University of Guelph  
College of Social and Applied Human Sciences Department of Sociology and Anthropology

**SOC *6750 Professional Seminar Fall 2019 & Winter 2020**

*Instructor:* Dr. J. Varghese  
*Office/Phone:* MACK 634/x56333  
*E-mail:* varghese@uoguelph.ca

**Course Description and Approach**- The professional seminar provides an opportunity to work on several academic and administrative matters related to studies at the graduate level. Overall, the intent is to foster professional skills development (academic and non-academic); develop and foster an intellectual culture in the graduate programs and department more generally; facilitate cohort building, mentoring and provide peer support; and contribute to the intergenerational transmission of knowledge (including incoming students learning from upper-year students). The format for the seminar will include a combination of workshops, guest speakers/panels, and discussions (incl. via Sharing Circles & Action Learning Sets).

**Learning Outcomes** - By the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

1. Orient your experiences to make the most of your graduate studies to further your personal goals within the discipline and/or society [**Lifelong Learning**].
2. Contribute to the intellectual culture of your graduate program, department and/or discipline [**Intellectual Culture**].
3. Develop a collegial graduate experience by engaging in peer support, intergenerational knowledge sharing, cohort building and mentoring [**Community Building**].
4. Create and mobilize knowledge in clear and accessible written, oral and visual forms with and for multiple audiences to affect social change [**Communication**].
5. Demonstrate ethical, accountable and socially responsible behaviour through scholarly interactions [**Professional Scholarly Practice**].

Therefore, successful completion of the ProSeminar will align with the following University Graduate Learning Outcomes:

- Communicating (i.e., Oral, Written, Reading, Integrative)
- Professional and Ethical Behaviour (e.g., Ethical Reasoning, Leadership, Personal Organisation/Time Management, Intellectual Independence)

**Required/Recommended Texts** (available for purchase at the University Bookstore or loan via ARES course reserve)


**Assessments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Elements</th>
<th>Required Time Commitment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. ProSeminars (including required sessions, action learning sets, sharing circles and oral/written/visual communication components, etc.) and Preparation (including self-assessment surveys)</td>
<td>20 Fall 20 Winter 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Individualized Development Plan (IDP)</td>
<td>2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Individualized Prof. Development Activities (e.g., elective seminars plus sessions offered outside seminars)</td>
<td>47-55 47-55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Individualized Development Record and Critically Reflective Learning Dossier</td>
<td>3 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>72-80 hours 72-80 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Assessment breakdown and elements may change prior to the release of the official syllabus in September 2019. Note: This is a required pass/fail course, with a 65% minimum pass.

2 Time commitment based on graduate course load expectations (i.e., approximately 12-15 hours per week for 12 weeks).