

**Introduction to Social Problems**

**SOC -002 Section 7598**

**Course Outline Spring 2014**

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**Course Description:**

This course provides an introduction to social problems in our society at the micro and macro level. The objective of the course is to expose the problems and its effects to an over changing world and individuals.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of this course, students will be capable of:

- Developing a critical thinking, research and be able to define sociological terms.
- Demonstrate an understanding of Sociology and the study of social problems.
- Identify problems and well-being such as (Alcohol, Drugs, Crime and Social Control, Family Issues).
- Interpret problems of social inequality (Poverty, Education, Race, Ethnicity, Gender and Youth and Aging).
- Analyze problems of globalization(Population Growth, Environmental, Science and Technology
- Interpret numerical data and abstract models as presented in tables, graphs, charts, and diagrams.

Ultimately, the goal of the class is to foster the student's own sociological imagination in linking his or her own private experiences with public issues at local and global levels of society.

**Course Requirements:**

- 1) TEXT BOOK “Understanding Social Problems” fifth edition. *Authors: Linda Mooney, David Knox and Caroline Schacht.*
- 2) Attendance and participation is required; students are expected to complete their weekly reading assignments before coming to class and to present an oral summary of the chapter. More than (2) absences will impact your grade.
- 3) EXAMS- there are two exams; a Midterm and Final; each worth 50 points.

Midterm Exam 50

Final Exam 50

1 Term Paper 30

Participation 10

Presentation 20

4 Quizzes 10 points each total of 40 points

Total Points = 200

159 or below = F, 160-169=D, 170-179=C, 180-190=B, 191-200=A

### **Class Expectations:**

You are expected to conduct yourself with the highest order and decorum in this class. Arriving late and/or leaving early from this class is disruptive and unacceptable behavior. There will be no cell phone use, iPod's, lap top computer or any type of electronic devises.

### **Term Paper:**

The term paper will be based on a social issue from a journal article. Think of a social issue that you would like to write about but see me first for approval. The paper has to be 3 pages long use 12 font and double space, MLA format and with a cited page and cover page.

### **Plagiarism**

I will uphold the West Los Angeles Community College policy on Academic Integrity. You may access this policy through the institutional catalog. Please note that I reserve the right to ask you to submit your work in electronic form.

### **Group Presentation**

### **Late Work**

Late work will not be accepted, no makeup for Quizzes or Tests.

### **NOTE: SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Feb 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter 1- Thinking About Social Problems

Feb 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Chapter 3- Alcohol and Other Drugs

Feb 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Chapter 4- Crime and Social Control **(Quiz)**

Mar 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter 5- Family Problems **(Presentations Begin)**

Mar 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter 6- Poverty and Economic Inequality **(Quiz)**

Mar 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Chapter 8- Problems in Education **(Paper Due) Midterm Review**

Mar 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Chapter 9- Race, Ethnicity and Immigration

**\*\*\*End of the week MIDTERM\*\*\***

Apr 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter 10- Gender Inequality **(Presentations Continue)**

Apr 7<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> **\*\*\*Spring Break\*\*\***

Apr 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Chapter 12- Problems of Youth and Aging

Apr 29<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter 13- Population Growth and Urbanization **(Presentations)**

May 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Chapter 14- Environmental Problems **(Quiz)**

May 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter 15– Science and Technology **(Presentations)**

May 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Chapter –Conflict, War and Terrorism

**May 27<sup>th</sup> \*\*\*\*NO CLASS-NON INSTRUCTION DAY**

May 29<sup>th</sup> Guest Speaker (Extra Credit opportunity) and **Final Review**

June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> \*\*\***Final Examination**