

**Sociology 48-326-01**  
**Work and Occupations**  
(Winter 1998)

**M W F 11:30-12:20 p.m.**  
**Room 352 Dillon Hall**  
**University of Windsor**

**Instructor:** George P. Mason  
**Office:** 163 Chrysler Hall South  
**Phone:** 253-4232 ext. 2199  
**Office Hours:** Monday 12:30-1:30 and Thursday 5:00-6:00 (or by appointment).

**Prerequisite:** 48-101 and 48-102 (or 49-111 and 49-112)

**Course Description:**

**Calendar entry:** "Analysis of occupations, including the ways people choose occupations and develop careers, the nature of professions and professionalization, unemployment and its consequences, and the influence of occupations on individuals and society in a wider sense."

Students will be introduced to work and occupations starting with a brief historical overview of Canadian occupations and occupational structure. Then, the course will provide an analysis of the process and structures of occupational attainment and mobility. Particular focus will include the dimensions of class, gender, and ethnicity. Finally, the course will finish with an examination of labour market processes through an analysis which includes the dimensions of unpaid labour and unemployment. Students will be expected to understand the social construction of work, job stratification, and a more broader sociological understanding of work and occupations.

**Required Readings:**

Anisef, Paul and Paul Axelrod (1993). *Transitions: Schooling and Employment in Canada*. Toronto: Thompson Educational Publishing, Inc.

Duffy, Ann, Daniel Glenday, and Norene Pupo (1997). *Good Jobs, Bad Jobs, No Jobs: The Transformation of Work in the 21st Century*. Toronto: Harcourt Brace.

**NOTE: You are responsible for obtaining and reading all assigned readings. Supplemental readings will be available on reserve at the Leddy Library.**

## **Grading Scheme:**

The following scheme will be used for determining final grades:

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

## **Course Requirements Due and Student Evaluation:**

Final grades will be based upon:

Test 1 in class:	<b><u>February 18, 1998</u></b>	= 20%
Group Presentation:	<b><u>March 23-April 06, 1998</u></b>	= 20%
Individual Paper:	<b><u>April 08, 1998</u></b>	= 30%
Final examination:	<b><u>8:30 a.m. April 15, 1998</u></b>	= 30%

Each requirement must be completed by each student. Any student not completing a requirement will be given a failing grade for the course. If you are having trouble with any requirement, please come and see me **before** the due date as any late requirements **will not** be accepted without a sufficient medical or other legitimate documented reason.

Each student should note that computer disks must be backed-up and you should have hard copies made. Computer hardware and software problems **WILL NOT BE** a valid reason for a late term paper. The term paper must be typed as computer facilities are available for all students. Please keep a copy of your term paper as you are responsible for providing proof of completion if it becomes lost or misplaced.

Each student will be required to contribute in a group presentation on a specific occupation. Students are required to submit a ranked list of three occupations which they are interested in for the group presentation.

The group presentations will be scheduled at the end of the first week of classes. The group project should consider the historical development, educational requirements, impact of education and training, occupational status and working conditions, occupational or professional "cultures" (including any particular language which may form a linguistic 'inclusion' of occupations), organization and control of work, impacts through technology, job complex changes, workplace innovations, levels of professional or union organization, job satisfaction and stress, and any other specific issues which may be of relevance to that occupation.

Test 1 will be held in class **February 18, 1998** and will cover all readings, films, lectures, and handouts (or transparencies). The final examination will be held **April 15, 1998** and will cover all the required readings, films, lectures, and class handouts (or transparencies) for the entire course. **Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes as lectures will be included within the examinations.** The lectures will include a great deal of material **NOT** covered in the assigned readings.

Students should note that a considerable portion of your grade involves writing. An inability to present clear and concise work will have an impact on the grade you receive for the class requirements. Cheating, plagiarism, handing the same assignment in as someone else in the class, and handing in the same assignment or essay for two or more courses (without the permission of all instructors involved) are classified by the University as academic offences and will be dealt with accordingly. If you need assistance with your writing, please contact the Academic Writing Centre at 470 Sunset Avenue (253-4232 ext. 3405).

## **Tentative Course Schedule and Readings**

**Jan. 5-9 Introduction to course.**

Duffy et al., introduction.

**Jan 12-16 Historical overview of work and occupations.**

Duffy et al., Editors' Conclusion.

Anisef and Axelrod, chapter 11.

**Jan. 19-23 Historical overview continued.**

Duffy et al., chapters 1-3.

- (o) Russell, Bob (1990). *Early Industrial Relations*. In Back to Work? Labour, State, and Industrial Relations in Canada. Scarborough: Nelson Canada. pp. 30-56.

**Jan. 26-30 Occupational attainment and mobility.**

Krahn, Harvey J. and Graham S. Lowe. *The Sociology of Labour Markets*. In Work, Industry, and Canadian Society. 2nd ed. Scarborough: Nelson Canada. pp. 108-148.

Russell, Bob (1990). *The Politics of Work and the Work of Politics: An Introduction to the Sociology of Industrial Relations*. In Back to Work? Labour, State, and Industrial Relations in Canada. Scarborough: Nelson Canada. pp. 1-29.

**Feb. 2-6 The role of education.**

Anisef and Axelrod, chapters 5-7.

**Feb. 9-13 The role of education continued.**

Anisef and Axelrod, chapters 4 and 9.

**Feb. 16-20 The role of gender.**

Anisef and Axelrod, chapters 2 and 3.

- Feb. 18**      **TEST 1.**
- Feb. 23-27**    **Study week.**
- Mar. 2-6**      **Education, class, gender, and ethnicity.**  
Anisef and Axelrod, chapters 8 and 10.
- Mar. 9-13**     **Beyond paid labour.**  
Duffy et al., chapters 7 and 8.  
Anisef and Axelrod, chapter 1.
- Mar. 16-20**   **Unemployment.**  
Duffy et al., chapters 9 and 10.
- Mar. 23-25**   **Workplace case studies.**  
Duffy et al., chapters 4-6.
- Mar. 27-**  
**April 8**        **Group Presentations (to be scheduled).**
- April 15**      **FINAL EXAMINATION**