

Course Syllabus

SOC 101 | Spring 2017

Instructor:

Instructor: Peggy Roberts

Course ID: SOC 101: Social Problems

Room: FH 112

Time: 11:00-11:50 Monday-Friday

Email address: Peggy.Roberts@cwu.edu

Course Description:

This online course will provide Students with opportunities to increase student's awareness and knowledge in a way that is personally meaningful to students. In the process of learning, students will be expected to read, write, communicate, and access information technology.

_Course Objectives:

In the United States, why do we still have the poor? Are the problems in our society the fault of individuals? Do social problems differ from personal issues? How do we understand issues such as poverty, homelessness, racism, sexism, homophobia, crime in our society? Is it possible to solve these issues? What is the role of public policy in addressing social problems?

These are some of the questions that we will explore in our study of social problems. Although these are important questions, there is NO one answer to them. Politicians, scholars and members of our society disagree as to the nature of social problems and their solutions. This course is to encourage you to think critically about social problems and develop the skills and knowledge necessary to evaluate the relationship between individual and social issues. We will apply the skills and knowledge developed in this class towards addressing social problems in our community.

Goals:

1. Introduce sociological perspectives and methodology
2. Increase understanding of social problems and the theoretical frameworks that sociologists use to explain social problems
3. Develop critical thinking and writing skills
4. Encourage students consider the merits of arguments that differ from your own preferences
5. Develop ability to articulate views about social problems based on evidence and information, and a willingness to learn from and understand the views of others.
6. Learn about and work toward solving social problems through learning activities

Course Resources:

Canvas

Canvas is a Learning Management System which we will use for our course. You can login to Canvas at <http://courses.cwu.edu> (Links to an external site.) Your username and your password are the same one you use for Novell/Safari.

The “Canvas Help and Support” section of the Online Learning web site at <http://www.cwu.edu/~avpugrad/OnlineLearning/support.html> (Links to an external site.), is provided to give you and your students vital information on teaching and learning online with canvas.

Textbook(s)

Using: Finsterbusch, K. (2015). Taking sides- Clashing views on social issues (15th –extended edition). Dubuque, IA: McGraw-Hall

Optional:

Mooney, L., Knox, D., & Schacht, C. (2015). Understanding social problems (10th edition). Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth. (ISBN **ISBN13**: 978-1-305-57651-3)

Additional Readings

Readings will be taken from peer-reviewed journals and education magazines

Course Activities:

Readings

All reading assignments are required. In order for you to participate in class discussion and understand the material presented it is vital that you are familiar with the assigned material so that discussion and lecture enhance your understanding and provide an opportunity to ask questions and share your insights. Students are expected to take an active role in their own learning process.

Discussions

You will participate in ten weeks of Discussions on Canvas . In order to earn the Discussion Points, **you must post your answers to both question and reply to four classmates (where you reply to someone else’s message; different students) for each Discussion Week.** The rubric representing grading criteria for discussion posts are available in the Course Documents section of the course.

Assignments

There will be three writing Assignments (Social Roles and two Article Reviews) and create one power point for this course. You are to upload I me your papers with the rubrics attached on the last page of your papers and your power point to canvas under assignments.

Course Policies:

Instructor Feedback/Communication

I will be reading the Discussion Boards and replying to messages occasionally. If you wish for your papers to be edited and return, please note in your upload. . Otherwise you will only see a grade in the grade book.

Student Feedback/Communication

I welcome all feedback on the course. My preferred method of communication with individual students is via email.

If you experience a legitimate emergency (according to my standards) which will prevent you from completing required coursework on time, I expect you to communicate with me at the earliest reasonable opportunity. Please state the nature of the emergency, and when you expect to turn in the coursework.

Submitting Electronic Files

All electronic files must be submitted in docx, .doc or .rtf format. If you do not have Microsoft Word, you can download Open Office Writer for free at <http://www.openoffice.org/>. (Links to an external site.) This will allow you to open the instruction files, make changes and save in .doc, .docx, or rtf.

Late Work

- Discussion questions are due at 6:00pm on Sundays. If you post after 6:00pm you will not receive any points for that week's discussions. You must answer both question and reply to four classmates per week.
- Late work is not accepted after the due date. If extenuating circumstances exist, contact instructor.
- Missed course requirements are entered into grades as "0" points.

The due dates associated with each discussion and assignments are stated clearly in Canvas and on the assignments.

University Policies:

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is a standard set for this course. Students are expected to complete all of their coursework and assignments using their original words and ideas and will properly cite the words and ideas of others. Students are also expected to be honest in their interactions with the instructor. A student found to have not upheld these expectations is subject to failing this course and shall be subject to disciplinary action or sanction. The University catalog defines the term "academic dishonesty" in all its forms including, but not limited to:

- cheating;
- copying from another student's paper;

- collaboration with any other person without authority;
- knowingly obtaining, using, buying, selling, transporting, or soliciting in whole or in part the contents of an administered or information about an administered assignment;
- "Collusion" which shall mean the unauthorized collaboration with any other person in preparing work offered for credit.

Documented incidences of Academic Dishonesty will be referred to Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs.

Special Needs

If you have a disability that may prevent you from meeting course requirements, contact the instructor immediately to file a Student Disability Statement and to develop an Accommodation Plan. Course requirements will not be waived but reasonable accommodations will be developed to help you meet the requirements. You are expected to work with the instructor and the CWU Disability Support Specialist to develop and implement a reasonable Accommodation Plan. For contact information at Center for Disability Services (CDS) please visit <http://www.cwu.edu/~dss/cms/> (Links to an external site.).

_Grading:

Your grade will be based on the following:

Component	Points
Discussion Board Weekly 40 points	400
Writing Assignment: Social Roles	50
Writing Assignment1-3: Article Review (50pts each)	150
Attendance points-Must be present	200
Exams (Two Exams and a final)	150
Total Points	750

Your grade will be calculated using the following scale:

Grade	Percentage Range
A	100 – 96%
A-	95 – 90%
B+	89 – 87%
B	86 – 83%
B-	82 – 80%
C+	79 – 77%
C	76 – 73%
C-	72 – 70%

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Schedule: Subject to change.

Week	Topic	Coursework	Due this week
1 March 29th	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the Course • Email any questions • 	Discussion Questions Due April 9th only because of add/drop
2 April 3 & 5	Thinking About Social Problems- Power Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Thinking about Social Problems Ch 1 	Discussion Questions Due April 9th
3 April 10 th & 12 th	Illness and the Health Care Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Textbook Physical and Mental Health and Health Care Ch 2:& Ch 3 • View Power points 	Discussion Questions Due: Social Roles April 14th
4 April 17 th & 19 th	Crime and Social Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Textbook Ch 4: Crime and Social Control • View Power points 	Discussion Questions
5 April 24 th & 26 th	Family Problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Textbook Ch 5: Family Problems • View Power points • Exam 1: April 26th (Chapters 1-4) 	Discussion Questions Due: April 28th Article Reviews #1(Must use your Taking Sides Book to do this assignment. Zero points will be given if you do not use the Required Textbook)
6 May 1 st & 3 rd	Poverty and Economic Inequality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Read: Textbook Ch 6: Economic Inequality, Wealth, and Poverty • View Power points 	Discussion Questions

7 May 8 th & 10 th	Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Textbook Ch 9: Race and Ethnicity and Immigration • View Power points 	Discussion Questions Due: May 12th Article Reviews #2 (Must use your Taking Sides Book to do this assignment. Zero points will be given if you do not use the Required Textbook)
8 May 15 & 17 th	Gender Inequality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Textbook Ch 10: Gender Inequality • View Power points • <i>No Class on Wednesday the 17th Source</i> 	Discussion Questions
9 May 22 nd & 24	Issues in Sexual Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Textbook Ch 11 :Sexual Orientations and the struggle for Equality • View Power points • Exam 2: May 24rd (5-6 & 9-10) 	Discussion Questions Due: May 26th Article Reviews #2 (Must use your Taking Sides Book to do this assignment. Zero points will be given if you do not use the Required Textbook)
10 May 29 th - June 2nd	Science and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No Class on Monday May 29th Memorial Day</i> • Read: Textbook Ch 14: Science and Technology • View Power points 	Discussion Questions
11 June 5- June 9 th	Finals Week	<p>June 5th- Down Day for students.</p> <p>Final: TBA online</p> <p>I wish Yall the best in your future! Enjoy your break!</p>	