

SOCI 215 ¹

Class and Social Inequality, Spring 2025

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Course Description:

This course explores class conflict and social inequality, both in Canada and in the wider global context. We will move through a range of contemporary Canadian and global sites of struggle, from colonialism to patriarchy, to labour movements and climate change. As we shift through these different topics, we will gain a better sense of the intersectional nature of inequality - the ways in which systems of power interlock and overlap to shape our social worlds.

How does inequality come to be seen as normal in our society? In what ways do questions of climate change entangle with colonialism? Importantly: if we understand inequality as struggle and class as always in tension, can we identify opportunities for change?

Course Outcomes/Objectives:

- 1) To become familiar with intersecting systems of domination in Canada and beyond.
Consider: Race, gender, class, and others.
- 2) To better understand the role of capitalism in inequality - this includes an introduction to Marxism.
Explore: Class structures of advanced capitalist society.

Course Pre/Corequisites:

Recommended prior to SOCI 331 and SOCI 436.

Topics May Include:

Theoretical foundations of inequality, class, intersectionality, gender, race and racialization, colonialism, capitalism

Required Resources May Include:

Zawilski, Valerie. 2016. *Inequality in Canada: A reader on the intersections of gender, race, and class*. 3rd Edition. Oxford University Press.

Additional required readings will be available via Brightspace.

¹ This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.