GAVILAN COLLEGE
5055 Santa Teresa Blvd
Gilroy, CA 95023

Course Outline

COURSE: SOC 1B DIVISION: 10 ALSO LISTED AS:

TERM EFFECTIVE: Spring 2022 CURRICULUM APPROVAL DATE: 05/10/2022

SHORT TITLE: INTRO TO SOC/PROBLM

LONG TITLE: Introduction to Sociology: Social Problems

Units	Number of Weeks	Type	Contact Hours/Week	Total Contact Hours
3	18	Lecture:	3	54
		Lab:	0	0
		Other:	0	0
		Total:	3	54

Out of Class Hrs:	108.00
Total Learning Hrs:	162.00

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an overview of how sociologists understand, identify, and address social problems, including the role of power and ideology in the definition of social problems. Students will be introduced to and critically evaluate various theories to explain and analyze the causes and consequences of social problems, their presence in our lives, and the extent to which they can be defined as social problems. In addition to identifying contemporary social problems, students will explore the root causes of these social problems and search for potential solutions and methods of intervention. Some issues that may be examined are: economic globalization, immigration, poverty, inequalities in educational and employment opportunities, race and gender inequality, and crime and violence in society. (C-ID: SOCI 115).

CREDIT STATUS: D - Credit - Degree Applicable

GRADING MODES
- L - Standard Letter Grade

REPEATABILITY: N - Course may not be repeated

SCHEDULE TYPES:
- 02 - Lecture and/or discussion
- 05 - Hybrid
- 71 - Dist. Ed Internet Simultaneous
- 72 - Dist. Ed Internet Delayed

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Describe and analyze what constitutes a social problem.
2. Identify and distinguish between, causes and consequences of social problems.
3. Identify and evaluate policies that address social problems and assess the policies? impact on society

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Students will learn about major social problems concerning the United States.
2. Students will examine local, regional, and national social problems in a global context.
3. Students will examine the causes and consequences of various social problems from a sociological perspective.
4. Students will identify and evaluate policies that address social problems and assess the policies' impact on society.
5. Students will analyze trends in poverty and wealth in the United States and the world.
6. Students will examine major issues for racial and ethnic group relations.
7. Students will examine major issues related to gender inequality, such as the wage gap, division of household labor, and violence.
8. Students will examine health disparities in the United States and compare health care systems on a global level.
9. Students will examine the structural changes in the U.S. economy including the effects of deindustrialization and the rise of information technology.
10. Students will examine education inequalities and the solutions proposed by sociologists.
11. Students will examine the impact of environmental issues on the society.
12. Students will examine trends, consequences, and sociological explanations for criminal and deviant behavior.

COURSE CONTENT:

Curriculum Approval Date: 05/10/2022

Introduction to Sociology and Social Problems (3 hours)

o Differentiate social problems and issues from non-sociological ones

o Examine the interconnection of social issues and social problems

o Discuss and justify what constitutes a social problem

The Sociological Imagination and studying social problems (4 hours)

o Critically evaluate selected non-sociological explanations of social problems

o Compare and contrast approaches to the study of social problems

o Examine the role of power and ideology in social problems

o Examine classic and contemporary theories addressing the role of power and ideology in the definition and creation of social problems

o Define and analyze the role of power and ideology in the continuation of social problems, and proposed solutions to social problems

Addressing social problems and creating social change (3 hours)

o Define and examine different approaches to addressing social problems

o Critically evaluate different methods of social change, such as: community organizing, charity, volunteerism, and government programs

o Examine theories of civil society and civic engagement research organizations that address social problems at the community, state and national level

Crime, Deviance, and Criminal Justice (6 hours)

o Examine what constitutes a crime

o Compare and contrast the major types of crime and criminals

COURSE CONTENT(CONTINUED):

o Examine why rates of crime vary among major social groups and categories

o Critically evaluate the usefulness of various approaches to reducing crime, legal and court reforms, rehabilitation

Alcohol and Drug Abuse (3 hours)

o Examine theories of drug abuse

o Examine effects of drug policy such as the War on Drugs

War and Terrorism (3 hours)

O Examine theories of war and peace

o Examine causes and effects of war and terrorism of various segments of the population

o Examine national and global policy regarding defense policy

Problems of Family and Marriage (3 hours)

o Describe the major problems related to the family, child and spouse abuse, divorce, and the place of the aged

o Examine the cause of these problems using various theories

Problems in Education: (3 hours)

o Analyze the factors hindering the achievement of equality of educational opportunity in the U.S.

o Assess the validity of various criticisms of the quality of the U.S. educational system, especially those that pertain to its effects on children in general and minorities and women in particular

o Analyze the causes of the differential school dropout rates of various social groups and social categories

o Examine the types and causes of educational problems in the U.S. using various theories.

Problems of Social Stratification: Poverty & Wealth (6 hours)

o Explain and critically evaluate different theories of social stratification

o Examine what constitutes poverty

o Describe the current extent of poverty in the U.S.

o Examine the extent of and causes of poverty among different social groups and categories

o Examine structural changes in the national and global economy and the effects on the labor market

o Analyze the relationship between the working poor and other social problems, such as education, residential segregation, and health

o Evaluate various attempts to alleviate poverty

o The relationship between wealth, power, and poverty

o Global Issues related to wealth and poverty

Problems of the Economy (3 hours)

o Examine Work and the workplace

o Examine employment, unemployment, underemployment and other labor market issues

o Examine trends in Globalization

o Deindustrialization and the rise of information technology

Racial and Ethnic Inequality (3 hours)

o Examine and evaluate the various social and biological definitions of race and ethnicity

o Critically evaluate the causes of prejudice and discrimination in terms of major social, economic and psychological theories

o Use various theories to examine the continued existence of "race" problems

o Critically evaluate the pros and cons of various sociologically relevant strategies and techniques for reducing prejudice and discrimination.

Gender Inequality (3 hours)

o Examine various forms of gender inequality at the local, regional, national, and global level

o Analyze the perpetuation of gender inequality in terms of prejudice and institutionalized sexism

o Describe the contemporary forms of sex discrimination

Ageism (3 hours)

COURSE CONTENT(CONTINUED):

o Analyze the U.S. population pyramid in terms of its age structure in order to predict future trends

o Describe the various forms of discrimination experienced by the elderly

o Critically evaluate the concept of "disengagement" as it applies to the elderly

Inequalities in Health and Health Care (3 hours)

o Examine inequalities in health outcomes and access to health care

o Explain why "health follows wealth" in American society and relate to theories of social stratification

o Examine inequalities in health as related to race, immigration, gender, and poverty

o Evaluate various proposals for relieving health inequalities and access to health care.

Problems of Population and the Environment (3 hours)

o Analytically distinguish between problems of population in terms of size, distribution, and economic levels

o Contrast the major world regions in terms of their population sizes and growth rates

o Relate how current environmental problems stem from population growth, increasing affluence, product technology changes, and certain attitudinal factors

o Analyze selected environmental problems to determine their connection to social norms, values, and practices that derive from them

o Determine what general obstacles exist to rectifying environmental problems and how they might be overcome.

2 Hours Final

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

1) lecture with discussion; 2) film/video presentations with class discussion; 3) guest speakers when appropriate and availability; 4) small group collaborative projects, exercises and discussions.

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:
Required Outside Hours: 30
Assignment Description:
Written Assignments (e.g. response papers, reading reflections, and/or journals)

Required Outside Hours: 50
Assignment Description:
Assigned readings

Required Outside Hours: 28
Assignment Description:
Group project, service learning project, or term/research paper.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:
Writing assignments
Evaluation Percent 50
Evaluation Description
Written Homework;
Essay Exams;
Term or Other Papers

Other methods of evaluation
Evaluation Percent 20
Evaluation Description
May include projects such as research papers, fieldwork assignments, or service learning.

Objective examinations
Evaluation Percent 30
Evaluation Description
May include multiple choice, short answer, and/or essay questions.

REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:
Social Problems: A Down-To-Earth Approach, 13th edition, James M. Henslin, Pearson, 2020.
ISBN: 9780135257029
Rationale: Or other appropriate college level text.
13+ Grade Verified by: Microsoft Word software

ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

Associate Degree:
- GAV C2
- GAV D2
- GAV Area 4 = Social & Behavior

CSU GE:
- CSU C2
- CSU D
- CSU D0
- CSU D2

IGETC:
- IGETC 4J

CSU TRANSFER:
- Transferable CSU

UC TRANSFER:
- Transferable UC

SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

Basic Skills: N
Classification: Y
Noncredit Category: Y
Cooperative Education:
Program Status: 1 Program Applicable
Special Class Status: N
CAN: SOC4
CAN Sequence: XXXXXXXX
C-ID: (SOCI 115).
Prior to College Level: Y
Non Credit Enhanced Funding: N
Funding Agency Code: Y
In-Service: N
Occupational Course: E
Course Control Number: CCC000330488
Sports/Physical Education Course: N
Taxonomy of Program: 220800