## Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** Social Problems  
**Department:** Social Sciences  
**Curriculum:** Sociology  
**Date submitted:** Fall 2017 (AAC: 17-53)

### Course Code:
SOC*103

### Prerequisites:
C- in Integrated Reading and Writing I, or placement into Integrated Reading and Writing II or Introduction to College Reading and Writing

### Corequisites:
None

### Elective Type:
G/LAS/SS

### Contact Hours:
- Lecture: e
- Clinical: 0
- Lab: 0
- Studio: 0
- Other: 0
- TOTAL: 35

### Credit Hours:
3

### Developmental:
No

### Class Maximum:
35

### Semesters Offered:
F/Sp

### Catalog Course Description:
Selected contemporary American social problems are studied from the sociological perspective. Problem areas such as poverty, race, crime and violence, marriage and family problems, drugs and alcoholism, unemployment and work, sex roles and sexism, and other relevant issues are covered.

### Topical Outline:

1. **The Political Economy of Social Problems**
   - **The Sociological Approach to Social Problems**
   - **Wealth and Power: The Bias of the System**
2. **Problems of People, Resources, and Location**
   - **Global Inequality: The Third World and the United States**
   - **Threats to the Environment**
   - **Urban Problems in the United States**
3. **Problems of Inequality**
   - **Poverty**
   - **Racial and Ethnic Inequality**
c. Gender Inequality  
  d. Age  
  e. Sexual Orientation

4. Institutional Problems  
   a. Families  
   b. Education  
   c. Health and Health Care Delivery  
   d. Work

5. Social Structure and Individual Deviance  
   a. Crime  
   b. Mental Disorder  
   c. Drugs

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to do the following:

**COURSE:**
1. gain a greater insight into social problems: to identify, evaluate, and search for solutions  
2. develop analytical skills by searching for alternative solutions to present social problems  
3. develop research skills through the use of the library and environmental scans for the preparation of reports and project papers

**PROGRAM:**  (Numbering reflects Program Outcomes as they appear in the college catalog)  
N/A

**COMPETENCIES FULFILLED:**

**Social Phenomena** - Students will develop an increased understanding of the influences that shape a person’s, or group’s attitudes, beliefs, emotions, symbols, and actions, and how these systems of influence are created, maintained, and altered by individual, familial, group, situational or cultural means.

*Demonstrates:* Accurately and sufficiently explains factors that influence and shape a person’s or group’s attitudes, beliefs, decisions, and actions.  
*Does Not Demonstrate:* Inaccurately or insufficiently explains factors that influence and shape a person’s or group’s attitudes, beliefs, decisions, and actions.

**Ethical Dimensions (embedded)** - Students will identify ethical principles that guide individual and collective actions and apply those principles to the analysis of contemporary social and political problems.

*Demonstrates:* Identifies and reflects critically on ethical issues presented in classroom instruction or in assigned co-curricular or civic activities and/or professional internships and practica.  
*Does Not Demonstrate:* Does not sufficiently identify or reflect critically on ethical issues presented in classroom instruction or in assigned co-curricular or civic activities and/or professional internships and practica.

**Evaluation:**  
List how the above outcomes will be assessed.

Assessment will be based on the following criteria:

1. tests  
2. written assignments  
3. other activities assigned by the instructor (including research projects, class participation, in-class presentations and where applicable, service learning projects)
### Instructional Resources:

List library (e.g. books, journals, online resources), technological (e.g. Smartboard, software), and other resources (e.g. equipment, supplies, facilities) required and desired to teach this course.

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<th>Textbook(s)</th>
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