

Course Syllabus

Spring 2016

Social Problems. W 16 SYG 2010: 0M1

Instructor: Tunga Lergo, PH.D.

Class time: Open Campus

Office Hours: 11:00 AM-3:00 PM (M W F); 8:00-9:00 A.M (T & H)); and by appointment

Official mailing address: Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

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Required Text: Social Problems in a Diverse Society (6thed), by Diana Kendall,
Publisher: Pearson, ISBN: 9780205152902

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the sociological study of social problems. It presents theoretical and analytical frameworks for the analysis and understanding of social problems in the U.S., with relevant cross-national examples. The discussion of the causes of social problems, the processes by which they become public concerns and issues and the evaluation of attempts to solve them, are some of the core components of the course.

We will attempt to situate social problems in both national and global perspectives, by examining United States situation and comparing other societies. Throughout the course, the sociological perspective and its theoretical frameworks/paradigms will be applied, compared and contrasted with other viewpoints, and students will be encouraged to develop their own approach of understanding, conceptualizing, and dealing with social problems.

Official General Education Learning Outcome (GELO) for Sociology:

Global-Socio-Cultural Responsibility and Critical Thinking: Demonstrate ability for critical thinking and an understanding of diversity/pluralism in the world community, and an awareness of civic and social participation and ethical and informed decision-making. Attributes associated with attaining this outcome include the ability to:

- Analyze data/information/substantive content relevant to an issue/problem and diversity/pluralism in the world;
- Synthesize data/information/substantive content relevant to an issue/problem and diversity/pluralism in the world; and
- Use data/information/substantive content related to an issue/problem and diversity/pluralism in order to draw conclusions, propose solutions, and/or make decisions

Course Requirement

Class Participation (10 Discussions)-This is highly required and is key to successful completion of the course. For this reason, participation in discussion fora will be encouraged, enforced and rewarded. There will be a discussion topic every 5 or 6 days, for a total of 10 topics. Some topics require a contribution of only one or two paragraphs.

Exams-There are a total of 5 exams. The lowest score will be dropped, but students must take all the 5 to qualify for the drop. Failure to take all 5 exams will result in 0 added to the calculation of your Exams course average. No make-up exams, except in extreme emergency situations, and may be taken on the NW Campus, in my office unit area. All exams will be open book, and multiple-choice. Each exam consists of 100 multiple-choice questions and shall come from the textbook, lecture notes, discussions, and assigned readings.

College academic integrity statement: The very nature of higher education requires that students adhere to accepted standards of academic integrity. Therefore SF has adopted a Code of Student Conduct that outlines general guidelines at:

http://dept.sfcollege.edu/rules/PDF/Rule_7/7_23.pdf . Students are encouraged to discuss issues related to academic integrity with instructors.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) : If you are a student with a disability: In compliance with Santa Fe Community College policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that you may require as a student with a disability. Request for academic accommodations need to be made during the first week of the semester (except for unusual circumstances) so arrangements can be made. You must be registered with Disabilities Resource Center (DRC) in S-112 for disability verification and determination of reasonable academic accommodations.

Discrimination/Harassment Policy Statement: SF prohibits any form of discrimination or sexual harassment among students, faculty and staff. For further information, refer to the SFC Human Resources Policies website at: http://dept.sfcollege.edu/rules/PDF/Rule_2/2_8.pdf

Student Rights and responsibilities: The purpose of this document is to provide students with a general overview of both their rights and responsibilities as members of the Santa Fe community. For a complete list of students' rights and responsibilities, go to:

http://www.sfcollege.edu/StudentAffairs/index.php?section=policies/student_rights

Tentative Course Outline

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| <p>1. INTRODUCTION: Getting Started</p> <p>2. Chapter 1 : Studying Social Problems in the 20th Century/The Social Construction of Social Problems</p> <p>3. Chapter 2: Wealth and Poverty : U. S. and Global Economic Inequality</p> <p>4. Chapter 3: Racial and Ethnic Inequality</p> <p>EXAM # 1: January 19-25</p> <p>5. Chapter 4: Gender and Inequality</p> <p>6. Chapter 5: Inequality Based on Age</p> <p>7. Chapter 6: Inequality Based on Sexual Orientation</p> <p>EXAM # 2: February 9-14</p> <p>8. Chapter 8: Alcohol and Other Drugs</p> <p>9. Chapter 9: Crime and Criminal Justice</p> <p>10. Chapter 10: Health Care: Problems of Physical and Mental Illness</p> | <p>11. Chapter 11: The Changing Family</p> <p>EXAM # 3 : March 7-16</p> <p>12. Chapter 12: Problems in Education.</p> <p>13. Chapter 13: Problems in Politics and the Global Economy.</p> <p>14. Chapter 15 : Population, Global Inequality, and the Environmental Crisis</p> <p>Exam # 4 : April 1-11</p> <p>15. Chapter 16 : Urban Problems</p> <p>16. Chapter 17: Global Social Problems: War and Terrorism</p> <p>17. Chapter 18: Can Social Problems Be Solved?</p> <p>18. EXAM # 5 (FINAL). No study guide for this exam: April 20-29</p> <p>20. <i>Make Up Exams (students must have notified the Instructor of any missed Exam): April 21-21 (post 8 A.M. close 11:45 P.M.). This is a one day make up; all make up exams are within this period.</i></p> |
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Grading Scale

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| 90-100 | A |
| 85-89 | B+ |
| 80-84 | B |
| 75-79 | C+ |
| 70-74 | C |
| 65-69 | D+ |
| 60-64 | D |
| 0-59 | F |

Final grade may not be curved.

January 2016