

## Occupation in the Modern Society

### Subtitle: Working Locally, Living Globally

This course explores the relationship of work to life in our own societies. We will start with the exploration of work as a new (over the past three hundred years) experience and how this shapes our interactions with each other in local, national and international spaces. The idea of occupations as specialized work cultures will be unpacked as we will explore some professions and how they are shaped by both their institutions and the global marketplace. As this professor is Canadian, many of the examples will be comparing her own experiences and understandings of Canadian work practices with those from the students from their own cultures. We will see how work practices have local consequences even in a globalized world.

### **Expected Learning Outcomes:**

Become familiar with ideas about what work is and how it functions in society

Understand how globalization impacts work in local, national and international spaces

Incorporate some sociological theories as ways of understanding work

Challenge our taken for granted assumptions about work life

### **Evaluation:**

Two Tests: 15% each = 30%

Social location mapping exercise: 25%

Participation to be done in class 10%

Final Exam: 35%

(45 hours of class contact) over a period of 3 weeks, which is scheduled as 3-hour classes, 5 times a week (Mon-Fri).

### Week One – each class will consist of lectures/ conversations and videos

Class One – What is Work? – looking back to the Industrial Revolution

Class Two – How work defines us – bureaucracies and institutions

Class Three – Unions and Professions – point and purpose

Class Four – Exploring particular professions (law/medicine/governance)

Class Five – Socializing for Work

Week Two – each class will consist of lectures/conversations and videos

Class Six – first test and Gender in the workplace

Class Seven – Race and Ethnicity in the workplace

Class Eight – Incorporating Diversity into the workplace

Class Nine – Work Life and Life Work

Class Ten – Global relationships of work

Week Three – each class will consist of lectures/conversations and videos

Class Eleven – second test and Lecture – Service Sector/Knowledge economy

Class Twelve – Challenging Work: Alternative forms of work

Class Thirteen – What will become of work?

Class Fourteen – Project presentations and review

Class Fifteen – final exam