

Last Revised: February 2022

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Course Title:** Sociology of Work and Business

**Course Number:** SOCI 202      **Credits:** 3

**Total Weeks:** 14 (Fall, Spring)  
12 (Summer)      **Total Hours:** 39

**Course Level:**       First Year       Second Year  
 New       Revised Course  
 Replacement Course

**Department:** Social Sciences      **Department Head:** Audrey McDougall      **Former Course Code(s) and Number(s) (if applicable):** N/A

**Pre-requisites (If there are no prerequisites, type NONE):** SOCI 101 & SOCI 102

**Co-requisite Statement (List if applicable or type NONE):** NONE

**Precluded Courses:** N/A

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course familiarizes students with the considerable body of sociological work that has been done within specific industries as well as with the effects of the industrialization of society itself. It will be shown how industrialization can deepen our understanding of contemporary industrial society.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- explain the significance of work
- describe the changes in the contemporary workplace
- outline the challenges in balancing work and non-work demands
- outline the contradictions facing people at work today
- explain how markets, capitalism and globalization affect the workplace
- consider the future of work

**INSTRUCTION AND GRADING**

Instructional (Contact) Hours:

Type	Duration
Lecture	39
Seminars/Tutorials	
Laboratory	
Field Experience	
Other ( <i>specify</i> ):	
Total	39

**Grading System:** Letter Grades  Percentage  Pass/Fail  Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory  Other

**Specify passing grade:** 50%

**Evaluation Activities and Weighting** (total must equal 100%)

Assignments: 30% <i>Specify number of, variety, and nature of assignments: 2 written assignments</i>	Lab Work: %	Participation: 20% <i>Specify nature of participation: a combination of videos, reflections, worksheets and summaries of videos, websites, and readings</i>	Project: % <i>Specify nature of project:</i>
Quizzes/Test: %	Midterm Exam: 20%	Final Exam: 30%	Other: %

**TEXT(S) AND RESOURCE MATERIALS**

Provide a full reference for each text and/or resource material and include whether required/not required.

Krahn, Harvey J., Hughes, Karen D., and Lowe, Graham S. (2021) *Work, Industry and Canadian Society*. (Required reading)

Throughout the course, the instructor may recommend additional reading material.

**COURSE TOPICS**

List topics and sequence covered.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Week 1	Introduction to the course Introduce yourself to your instructor and classmates in “Student Introductions” in week 1 (counts as attendance and participation for this week) Download and read the course outline
Week 2	Historical Perspectives on Work. The Origins of Industrial Capitalism. Canada’s Industrialization. Theoretical Perspectives.
Week 3	Contemporary Debates on Work. Changing Economies in the 20th and 21st centuries. Postindustrialism. Global Transformations. Neo-Liberalism and the Role of the State in Today’s Economy.
Week 4	Canadian Employment Trends. Workforce Aging. Immigration and Greater Workforce Diversity. Gender and Work. Work-Related Mobility
Week 5	Canadian Employment Trends. Nonstandard work arrangements. Self-employment Trends. Unemployment Trends.
Week 6	Labour Markets: Opportunities and Inequality. Social Structure and Occupational Choice. Equality of Educational Opportunity. Economic Advantage and Cultural Capital. Historical Patterns of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination.
Week 7	Gender and Paid Employment. Gender and Work in Historical Context. The Wage Gap. Theoretical Perspectives on Work and Gender Inequality.

**MIDTERM EXAM**

Week 8	Household, Family, and Caring Work. Trends in Household and Family Work. Work-Family Conflict. Marketization of Care and the “Outsourced Family”.
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Week 9	Organizing and Managing Work. Understanding Bureaucracy. Scientific Management. The Human Relations Movement.
Week 10	In Search of New Managerial Paradigms. Management Paradigms around the World. Management via Organizational Culture. Lean Production. High-Performance Workplaces.
Week 11	Conflict and Control in the Workplace. Models of Managerial Control. Electronic Control. Technology and the Labour Process.
Week 12	Unions and Industrial Relations. Theoretical Perspectives on Organized Labour. Canadian Labour Movement. Women and Unions. Management Opposition to Unions.
Week 13	Alternative Approaches to Economic Organization. Worker Militancy and Class Politics. Workplace Health and Safety. Industrial Democracy: Rethinking Workers' Rights.
Week 14	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

### NOTES

1. Students are required to follow all College policies. Policies are available on the website at: [Coquitlam College Policies](#)
2. To find out how this course transfers, visit the BC Transfer Guide at: [bctransferguide.ca](http://bctransferguide.ca)