



蘇州大學
Soochow University

SOC 351 Sociology of Work

Summer 2024

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 56 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course delves into the dynamic interplay between work, technology, and society, exploring the multifaceted dimensions of labor in the context of contemporary technological advancements and globalization. The course emphasizes the sociological perspectives on the meaning of work, the impact of technology on employment structures, and the intersections of class, race, and gender within the workforce.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Examine the historical and theoretical foundations of the sociology of work and technology.
2. Analyze the social significance and cultural perceptions of work in different societies.
3. Investigate the impact of technological advancements on labor markets and employment relations.
4. Explore the role of class, race, and gender in shaping work experiences and opportunities.
5. Understand the implications of globalization on work patterns, job mobility, and economic inequality.

PREREQUISITES

SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology

GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:



ITEM	POINTS
2 Integration Papers	20 Points
2 Quizzes	20 Points
Midterm Exam	30 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$.

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Williams, Christine L, 2010, *Gender and sexuality in the workplace*, United Kingdom : Emerald.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	Topics: Topic 1: Historical Development of the Sociology of Work and Technology Topic 2: Theories of Work: From Marx to Weber Topic 3: The Meaning and Significance of Work in Society Topic 4: Labor Market Dynamics and Economic Structures Assessments: Quiz # 1
Module 2	Topics: Topic 5: Impact of Technology on Employment and Job Displacement Topic 6: Labor Unions and Collective Bargaining in the Technological Era Topic 7: Occupational Segregation: Class, Race, and Gender



	Topic 8: Globalization and Its Effects on Labor Markets Assessments: Integration Paper # 1
Module 3	Topics: Topic 9: Work-Life Balance and Changing Work Patterns Topic 10: The Digital Divide: Technology and Social Inequality Topic 11: Corporate Power and Influence on Work Practices Topic 12: Gendered Division of Labor: Perspectives and Challenges Assessments: Midterm Exam
Module 4	Topics: Topic 13: Racial Disparities in Employment and Access to Technology Topic 14: Social Movements and Labor Activism Topic 15: Work and Identity: Professionalism and Self-Worth Topic 16: Ethics and Social Responsibility in the Workplace Assessments: Quiz # 2
Module 5	Topics: Topic 17: Reskilling and Adaptation in the Face of Technological Change Topic 18: Work, Technology, and Mental Health Topic 19: The Management of Time and Work Topic 20: Professional Work in Changing Contexts: Risk and Religion among the Creative Class Assessments: Integration Papers # 2 Final Exam

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings



and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (e.g., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at



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Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.