

Sociology (SOCI) 345

Women, Gender and Work in Canada (Revision 5)

Delivery mode: [Individualized study online](#) 

Credits: 3



Areas of study: Arts or Social Science

Prerequisites: None. [WGST 266](#) is recommended.

Precluded: SOCI 345 is a cross-listed course—a course listed under two different disciplines—with [WGST 345](#). SOCI 345 may not be taken for credit by students who have obtained credit for WMST 345, WGST 345, or SOCI 312.

Challenge: SOCI 345 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 

Overview

An enduring myth holds that women only recently entered the paid labour force and that before this shift women were relegated to domestic “lesser” work or did not perform meaningful work at all. Yet for centuries on this land that is known today as Canada, Indigenous and settler women’s work has enabled our families, our communities, the economy, and the country to exist and function. This course asks why women’s work, in all its forms, has been unacknowledged and undervalued. It also seeks to challenge our assumptions about and issues pertaining to the work that women, transgender, and gender-nonconforming people have been performing before colonization and throughout the history of Canada.

Outline

- Unit 1: Historical and Theoretical Perspectives on Women, Gender and Work
- Unit 2: Advocacy, Inclusions, and Exclusions in Work
- Unit 3: Prevailing Issues and Transformations in Work

Learning outcomes

When you have completed SOCI 345, students should be able to

- identify the importance of women’s work, and analyze why women’s work has been exploited, unpaid, and/or underpaid throughout Canadian history;
- provide examples of how women’s class, age, family status, race, immigration status, sexuality, gender identity, and/or disabilities have shaped their experiences with work opportunities, exclusions, inequality, discrimination, sexual harassment, and assault;
- evaluate the individual and collective advocacy efforts that women and LGB, transgender, and gender-nonconforming people have used in seeking inclusion and equality in unpaid and paid work;

- analyze government and workplace policies and programs that have sought to address equality-based issues in unpaid and paid work;
- debate whether integration into paid work in the current capitalist economic system should continue to be an avenue of feminist equality and liberation; and
- integrate your own and other people's experiences in unpaid and paid work through interviews, reading and discussion questions, oral histories, and research papers.

Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for SOCI 345, you must complete three assignments and achieve a minimum grade of **D (50 percent)** [📄](#). You must also receive a course composite grade of D (50 percent). The weighting of the composite grade is as follows:

Activity	Weight
Assignment 1: Essay or Oral History Interview	30%
Assignment 2: Essay or Oral History Interview	30%
Assignment 3: Research Paper	40%
Total	100%

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

Materials

Wilson, S. J. (1996). *Women, families and work* (4th ed.) Toronto: McGraw–Hill

Ryerson. [📄](#) (PDF)

All course materials are provided on the course website.

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 345 challenge registration, you must achieve a grade of at least **C- (60 percent)** on the online examination.

Activity	Weight
Online Examination	100%
Total	100%



[Challenge for credit course registration form](#)

Important links

- › [Questions about our Program](#)
- › [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 5, December 10, 2018

Updated September 15, 2022, by Student & Academic Services

View [previous revision](#) 