

SOC102
Social Problems
3 Credits

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SOC102 Version: 21



Social Problems

Calendar Description

The definition/development of social problems and an examination of selected structural issues in various societies, including inequality, population growth, environment and human rights.

Rationale

This course is designed to give students an appreciation of how social institutions such as education, religion, law, family, health, etc. impact people's lives both at the societal and individual level and to consider consequences of intervention practices common throughout society.

Prerequisites

SOC100

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. explain what constitutes a social problem? how? and by whose standards?
2. discuss how functionalism, conflict theory and symbolic interactionist perspectives compare with each other about what is and what is not a social problem and how it can be solved.
3. develop a sociological understanding of bureaucracy, education, religion, politics, health and wellness, family, crime and deviance, population trends, and social movements.
4. apply appropriate writing skills in terms of spelling, grammar, terminology, and building an academically sound analysis and/or argument in terms of a sociological understanding of social problems.

Resource Materials

Required Text:

Kendall, Diana, Vicki L. Nygaard and Edward G. Thompson. Social Problems in a Diverse Society. 3rd Cdn ed. Toronto: Pearson Canada, 2011. Print.

In addition to the above text, other sources may be recommended or required as supplemental reading.

Conduct of Course

This is a 3 credit course with 3 hours of lecture per week. (3-0-0).

Classroom instruction is predominantly in lecture form; however, lectures are interspersed with videos and guest lecturers. When possible, field trips to local institutions are offered.

In order to be able to keep up with lectures and discussions it is recommended that you read the assigned readings before class. Class participation is essential if you want to get the most out of this course and you'll find that becoming personally involved also tends to make the course more enjoyable.

All assignments are to be completed and turned in at the assigned dates.

Plagiarism and cheating (presenting someone else's words, ideas or work as your own) is a serious academic offence. Punishments range from a zero for the assignment to expulsion from the college.

Evaluation Procedures

Midterm Exam 1	20%
Midterm Exam 2	20%
Research Assignment	30%
Final Examination	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

All exams consist entirely of essay type questions.

The research assignment will be discussed further in class.

No supplemental assignments or examination re-writes are permitted in this course.

Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements

A minimum grade of D (50%) (1.00) is required to pass this course.

Letter	F	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Percent Range	0-49	50-52	53-56	57-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-100
Points	0.00	1.00	1.30	1.70	2.00	2.30	2.70	3.00	3.30	3.70	4.00	4.00

Students must maintain a cumulative grade of C (GPA - Grade Point Average of 2.00) in order to qualify to graduate.

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for success in any course. Absence for any reason does not relieve a student of the responsibility of completing course work and assignments to the satisfaction of the instructor. Poor attendance may result in the termination of a student from a course(s).

If you do not meet the established attendance requirements, your instructor will recommend that the Registrar withdraw you from the course. A failing grade of RW (Required to Withdraw) will appear on your transcript.

In cases of repeated absences due to illness, the student may be requested to submit a medical certificate. *Instructors have the authority to require attendance at classes.*

Course Units/Topics

Unit 1: Social Institutions (Part A)

Bureaucracy
The Economy
Politics

Unit 2: Social Institutions (Part B)

The Family
Education and Religion
Health and Wellness and the Medical Institution

Unit 3: Social Change

Crime and Social Deviance
Population, Urbanization, and the Environment
Social Movements and Social Change



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