

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: SOC 2

Title: MODERN SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Full Title: Modern Social Problems

Last Reviewed: 4/25/2022

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**  
Students will engage in the analysis of contemporary social problems. Topics include globalization, environmental issues, poverty, work, health and mental health care, the educational system, criminal justice, the basis of inequalities, and the role of power in defining social problems.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: Students will engage in the analysis of contemporary social problems. Topics include globalization, environmental issues, poverty, work, health and mental health care, the educational system, criminal justice, the basis of inequalities, and the role of power in defining social problems. (Grade or P/NP)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>		<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	D	Social and Behavioral Sciences	Fall 1981	
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	D	Social Science	Fall 2010	
	D0	Sociology and Criminology		
	D	Social Science	Fall 1991	Fall 2010
	D0	Sociology and Criminology		
	D1	Anthropology and Archeology		
	D4	Gender Studies		
	D	Social Science	Fall 1981	Fall 1991
	D1	Anthropology and Archeology		
	D4	Gender Studies		

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	4	Social and Behavioral Science	Fall 1981	
	4J	Sociology and Criminology		

<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
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<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
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### **CID:**

CID Descriptor: SOCI 115      Social Problems

SRJC Equivalent Course(s):      SOC2

### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Analyze major social problems in modern society using sociological terms and theoretical perspectives.
2. Critically evaluate proposed solutions to modern social problems.

### **Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Define and explain social problems from a sociological perspective.
2. Analyze trends in poverty and wealth in the United States and the world.
3. Summarize the major issues for racial and ethnic group relations.
4. Evaluate the role of gender in the policies of contemporary social institutions.
5. Compare the health policies of the United States to those of other nations.
6. Summarize structural changes in the U.S. economy including the effects of deindustrialization and the rise of information technology.

7. Analyze the foundations of educational inequality.
8. Identify the impact of environmental issues on the society.
9. Compare and contrast corporate crime with street crime.

## **Topics and Scope:**

- I. Sociological Approaches to the Explanation of Social Problems
  - A. Structural-Functionalism
  - B. Conflict Theory
  - C. Social Constructionism
  - D. The role of power in defining problems and solutions
- II. Poverty and Wealth
  - A. The relationship between wealth, power, and poverty
  - B. Global issues related to wealth and poverty
  - C. Policy responses to poverty
- III. Race and Ethnic Inequality
  - A. Issues in group relations
  - B. Prejudice and discrimination
  - C. Governmental policies and political stances
- IV. Gender Inequality
  - A. Historical and current trends
  - B. Global stratification issues
- V. Sexual Orientation
  - A. Historical and current trends
  - B. Discrimination
- VI. Crime and Criminal Justice
  - A. The criminal justice system
  - B. Street crime
  - C. White collar and corporate crime
- VII. Environmental Social Problems
  - A. Domestic issues
  - B. Globalization and environmental problems
- VIII. Economic Social Problems
  - A. Work and the workplace
  - B. Unemployment
  - C. Globalization trends
  - D. Deindustrialization and the rise of information technology
- IX. Education
  - A. Inequalities of funding and segregation
  - B. Academic performance issues
  - C. Governmental responses and directions
- X. Health and Mental Health
  - A. Health care delivery system
  - B. Mental health care delivery system
  - C. Health and diversity issues
  - D. Medicalization of social problems

## **Assignment:**

1. Weekly reading (20-40 pages)
2. Exams (2-4) and a final exam based on readings and lectures
3. A written term paper of 1250-2500 words demonstrating the ability to analyze a social

problem sociologically and to use sociological research methods

Additional assignments may include:

1. Topical news analysis journal
2. Oral presentations
3. Group projects

### Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Term paper, Journal, Forum posts, or other short writing assignments

Writing  
40 - 60%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Essay Exams, Completion

Exams  
40 - 60%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Oral presentations, group projects

Other Category  
0 - 20%

### Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Social Problems. 7th edition. Leon-Guerrero, Anna. Sage. 2022

Social Problems. 13th edition. Eitzen, Stanley; Baca Zinn, Maxine; and Eitzen, Kelly E. Pearson. 2014 (Classic)

Social Problems. A Down to Earth Approach. 13th edition. Henslin, James. Pearson. 2020

Social Problems in a Diverse Society. 7th edition. Kendall, Diana. Pearson. 2019