

SSC194 Principles of Sociology



For the Acadeum Course Sharing Consortium



We're delighted to have you study at RMC! Please note the following policies:

We try our best to ensure you get the most from the courses in which you are enrolled and welcome your feedback

Online Courtesy

As beings created in the image of God, we all deserve to be treated with the utmost respect whether we are a facilitator or a student. Online courses give us the opportunity to encourage social interaction, relationship building and trust between participants which befits our status as image-bearers. Failure to show respect in course interchange, through emails, announcements, discussion forums or instant chat, whether in the form of racism, chauvinism or simple unkindness is ungracious and inappropriate for the health of Christian community. Where mutual respect exists, the possibility of learning is enhanced for all.

Therefore, please remember that there is a person behind every comment on the course website – when you respond, be gracious, give the benefit of the doubt and ask for clarification. Review your comments in the discussion forums for tone before submitting them – sarcasm and jokes often do not translate well in the online environment. Be sure your messages are clear – it is tempting to quickly write a response and submit it but this can lead to confusion if your thoughts are a bit jumbled – take time to polish your remarks. Remember that your comments, whether in emails or discussion forums can become public so act accordingly.

RMC Grading Policy

Grade GradePoint

A+	4.0	
A	4.0	A = Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	3.7	
B+	3.3	
B	3.0	B = Good - clearly above average performance with knowledge of the subject matter generally complete.
B-	2.7	
C+	2.3	
C	2.0	C = Satisfactory — basic understanding of subject matter.
C-	1.7	
D+	1.3	
D	1.0	D = Inferior work which falls below the expectations of the course but which is of passing quality.
D-	0.7	
F	0.0	F = Failure to meet the minimum standards required for a passing grade.
P	Pass	P = Represents satisfactory work. Given only in courses specially designated for Pass /Fail grading.
IN		Incomplete
VW		Voluntary Withdrawal from a course before the course withdrawal deadline.

Grading Scale

A+ 97-100	A 93-96	A- 89-92
B+ 85-88	B 80-84	B- 76-79
C+ 72-75	C 67-71	C- 60-66
D 55-59	F 0-54	

Plagiarism & Academic Misconduct at Rocky Mountain College

A. Plagiarism Defined

Plagiarism - involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Plagiarism exists when:

1. the work submitted was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting the work,
2. parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
3. the whole work is copied from another source, and/or
4. a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence.

B. Penalties

1. **Failing Grade** - a student may be given a failing grade in either the assignment or course in which that student is found guilty of plagiarism. Except in circumstances in which leniency is warranted, this penalty will be applied in conjunction with one or other of the other penalties mentioned below.
2. **Disciplinary Probation** - when a student is placed on disciplinary probation, he or she is entitled to proceed with their academic program. If the student is found guilty of a further academic offence the student will be suspended or expelled.
3. **Suspension** - suspension takes place when a student is denied continuance at the college for a specified period of time. A student who has been placed under suspension is eligible to reapply for admission after the end of that specified period of time. Suspension does not imply automatic readmission; a student must satisfy the dean of his/her eligibility for readmission.
4. **Expulsion** - a student who is expelled is dismissed permanently from the college with no right to apply for readmission.

C. Penalties and Their Application

1. In cases in which the dean is satisfied that a student is guilty of a clear intention to deceive, the normal penalty will be either suspension or expulsion from the college.
2. In cases in which the dean is satisfied that an offence has been committed, but doubt is left as to the existence of a clear intention to deceive, the normal penalty will be disciplinary probation.
3. In cases where a student is found guilty of more than a single offence, the normal penalty will be expulsion from the college.

Copies of the official policy regarding Plagiarism and other academic crimes can be found on the college website. If charged with plagiarism, it would be wise for a student to familiarize themselves with the RMC policy, "Plagiarism, Cheating & Academic Misconduct."

This policy is based on the University of Calgary policy "Plagiarism, Cheating & Academic Misconduct - 1996-97" Copyright © 1998 University of Calgary

SSC194 Principles of Sociology
Rocky Mountain College
Credits: 3

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the major concepts, theories, and procedures of sociological inquiry. This course will broadly examine the foundations of sociology, social life, social inequality, social institutions, and social change. Students will learn about the systematic study of human society and its application in everyday life.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Understand and be able to apply three major paradigms of sociological theory
- Apply the sociological imagination to the systematic study of human society
- Master the rudiments of sociological research methodology
- Demonstrate understanding of major sociological concepts via tests and papers

Required Texts

John J. Macionis, *Society: The Basics, Fifth Canadian Edition*. Pearson Education Canada, 2013

Course Schedule

Module 1: What is Sociology? (Chapter 1)

Module 2: What is culture? (Chapter 2)

Module 3: Socialization and Social Interaction (Chapters 3 & 4)

Module 4: Groups (Chapter 5)

Module 5: Deviance (Chapter 7)

Module 6: Social and Global Stratification (Chapters 8 & 9)

Module 7: Race and Ethnicity (Chapter 11)

Module 8: Family and Religion (Chapter 13)

Module 9: Education, Health, and Medicine (Chapter 14)

Module 10: Postmodernity and Social Change (Chapter 16)

Course Requirements and Grading

A **review/response paper** (3-5 pages): Compare the 3 major sociological paradigms. Be sure to

include the following:

1. Provide the key components of each paradigm and identify the strengths and weaknesses of each. (20 points for each paradigm – 60 points total)
2. Use a real world example to demonstrate the different approaches for each paradigm. (25 points)
3. Use of proper grammar/spelling/APA style (15 points)

(25% of final grade)

A **review/response paper** (8-10 pages): Choose a topic within the course material and incorporate it into the following statement:

_____ **has a positive/negative impact on** _____

- Use 5 research articles from the literature to support your statement
- Additional information will be provided once the topic has been chosen

(30% of the final grade)

Quizzes (10% of the final grade)

Each module will begin with a short quiz covering the material from the previous module.

Module Assignments (15% of the final grade)

Each module will include online assignments specific to the module material. All assignments can be submitted directly online.

Participation (20% of the final grade)

A very important part of the online experience, students will be graded on their level of participation in the module discussions. Full points will be given to students who are active contributors to the online conversation.

Course Grade

Participation: 20%

Quizzes: 10%

Module Assignments: 15%

Essay #1: Comparison of the three sociological perspectives: 25%

Essay #2: Research report on topic of choice: 30%

Each paper is intended to provide practice in formal writing and to give the instructor an opportunity to provide useful feedback for developing your writing ability and deepen your understanding of sociological concepts.

RMC uses APA style for all courses. Our latest style guidelines are available on our website (rockymountaincollege.ca under “Resources” – “RMC Writing Support”)