

Course Outline for: SOC 1106 Social Problems**A. Course Description:**

1. Number of credits: 3
2. Lecture hours per week: 3
3. Prerequisites: ENGC 0960 (C- or better) OR ENGC 0900 and READ 0960 (C -or better)
OR
High School GPA of 2.60+ OR ACT Sub-Score of 18+ OR ACT Sub-Score of 16+ and High School GPA of 2.50+ OR SAT Read/Write score of 480+
OR
SAT Read/Write score of 440+ and High School GPA of 2.50+
OR
Accuplacer Reading score of 250+ OR Accuplacer Reading score of 236+ and High School GPA of 2.50+
OR
Accuplacer Classic Reading Comprehension score of 78+ and Sentence Skills score of 86+
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: Goal #5 History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences
 Goal #8 Global Perspective

This course is an overview of contemporary social problems in both the U. S. and around the world using various sociological perspectives, analytical insights, and methodologies. The course critically analyzes a range of social issues such as poverty and inequality, racism, sexism, family breakdown, education, crime and violence, political economy, unemployment, the environment, globalization, and militarism and terrorism, among other emerging structural and systemic processes affecting the survival of peoples nationally and globally.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: January 2023**C. Outline of Major Content Areas:**

1. Social Problems, institutional contradictions, history, and biography.
2. Corporate globalization and emerging social problems in the US and countries such as Mexico and the Philippines.
3. Concepts of personal troubles, public issues, and the sociological imagination as applied to unemployment, divorce, mental illness, suicide, crime, and other social problems.
4. Political ideologies and the sociology of social problems, such as corporate globalization, the global village, and alienation.
5. The sociology of deviance. For example, are deviants non-conformists to healthy norms or conformists to anti-social norms?
6. Crime and the American Dream

7. Conservative, liberal, and critical perspectives on social issues.
8. Market expansion, wealth concentration, population growth, and problems of human sustainability (the race to the bottom and to the limits).
9. Democracy and accountability vis-à-vis market expansion.
10. Identifying solutions to social problems while engaging in critical, global imagination.

D. Course Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Describe social problems. (Goal 2a, 2d, 5a, 5b, 8c)
2. Apply the Sociological Imagination and sociological theories to social problems. (Goal 2c, 2d, 5c, 5d, 8a)
3. Show how deviance and conformity are outcomes of social systems. (Goal 5b 8a, 8b)
4. Explain how power influences social problems. (Goal 5b, 8c, 8d)
5. Relate wealth concentration, population growth and environmental problems to sustainability. (Goal 5b, 8a)
6. Relate personal and local problems to global issues. (Goal 2a, 2b, 5a, 5d, 8a, 8b)
7. Identify solutions to social problems. (Goal 5c, 8a)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:

Assessment methods may include, but are not limited to: exams, quizzes, journals, research papers, oral presentations, written assignments, essays, group work and/or any other assessment measures based on the discretion of the instructor.

F. Special Information:

None