Anthropology, Geography and Sociology
Social Problems
SOCI 1306.500 (Online)
Summer I 2021

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OFFICE: LAN330
PHONE: 936-468-2241
OFFICE HOURS: Online by chat or email
CLASS LOCATION: ONLINE

Course Description: This course is the study of social problems, their sociological explanations, and their potential solutions. Topics include an overview of social problems, the intersections of race, class and gender, alcohol and drug abuse, work and the economy, environmental issues, and war and domestic terrorism.

Sociology program learning outcomes:

1) The student will be able to identify, compare, and contrast sociological classical and contemporary theories.
2) The student will be able to identify the principles of good social scientific research design. Such principles include validity, reliability, precision in measurement, and sampling methodology.
3) The student will possess sociological knowledge as evidenced by the identification of the major concepts involved with social stratification, demography, race and ethnic relations, deviance, and globalization.
4) The student will be able to apply sociological knowledge and skills to a variety of settings.
5) The student will recognize the implicit assumptions behind claims of knowledge about the social world, will be able to evaluate and distinguish between strong and weak arguments, and will be able to draw conclusions from a set of premises.
6) The student will be able to read theoretical arguments and to identify their major strengths and weaknesses.
7) The student will be able to analyze a data set using statistical techniques and draw conclusions from the results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLOs</th>
<th>Supported Course Objective SLO # or NA (not applicable)</th>
<th>Skill Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basic, Intermediate, Advanced A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO1</td>
<td>1, 6</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO2</td>
<td>7, 8</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Student learning outcomes:

1. Students will compare and contrast theories associated with sociological perspectives in social psychology.
2. Students will be able to appreciate the interconnectedness of the individual and society.
3. Students will recognize and discuss social psychological research methodologies.
4. Students will gain an understanding of how diversity in human society is a vital element of the social world.
5. Students will learn to analyze a specific social phenomenon, issue, or problem.
6. Students will learn the differences between macro-sociology and micro-sociology.
7. Students will gain an understanding of how society impacts their day-to-day lives.

Important Course FACTS:

**This course is an abbreviated 6-week version of a traditional 16-week course. Common sense dictates that we will need to go very quickly in order to cover all of the requisite material. None of the material is any more difficult than either the face to face or 16-week online version of the course. However, required reading and class assignments are accomplished in a short period of time. Therefore, we will be progressing through the material twice as fast as normal. I have built in some flexibility by staggering the due dates for assessments. Refer to your Course Calendar(s) for that information.**

If you have technical difficulties during a Blog post or while taking a test, first take a few deep breaths and email me with a detailed explanation with what occurred during the session. I can usually resolve this myself without having to go to the Help Desk.

SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

ADDITION/DROPPING A COURSE

Click on the following link for directions about how to add or drop a course during the semester: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-add-drop_6.10.pdf

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This class meets online and I expect consistent class attendance. Online courses are self-paced and it is the responsibility of each student to dedicate enough time each week to maintain a good grade. While I do not deduct points for poor attendance, I track the amount of time that each student spends online completing assignments, taking quizzes, and interacting with other students. Missed blogs and missed submission deadlines will negatively affect your final grade. Students are expected to take quizzes and complete assignments on time. Since you have a window of time to complete your exams, anyone who misses any exams will only get to have a retake with a documented absence from the Student Office of Rights and Responsibilities. There will be no retakes for missed blog assignments because you have plenty of time to get the reading done and answers to my questions posted before the due dates.

ACTIVITIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

In addition to the quizzes, students will write a short essay about a social problem of choice (guidelines are posted in Getting Started), participate in three blog/discussion assignments and take three exams during the semester. Refer to your Course Timeline for due dates.
Grading Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessments</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blogs x 3</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests x 3</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short essay</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total points:</strong></td>
<td><strong>475</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Grading Scale (based on total accumulation of points)

427 – 475 = A; 380 - 426 = B; 332 – 379 = C; 285- 331 = D; < 285 = F

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of honesty and University policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to: 1) Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade in a class; 2) Falsifying information in a paper or other assignment; 3) Helping another student cheat or plagiarize.

Plagiarism occurs when the words or ideas or another person are presented as if they were your own.

Examples of plagiarism include: 1) Submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person; 2) Submitting a paper that has been purchased or obtained from the Internet or another source; 3) Incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

DISABILITY POLICY

Any student with a documented disability who needs course adaptations or accommodations, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible. To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/
ORDINARILY, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD AND WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ACADEMIC CHAIR/DIRECTOR, A GRADE OF WH WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY IF THE STUDENT CANNOT COMPLETE THE COURSE WORK BECAUSE OF UNAVOIDABLE DOCUMENTED CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH AS MILITARY DEPLOYMENT, A FAMILY EMERGENCY, OR HEALTH EMERGENCY THAT RESULTS IN HOSPITALIZATION OR LONG-TERM DISABILITY. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO REPORT ANY HEALTH OR OTHER PROBLEMS THAT RESULT IN MISSING CLASS ASSIGNMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES. AN EMAIL IS IMMEDIATELY SENT TO ALL INSTRUCTORS. STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE THE WORK WITHIN ONE CALENDAR YEAR FROM THE END OF THE SEMESTER IN WHICH THEY RECEIVE A WH, OR THE GRADE AUTOMATICALLY BECOMES AN F. IF STUDENTS REGISTER FOR THE SAME COURSE IN FUTURE TERMS THE WH WILL AUTOMATICALLY BECOME AN F AND WILL BE COUNTED AS A REPEATED COURSE FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPUTING THE GRADE POINT AVERAGE.

DISCLAIMER: This syllabus represents an overview of this online course. As with any document, it is subject to change during the semester. Any changes will be communicated by email and in announcements on your D2L homepage.

COURSE ASSIGNMENT DATES:

WEEK OF MAY 17

Use this week to navigate the course and work out any technical difficulties that crop up. If you have problems accessing any of the material in the Learning Modules, contact the Student HelpDesk for assistance. Phone numbers and links are located in Course Facts located in Getting Started.

Learning Module One: Understanding Social Problems
Read Learning Module One
Read all associated articles, watch videos, in addition to the other content. You will be tested on content in these Learning Modules.

May 23 (Sunday)
Blog 1 is due @ 11:30 PM

Week of May 24
Learning Module Two: Race, Class and Gender
Read Learning Module Two
This Learning Module contains your first blog assignment.

[All three exams open at 8:00 AM on Monday and close on Thursday, June 24 @ 11:30 PM.
Exam 1 covers Learning Modules One and Two; Exam 2 covers Learning Modules Three and Four; and Exam 3 covers Learning Modules Five and Six

Week of May 31
Learning Module Three: Alcohol and Drug Abuse
Read Learning Module Three

June 6 (Sunday)
Blog 2 is due @ 11:30 PM

Week of June 7
Learning Module Four: Work and the Economy
Read Learning Module Four

Week of June 14
Learning Module Five: The Environment
Read Learning Module Five

June 20 (Sunday)
Blog 3 is due @ 11:30 PM

Week of June 21
Learning Module Six: War and Domestic Terrorism
Read Learning Module Six

June 23 (Wednesday)
Short essay is due in the drop box @ 11:30 PM

June 24 (Thursday)
Extra credit is due in the drop box @ 11:30 PM
All Exams are due on June 24 (Thursday) @ 11:30 PM