

# Sociology (SOCI) 321

## The Sociology of Work and Industry (Revision 6)

**Delivery mode:** [Individualized study online](#)  with [eText](#) 

**Credits:** 3



**Areas of study:** Arts or Social Science

**Prerequisites:** [LBST 200](#) or [LBST 202](#) is recommended.

**Precluded:** None

**Challenge:** SOCI 321 has a challenge for credit option.

**Faculty:** [Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences](#) 

**Status:** Replaced with new revision, see the [course listing](#)  for the current revision 

**Notes:** Télé-université du Québec equivalency: [SOC 2005](#) 

## Overview

*The Sociology of Work and Industry* is a three-credit, senior-level course. The focus of this course is work: how it developed into its present forms; how it is organized; how individuals experience it; and the social relationships and institutional frameworks so essential for it to occur.

By critically examining key concepts, theories, and research findings in the sociology of work and industry, the course provides students with a deeper understanding of the dynamics of change and continuity, the basis for cooperation and conflict, and the varieties of human experiences in the world of work.

## Outline

- Unit 1: Getting Started—Definitions, History, and Theories of Work
- Unit 2: Looking for Work—Diversity, Inequalities, and Insecurities in Canadian Labour Markets
- Unit 3: Doing Paid and Unpaid Work—Household Production, Gender, and Caring Work
- Unit 4: Managing Workers—Nice Words, Little Cooperation, and Lots of Control
- Unit 5: Limiting Management Control, Alienation, and Stress—Unions and Alternative Forms of Economic Organization

## Learning outcomes

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- describe employment trends in Canada,
- explain the fragmentation of labour markets,
- give reasons why labour markets produce inequalities and insecurities,
- discuss the relations between paid and unpaid work,

- explain what management has to do with conflict and control in the workplace, and
- propose strategies to make work more equal, secure, and self-determined.

## Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for SOCI 321, you must complete four written assignments and achieve an overall grade of **D (50 percent)** [📊](#) or better for the entire course. Your final grade is determined by a weighted average of the grades you receive on these assignments for credit. The weightings of each assignment are as indicated below.

Activity	Weight
Assignment 1: Research Memo on Labour Markets	20%
Assignment 2: Essay on Paid and Unpaid Work	20%
Assignment 3: Managerial Control and Workers' Collective Action	35%
Assignment 4: The Future of Work	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's [online Calendar](#) [↗](#) .

## Materials

Krahn, H. J., Hughes, K. D., & Lowe, G. S. (2021). *Work, Industry, and Canadian Society* (8<sup>th</sup> ed.). Nelson Publishing. [📖](#) (eText)

## eText

Registration in this course includes an electronic textbook. For more information on [electronic textbooks](#) , please refer to our [eText Initiative site](#) .

## Other Resources

All other learning resources will be available online, including a Course Information and a Study Guide.

## Challenge for credit

### Overview

The Challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about [Challenge for credit](#) can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

### Evaluation





To [receive credit](#) for the SOCI 321 challenge registration, you must achieve a grade of at least **D (50 percent)** on the online examination.

Activity	Weight
Online Examination	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>



[Challenge for credit course registration form](#)

## Important links

- › [Academic advising](#) 
- › [Program planning](#) 
- › [Request assistance](#) 
- › [Support services](#) 

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

*Opened in Revision 6, May 19, 2020*

*Updated June 22, 2022, by Student & Academic Services*

View [previous revision](#) 