

# SOCI 321<sup>1</sup> Work, Globalization, & Labour Movements



*Photo: Starbucks Workers United, 2022.*

## Course Description

Why do many people commit decades of their lives to working in jobs that are precarious, inadequately remunerated, and unsatisfying? What does the future hold for more dignified work, particularly given the climate crisis? How do workers build working-class power to establish greater democracy in the workplace?

In this course, we will focus on inequalities facing workers along with organized resistance. In addition to investigating labour history, we will examine current trends in the world of work. This course will give you tools to make more informed decisions about your own career trajectory and opportunities for solidarity.

## Instructor



Professor Anelyse Weiler

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Office hours TBD.

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<sup>1</sup> This outline is only intended to give students a general sense of the course, and course details may change. Detailed course syllabi will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those syllabi are considered official.

## Format

Unless the University of Victoria specifies otherwise, this class will be offered in person on **Mondays and Thursdays from 11:30am-12:50pm**. Classes will include a combination of lectures and guest lectures, multimedia (e.g., documentary films), as well as small-group and class-wide discussion.

This class will not be recorded; in-person attendance is expected and valued.

## Course Objectives

The objectives are to:

1. Describe some of the key concepts, theories, and debates in the sociology of labour.
2. Conduct an in-depth comparative case study on a labour policy or law of relevance to Canadians or British Columbians and convey your research in a professional report or video format OR critically examine labour issues facing workers in a career pathway in which you are interested OR create a profile of labour organizers in partnership with a labour non-profit.
3. Diagnose emerging and ongoing issues of workplace inequality and identify evidence-based solutions.
4. Critically reflect on issues related to work, labour, and globalization as they relate to your own experiences and career aspirations.

## Course Pre/Co-requisites

SOCI 100A and 100B are pre-requisites. SOCI 215 is recommended.

## Topics May Include

Sex Work; Precarious Work; Climate Change and Green Jobs; Gig Economy; Emotional Labour; Care Work; Trade Union and Alt-Labour Organizing; Service and Retail Work; Racialized Labour Markets; Food Chain Workers; Worker-Owned Cooperatives.

## Required Textbook/Readings

There is no textbook for the course.

All required readings will be uploaded on Brightspace as the course progresses. A list of all required readings will be included in the detailed course syllabus.