical arguments and supporting evidence, both orally and in writing
- Carry-out a small-scale research project and write an analytical paper

- Identify and explain sociological skills and abilities developed during their undergraduate education
- Identify and explain transferable skills and abilities developed during their undergraduate education
- Prepare a professional resume, cover letter, and other work-related materials
- Identify and utilize resources useful in the transition to the labor market

Course Readings:

Readings are available through the Carleton library website. Each student will also generate their own reading list for the research project.

Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation:

It is important that you attend every class, thoroughly read the course materials, and complete various assignments on time. The course is organized around a series of low-stakes assignments and a scaffolded research paper, complemented by readings about the social sciences job market and the changes brought about by AI. If you have questions about the course content or the requirements, I encourage you to ask them in class or meet with me during my office hours.

The due dates and grade distributions for this course are as follows:

Requirement	Due Date	Percentage
Class Participation & Peer Feedback	Ongoing	10
Group Presentation – Canadian Sociologists	January 21	5
Research Questions and Reading List	January 28	5
Reflection 1 – Revising Previously Submitted Course Paper	February 4	5
Career Services Exercise 1	February 11	10
Annotated Bibliography	February 25	10
Group Presentation – Theoretical Perspectives	February 25	5
Reflection 2 – Program Learning Outcomes	March 4	5
Detailed Outline	March 11	5
Career Services Exercise 2	March 18	5
Presentation – Research Paper	March 25/ April 1	5
Reflection 3 – Colloquium Talk	Up to April 8	5
Final Paper	April 23	25

Course Policies:

Submission procedures: Instructions regarding the various assignments, presentations and paper will be posted on Brightspace. All assignments in this course must be typed and submitted via Brightspace. Grading Rubrics will be used to evaluate class participation, assignments, presentations and final paper.

Extensions: Requests for extensions or academic consideration must be discussed with me before the due date.

Late penalty: Late submissions will incur a penalty of 2.5% per day, unless the student has provided a valid explanation prior to the due date or has been granted an extension.

Collaboration and group work: All work in this course must be completed individually, with the exception of group presentations. Students are encouraged to provide constructive feedback on each other's work, but all submitted assignments must reflect their own effort.

Grade appeals process: For grade appeals, please note the following:

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/appeal-of-grade/>

Reuse of previously submitted work: You may not submit any assignment that was previously completed for another course, with the exception of reflection 1 in which you are expected to revise an assignment previously submitted in another course.

Use of generative AI tools: The use of generative artificial intelligence tools to write any part of the assignments, presentations or paper is strictly prohibited. The use of such tools to create or generate content constitutes a violation of academic integrity standards. Submitted work must reflect your own ideas. You may use tools such as Grammarly or similar platforms to check and correct spelling and grammatical errors and/or improve the clarity of your sentences.

Citation Style: The Chicago author-date citation style (17th edition) is to be used in the assignments and papers of this course. For more information, please see:

https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-2.html. Although the citation style does not require page numbers except for direct quotations, you are required to include relevant page number(s) whenever citing sources in the assignments, presentations or paper.

Additional Information

In accordance with 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 most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here:

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

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The

accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website (<https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>). For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC: <https://carleton.ca/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, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact 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 February/March examinations is **February 1, 2026** and **March 15, 2026** for April examinations.

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 accommodation 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 accommodation 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/or support, visit: www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. 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 accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp->

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

Statement on Student Mental Health:

“As a student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>”

Emergency Resources ([on and off campus](#))

- Crisis/Urgent Counselling Support: 613-520-6674 (Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30)
- Suicide Crisis Helpline: call or text 9-8-8, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- For immediate danger or urgent medical support: call 9-1-1

Carleton Resources

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: call 613-238-3311, text 343-306-5550, or connect online at <https://www.dcoottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: call 613-722-6914 or toll-free 1-866-996-0991, or connect online at <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Good2Talk: call 1-866-925-5454 or connect online at <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: for online or on-site service
<https://walkincounselling.com>

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).
- The course reading list is subject to modifications at the discretion of the instructor.
- Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
- Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor 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 they have been approved by the Dean.
- 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.
- In accordance with FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account. To get your Carleton Email you will need to activate your [MyCarletonOne account](#) through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the [MyCarleton Portal](#).
- Please note that you will be able to link your MyCarletonOne account to other non-MyCarletonOne accounts and receive emails from us. However, for us 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 would send all email 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/>.

Course Schedule and Reading List¹

January 7 – Introduction

January 14 – Graduate School, Career Pathways and the Job Market

- Dastras, Farnaz. 2025. *Enrollment Trends in Sociology Departments across Canadian Universities and Employment Opportunities for Sociology Graduates*. Canadian Sociological Association. <https://www.csa-scs.ca/resources/download/29>
- Job Bank Canada. 2025. “Bachelor’s Degree Sociology – School to Work Transition.” Job Bank, Government of Canada. Last modified December 1, 2025. <https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/career-planning/school-work-transition/45.1101/LOS05#wb-cont>.
- Job Bank Canada. 2025. “Job Prospects: Sociologist in Canada.” Labour Market Information, Government of Canada. Last modified December 16, 2025. <https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/marketreport/outlook-occupation/23117/ca>

January 21 – Group Presentations - Canadian Sociologists

- McLaughlin, Neil, and Stephen Harold Riggins, eds. 2021. *Canadian Sociologists in the First Person*. Montreal, Canada: McGill-Queen’s University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9780228007746>. [Each group of three students will present on two different sociologists/ two book chapters. The chapters will be assigned to students in advance]

January 28 – Career Services Workshop 1: Identifying Career Competencies

Research Questions and Reading List due

February 4 – Employability, Skills and Labor Market Trends & Workshopping Reflection 1

Reflection 1 due

- Aarts, Bas, and Annemarie Künn. 2019. *Employability: The Employers’ Perspective: Using a Stated-Preferences Experiment to Gain Insights into Employers’ Preferences for Specific Competencies*. ROA Reports No. 006. Maastricht: ROA, Maastricht University.
- Green, Andrew. 2024. Artificial Intelligence and the Changing Demand for Skills in the Labour Market. OECD Artificial Intelligence Papers No. 14. Paris: OECD Publishing. https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/artificial-intelligence-and-the-changing-demand-for-skills-in-the-labour-market_88684e36-en.html
- Mehdi, Tahsin, and René Morissette. 2024. *Experimental Estimates of Potential Artificial Intelligence Occupational Exposure in Canada*. Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series 11F0019M No. 478. Ottawa: Statistics Canada. <https://doi.org/10.25318/11f0019m2024005-eng> [Skim technical details; focus on main findings]

February 11 – Career Services Workshop 2: Resume and Cover Letter

Career Services Exercise 1 due

¹ Most of the readings were drawn from the reference list of the Canadian Sociological Association (CSA-SCS) Enrollment Report. The reading list is subject to modifications at the discretion of the instructor.

February 18 – No Class, Winter Break

February 25 – Group Presentations - Theoretical Perspectives
Annotated Bibliography due

March 4 – Workshopping Detailed Paper Outline
Reflection 2 due

March 11 – Career Services Workshop 3: LinkedIn and Networking
Detailed Paper Outline Due

March 18 – AI and the Future of Professions
Career Services Exercise 2 due

- Bear, Ashley, and David Skorton. 2019. “The World Needs Students with Interdisciplinary Education.” *Issues in Science and Technology* 35, no. 2: 60-62.
- Susskind, Daniel, and Richard Susskind. 2018. “The Future of the Professions.” *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society* 162, no. 2: 125–38.
- Bail, Christopher A. 2024. “Can Generative AI Improve Social Science?” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences - PNAS* 121, no. 21. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2314021121>.

March 25 – Presentations – Students’ Papers

April 1 – Presentations – Students’ Papers

Reflection 3 due anytime between January 15 and April 8

Final paper due on April 23

WINTER TERM 2026 – Important Dates and Deadlines

Date	Activity
WINTER TERM 2026	
December 29, 2025	Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in full winter and early winter term courses.
January 5, 2026	University reopens.
	Winter term begins. Full winter and early winter classes begin.
January 9, 2026	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in early winter courses.
January 16, 2026	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in full winter and late winter courses.
	Last day to withdraw from early winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
	Graduate students who have not electronically submitted their final thesis copy to Graduate Studies will not be eligible to graduate in winter 2026 and must register for the winter 2026 term.
January 23-25, January 30-February 1, 2026	Full fall and late fall term deferred final examinations will be held.
January 31, 2026	Last day to withdraw from full winter courses and the winter portion of fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
February 1, 2026	Last day for academic withdrawal from early winter courses.
	Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for Feb/Mar 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.
February 6, 2026	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in early winter undergraduate courses, before the official Feb/Mar final examination period

Date	Activity
<p>(see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).</p>	
February 13, 2026	Last day of early winter classes.
	<p>Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned in early winter 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.</p>
<p>Last day that can be specified by an instructor as a due date for term work for early winter courses.</p>	
	April examination schedule available online.
February 16, 2026	Statutory holiday. University closed.
	<p>Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in late winter courses.</p>
February 16-20, 2026	Winter break, no classes.
February 21-22, February 28-March 1, 2026	Final examinations in early winter undergraduate courses will be held.
February 23, 2026	Late winter classes begin.
February 27, 2026	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in late winter courses.
March 1, 2026	<p>Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the fall/winter session from applicants whose documents originate outside Canada or the United States.</p>
	Last day for receipt of applications to Bachelor of Architecture, Bachelor of Industrial Design, Bachelor of Information Technology (Interactive Multimedia

Date	Activity
<p>and Design), Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Bachelor of Social Work degree programs for the fall/winter session.</p>	
	<p>Last day for receipt of applications for admission from candidates who wish to be guaranteed consideration for financial assistance (including Carleton fellowships, scholarships and teaching assistantships) administered by Carleton University. Candidates whose applications are received after the March 1 deadline may be considered for the award of a fellowship, scholarship or teaching assistantship (Graduate students only).</p>
March 6, 2026	<p>Last day to withdraw from late winter term courses with a full fee adjustment.</p>
March 13-15, 2026	<p>Early winter undergraduate deferred final examinations will be held.</p>
March 15, 2026	<p>Last day for academic withdrawal from full winter, late winter, and fall/winter courses.</p>
	<p>Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for April full winter, late winter, and fall/winter 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.</p>
March 25, 2026	<p>Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in full winter term or fall/winter undergraduate courses, before the official April final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).</p>
April 1, 2026	<p>Last day for graduate students to submit their supervisor-approved thesis, in examinable form to the department.</p>
	<p>Last day for receipt of applications from potential spring (June) graduates.</p>
	<p>Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in late winter 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).</p>
April 3, 2026	<p>Statutory holiday. University closed.</p>

Date	Activity
April 8, 2026	Winter term ends.
	Classes follow a Friday schedule.
	Last day of full winter, late winter, and fall/winter classes.
	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 winter, late winter, and fall/winter courses.
April 9-10, 2026	No classes or examinations take place.
April 11-23, 2026	Final examinations in full winter, late winter, and fall/winter courses will be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
April 23, 2026	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.
May 1, 2026	Last day for receipt of applications for undergraduate internal degree transfers to allow for registration for the summer session.
May 15-27, 2026	Full winter, late winter term, and fall/winter deferred final examinations will be held.
June 1, 2026	Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate program for the fall/winter session except for applications due March 1.
June 15, 2026	Last day for receipt of applications for undergraduate degree program transfers for the fall term.