

Master Syllabus

SOC 2205 - Social Problems

Division: Liberal Arts, Communication and Social Sciences

Department: Sociology

Credit Hour Total: 3.0

Lecture Hrs: 3.0

Prerequisite(s): SOC 1101

Date Revised: June 2014

Course Description:

An introduction to social problems facing large, complex societies using sociological theories and methodology to examine causes, treatments and solutions. Among the topics discussed are: mental illness, health care, alcohol and drug abuse, violence, crime, delinquency, inequality, poverty, immigration, family, global and environmental issues.

General Education Outcomes:

- Critical Thinking/Problem Solving Competency
- Values/Citizenship/Community Competency
- Oral Communication Competency
- Written Communication Competency
- Information Literacy Competency

Course Outcomes:

Effects of Social Structure and Culture

Examine the impact of social structure and culture on social policy in resolving or exacerbating social problems.

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Students complete multiple choice and/or essay-based exams. Correctly answer 70% of exam questions.

Theoretical Analysis

Demonstrate how the major theoretical perspectives and the scientific method are used to evaluate and analyze social problems. Develop proposals for addressing social problems. Compare and contrast specific social problems in cross-cultural context.

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Students are given multiple choice and/or essay exams. Students must score 70% or higher to be successful.

Assessment Method: Oral examination

Performance Criteria: Students must give oral presentations. Students must score 70% or higher to be successful.

Assessment Method: Written surveys and/or questionnaires

Performance Criteria: Students complete written assignments related to topics. Students must complete a final written project. Students are expected to score 70% or higher to be successful.

Identification of Social Problems

Analyze the process through which social problems are identified, legitimized, and addressed.

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Students complete multiple choice and/or essay-based exams. Correctly answered 70% of exam questions.

Role of Social Structure

Examine the impact of social structure, such as structures of inequality, the economy and the political system in generating social problems.

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Students complete multiple choice and/or essay-based exams. Correctly answered 70% of exam questions.

Roles of social movements

Examine the role of social movements in constructing and / or resolving social problems.

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Students complete multiple choice and/or essay-based exams. Correctly answer 70% of exam questions.

Outline:

The sociological perspectives and the scientific method
Definitions, concepts, theories
Major causes, treatments and solutions
Poverty
Social inequalities
Processes of social change
Social movements