

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
Fall Semester 2014

SOC 2020 – 002
SOCIAL PROBLEMS

#12595

Days: Tuesday and Thursday
Time: 3:00 – 4:25 p.m.
Professor: Grant Friley, Ph.D.
Email: gfriley3@yahoo.com
Office Phone: 313-577-2930

Text: SOCIAL PROBLEMS
5TH Edition
John J. Macionis
Pearson Press Prentis Hall
ISBN: 13:978-0-205-88207-0

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

Students are expected to attend each class on time, participate in each class and contribute positively to the group learning experience. In the case of an emergency, students are expected to contact the instructor. Missing even one class or frequent tardiness may result in a reduction in grade. All assignments are expected to be complete and submitted on time in accordance with due dates posted. All papers must comply with the American Psychological Association's publication manual – 5th edition.

Wayne State University policy on plagiarism and academic integrity as members of an academic community engaged in the pursuit of truth and with a special concern of values, students are expected to conform to a high standard of honesty and integrity in their academic work. The fundamental assumption under which the university operates is that work submitted by a student is a product of his/her own efforts.

Among the most serious academic offenses is plagiarism, submitting the style of another author or source without acknowledgement or formal documentation. Plagiarism occurs when specific phrases or entire passages, whether a sentence, paragraph or longer excerpt, are incorporated into one's own writing without quotation marks or documentation. One also plagiarizes by paraphrasing the work of another that is, retaining another writer's ideas and structure without documentation.

Students are advised always to set off another writer's exact words by quotations marks, with appropriate references. Students avoid plagiarism by concentrating on their own words and ideas and by fully crediting other words and ideas when they find their way into the writing. Whenever in doubt, cite the source.

Students that purchase essays from other students or agencies or who copy from one another or from prohibited sources, commit the most serious type of academic dishonesty. The consequences of plagiarism, or any act of academic dishonesty may range from failure of an assignment or in a course, to dismissal from the institution.

ATTENDANCE:

Please arrive promptly for class. Any student who arrives 30 minutes after the beginning of class will be marked absent. If for some unforeseen reason you cannot attend class, it is your responsibility to contact this instructor, via email.

(gfriey3@yahoo.com)

CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Dialogue is an essential part of this class. Please read the material prior to attending class and expect to participate in the discussion. Students are encouraged to express their ideas in a manner respectful to those who may voice a different opinion.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT:

It is expected of each student to carry themselves in a manner respectful not only to the instructor, but to fellow students. Eating meals in class is prohibited. Children are **NOT** allowed in the classroom. Being disrespectful to other students while they are talking or expressing their opinions during discussion are all signs of improper conduct. Cell phones **MUST BE TURNED OFF** during the class period.

Student Disability Services

Please have faculty place the following statement on syllabi:

If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services (SDS) for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Student Disability Services (SDS) office is located at 1600 David Adamany Undergraduate Library in the Student Academic Success Services department. SDS telephone number is 313-577-1851 or 313-577-3365 (TDD only). Once you have your accommodations in place, I will be glad to meet with you privately during my office hours to discuss your special needs. Student Disability Services' mission is to assist the university in creating an accessible community where students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to fully participate in their educational experience at Wayne State University.

Please be aware that a delay in getting SDS accommodation letters for the current semester may hinder the availability or facilitation of those accommodations in a timely manner. Therefore, it is in your best interest to get your accommodation letters as early in the semester as possible.

SDS News:

Effective Fall semester 2010 Student Disability Services will be implementing a revised alternative testing form when a student schedules classroom exams/quizzes administration at SDS. As before the student and instructor each have a portion to complete. Exams are to be mailed to a new password protected email address: sdsexams2010@wayne.edu.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Jane DePriester-Morandini
Interim Director
Student Disability Services
1600 Undergraduate Library
313.577.1851

GRADING

1. Class Participation

- a. Attends class
- b. Reports to class on time
- c. Reports to class prepared
- d. Demonstrates preparedness and flexibility
- e. Readily undertakes new tasks and assignments
- f. Participates in class discussion by contributing thoughtful and responsive input
- g. Takes assignments seriously
- h. Turns in quality assignments
- i. Turns in assignments in a timely manner
- j. Follows directions on assignments
- k. Demonstrates a non-judgmental and respectful attitude toward classmates
- l. Demonstrates a non-judgmental and respectful attitude toward instructor
- m. Accepts critique in a mature and constructive manner and uses it for personal and professional improvement
- n. Contributes to group efforts by focusing on task and contributing to the assignment
- o. Is attentive and does not disrupt class and/or other students during class
- p. Is articulate, both orally and in writing

2. Chapter Summaries

Upon completion of the assigned text readings, the student must prepare a typewritten double-spaced summary of that chapter. The summary must include a thorough analysis of each of the following:

- Identify the main theme of the materials in one or two paragraphs
- Identify and define ten critical terms from the chapter
- Provide answers to the following questions, using 1-2 paragraphs per session:
 - a. Do you agree with the materials that you read or do you disagree? Please explain and provide examples.
 - b. In what way did the reading relate to your own experiences?

GRADING SCALE

100	-	94	=	A
93	-	90	=	A-
89	-	87	=	B+
86	-	84	=	B
83	-	80	=	B-
79	-	77	=	C+
76	-	74	=	C
73	-	70	=	C-
69	-	67	=	D+
66	-	64	=	D
63	-	60	=	D-
59	-	0	=	F

Required Text:

**SOCIAL PROBLEMS
5TH Edition
John. Macionis**

Required Readings:

In addition to the required reading from the text, there will be readings assigned from current newspapers or magazines.

SOC 2020

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

There are 12 social problem topics that you may choose from for your term paper. This reflective term paper should demonstrate understanding of reading assignments as well as the implications of new knowledge. This ten (10) page paper should integrate readings and class discussions into work and life experience. It may include explanations and examples from previous experience, as well as implications for future application.

Focus of this reflective paper is to encourage the organization and presentation by each participant of thoughts and conclusions concerning one of the learning outcomes of this course.

The term paper must contain the following:

1. Must be ten (10) double spaced pages in length and formatted according to APA style, as outlined in your syllabus.
2. Must include an introductory page with a succinct thesis statement.
3. Must address the topic of the paper with critical thought.
4. Must conclude with a re-statement page of the thesis and a conclusion.
5. Must use the APA style as outlined in the approved APA style guide to document all sources.
6. Must include on the final page a reflective list that is completed according to the APA style as outlined in the approved APA style guide.

TERM PAPER TOPICS

1. **Abortion:**
 - a. What limits are responsible
 - b. What limits are realistic
 - c. How to protect abortion doctors, pregnant woman and the unborn
 - d. Partial birth abortions
 - e. Unborn victims of violence
2. **Drugs:**
 - a. Community safety vs. legalization
 - b. Punishment or treatment
3. **Date rape:**
 - a. Mutual consent vs. exploitation
4. **School violence:**
 - a. School responsibility vs. parental responsibility
5. **Computer crime:**

COURSE SCHEDULE

Thursday – August 28, 2014:

Orientation:

- a. Attendance policy
- b. Participation
- c. Individual presentations
- d. Chapter summaries (14)
- e. Examinations (4)
- f. Term paper

NOTE: ALL assigned chapters are to be summarized according to the directions in the syllabus. The chapter summary must be typed and turned in on the assigned date in your syllabus. NO chapter summary will be accepted after the due date. You will use your summary for class discussion and tests.

Tuesday – September 2, 2014:

Lecture and discussion.

- a. What is a social problem?
- b. What is a social issue?
- c. What is a social movement?
- d. What is a social policy?
- e. A review of general theory
 - a. Functionalist Theory
 - b. Conflict Theory
 - c. Symbolic Interactionist Theory
- f. The history of social problem theory
 - a. The medical model
 - b. Absolutist approach to understanding social problems
- g. Modern studies of deviance
 - a. Merton-social strain theory
 - b. Labeling theory
- h. The subjective nature of social problems
- i. Official definitions of social problems
- j. Public opinion and the media
 - a. The powerful control-media
 - b. Conditions that effect the powerless are ignored
- k. Types of social problems
- l. Social conditions
- m. Institutionalized deviance

Sept. 4:

Continuation of lecture and discussion from September 2nd.

Sept. 9:

Conclusion of September 2nd and 4th lectures.

Sept. 11:

Examination on the lectures of September 2nd, 4th and 9th.

Sept. 16:

From the textbooks, Read Chapter One (1):

- a. Sociological imagination
- b. Social constructionist approach
- c. Problems in social movements
- d. Stages in social movements
- e. Eight (8) social problems assertions
- f. The Chicago school
- g. Social conflict approach
- h. Problems of racial and ethnic inequality
- i. The feminist approach
- j. The symbolic interaction approach
- k. Responding to social problems
- l. Constructing problems and defining solutions
- m. Social issues
- n. Economic issues

Sept. 18:

Continue lecture and discussion from September 16th.

Turn in Chapter One (1) summary.

Sept. 23:

Lecture and discussion of Chapter Two (2).

- a. Economic inequality
- b. Rich and poor, a social profile
- c. The poor
- d. The poverty line
- e. The poverty gap
- f. Who are the poor
- g. Age, gender, family and region
- h. The working poor
- i. The non-working poor
- j. The underclass

Sept. 25:

Continuation of discussion on Chapter (2):

- a. Poor health
- b. Substandard housing
- c. Homelessness
- d. Limited schooling
- e. Crime and punishment
- f. Responding to poverty and the welfare system
- g. The history of welfare

41. ILLITERACY
42. CRACK COCAIN
43. HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS
44. CAR JACKING
45. TERRORISM
46. PRISON RAPE
47. POLYGAMY
48. CHILD LABOR
49. EATING DISORDERS
50. EUTHANASIA
51. HAZING
52. HOME FORECLOSURES
53. ID THEFT
54. THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION (NRA)
55. PRISONS
56. THE AVAILABILITY OF HANDGUNS
57. ROBBERIES
58. BURGLARIES
59. PEDOPHILIA
60. WHITE COLLAR CRIME
61. ORGANIZED CRIME
62. CORPORATE CRIME