

UTEP FALL 2016
SOCI 3323-001 CRN 16517
ADVANCED SOCIAL PROBLEMS
MW 11:30am – 12:50pm OLD MAIN 214

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Roc Callaway **Office:** Old Main 203 **Office Phone:** 747-6156
Office Hours: MW 10:30am – 11:20am or by appointment
Email: recallaway@utep.edu (please use your @miners.utep.edu account)

PLEASE REFER TO THIS DOCUMENT BEFORE CONTACTING ME.
YOUR ANSWER WILL LIKELY BE FOUND HERE.

REQUIRED TEXT & SUPPLIES

Social Problems: Community, Policy, and Social Action 5th edition Anna Leon-Guerrero
Publisher: Sage Copyright: 2016 ISBN-13: 978-1-4833-6937-2
SCANTRON Form No. 882-E for exams (a minimum of 2 will be needed)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to move beyond the basic concepts used by sociologists to analyze various aspects of social life. We will examine specific social problems with specific reference to their origins, development, and suggested solutions.

COURSE GOALS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the foundations within contemporary social problems.
2. The student will demonstrate an understanding of social problems related to various social institutions.
3. The student will demonstrate an understanding of how social inequality contributes to the development of various social problems.
4. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the broad implications of social problems related to health and well-being.
5. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the emergence of social problems relative to social change.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES:

ADA Statement on Discrimination and Disability Support Services:

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass. *CASS' Staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.*

ATTENDANCE:

You should make an effort to ATTEND EVERY CLASS. Arriving prepared and participating in discussions and group or individual work will contribute to your success in this class. **Please arrive on time and remain until I dismiss you.** It is up to you to be in class when work is assigned and collected. Please understand that assignments will be due at the beginning of class, meaning by 11:30am, and must be submitted **by you.** There is no “grace period”, if you arrive late (after 11:30.01am) it is highly unlikely your work will be accepted. Students who submit work then leave before class ends will be considered absent and will not receive credit for the assignment.

All absences will be considered unexcused; there is no need for you to provide evidence to explain your absence. Except where UTEP policy dictates otherwise, make-ups will not be allowed for any work missed during your absence. Students who arrive late during an exam must complete the exam during the time allowed for all. Students who arrive after the first exam has been turned in **will not** be allowed to take the exam.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE & POLICIES:

Please refer to the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures for information about conduct, appeals, student’s rights and responsibilities.

You are advised that materials to be discussed in class might be, to some, offensive or controversial. I expect that we will conduct ourselves as adults and with respect for differences of opinions and with respect for ourselves and fellow class members. **I reserve the right to dismiss students who are disrupting class in any form.** Eating, talking out of turn or to your neighbor instead of adding to discussion, packing to leave before you are dismissed, and sending/reading text messages during class are some examples of disruptive behavior that may result in you being dismissed from class. Continued instances of any disruptive, disorderly or disrespectful behavior may result in further action including the student being dropped from the course. **Academic dishonesty in any form will neither be tolerated or ignored and will be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.**

Electronic devices should be turned off or placed on silent and kept out of sight at all times during class. **Phones must be turned off during all exams. Phone use or interruptions of any form (ringing, alarms, alerts, incoming text alerts etc....) during an exam may result in a grade of zero.** I reserve the right to answer your phone should it ring during class.

You are expected to arrive prepared for each class with the necessary tools for your success, especially during examinations. It is your responsibility to have scantron, pencil, eraser, etc.... and I will not tolerate any disruptions by you seeking those items from classmates who are prepared.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Your Final Course Grade will be assigned on a 1000 point scale as follows:

895+ pts = A

795-894 pts = B

695-794 pts = C

600-694 pts = D

<600 pts = F

YOUR FINAL GRADE WILL RESULT FROM POINTS YOU EARN ON:

A.) Quiz (14 of 17) Specific instructions are provided below.	15 pts each The lowest three (3) quiz grades will be dropped.	Total 210 pts
B.) Chapter Discussion Leaders Each student will be responsible as a member of a group for facilitating <u>discussion</u> of one chapter in the textbook. Specific instructions are provided below.	50 pts	Total 50 pts
C.) Reading Response Papers (9 of 11) Specific instructions are provided below.	10pts each Two (2) response paper grades will be dropped.	Total 90 pts
D.) Group Project Specific instructions are provided below.	Paper 75 pts/ Presentation 100 pts/Critique 25 pts	Total 200 pts
E.) Exams (3 of 4) Exams will consist of multiple-choice, true/false, and short-answer questions. Specific instructions are provided below for exams 2 and 4.	100 pts each The lowest one (1) exam grade will be dropped.	Total 300 pts
F.) Visual Essay Specific instructions will be provided online for this assignment.	100 pts	Total 100 pts
G.) In-Class Activities Individual and/or group in class and homework activities will be assigned throughout the course to enhance our learning experience. Specific instructions will be provided for each activity.	Varied pts each	Total 50 pts
		Total 1000pts

Make-Up and/or Late Work & Extra Credit:

No exceptions will be made for the times or dates work is assigned or due. You **will not** be allowed to make up any missed work or exams. Note that the lowest grades for three quizzes, two response papers, and one exam will be dropped and will not affect your final course grade.

Extra credit will not be offered in this course.

Exceptions, although unlikely, to any policy will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

IMPORTANT DATES

FALL 2016

22 Aug 16	Classes Begin
05 Sept 16	Labor Day Holiday
07 Sept 16	Census Date
28 Oct 16	Course Drop/Withdrawal Deadline
24 -25 Nov	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
01 Dec 16	Last Day of Classes
07 Dec 16	Final Exam

DAILY CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:**Course Outline**

Week 1 August 22 nd & 24 th	Introductions & Course Foundations Ch 1
Week 2 August 29 th & 31 st RR1 due Monday	Ch 1 Studying Social Problems Ch 17
Monday September 5 th	Labor Day Holiday – University Closed
Week 3 September 7 th RR17 due Wednesday	Ch 17 Social Problems & Social Change
Week 4 September 12 th & 14 th RR2 due Monday	DL Group 1 Ch 2 Social Class
Week 5 September 19 th & 21 st RR3 due Monday	DL Group 2 Ch 3 Race and Ethnicity
Week 6 September 26 th & 28 th Group Project Introductions	Exam 1 (Ch 1, 17, 2, 3) in class Group Project Group Formations
Week 7 October 3 rd & 5 th RR4/5 due Monday	Ch 4 & 5 Gender & Sexual Orientation
Week 8 October 10 th & 12 th RR7 due Monday	DL Group 3 Chapter 7 Families
Week 9 October 17 th & 19 th RR9 due Monday	DL Group 4 Chapter 9 Work and the Economy
Week 10 October 24 th & 26 th RR 12 due Wednesday	Exam 2 (Ch 4, 5, 7, 9) online DL Group 5 Chapter 12 Alcohol and Drug Abuse
Week 11 October 31 st & November 2 nd Group Project Papers Due RR13 due Wednesday	DL Group 6 Chapter 13 Crime and Criminal Justice
Week 12 November 7 th & 9 th RR 15 due Monday	DL Group 7 Chapter 15 The Environment
Week 13 November 14 th & 16 th RR16 due Monday	DL Group 8 Chapter 16 War and Terrorism Exam 3 (Ch 12, 13, 15, 16) take-home
Week 14 November 21 st & 23 rd	Exam 3 (Ch 12, 13, 15, 16) due Monday Project Presentation Prep Thursday Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Week 15 November 28 th & 30 th	Exam 4 (Ch 1 – 17) online
Week 16 Wednesday December 7 th 1pm – 3:45pm	Group Presentations

***NOTE: I reserve the right to change any information contained in this document, when necessary, with adequate notice given to the student.**

QUIZ & EXAM ONLINE SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Quiz Chapters 1 – 17

15 pts each

Chapter quizzes will be completed online within Blackboard. Specific due dates are provided for each quiz, please refer to the calendar within the Quiz area within our course in Blackboard. To encourage you to read your textbook and to contribute to classroom discussions, please note that due dates for quizzes are likely to be **before** we cover the entire chapter in class. Each quiz will consist of 15 randomly selected true/false and multiple-choice questions. You will have only one (1) attempt and twenty (20) minutes to complete each quiz.

Quizzes for each chapter will be found by clicking on the QUIZ tab on the left side of the course page in Blackboard. Only when you are ready to complete the quiz should you access it. Once you begin a quiz the system will consider that your attempt whether or not you submit it. Please keep in mind that although you will have a set amount of time to take the quiz, it will "turn off" or deactivate at the specified time indicated. For **example:** All quizzes should be submitted before 11:59pm, are considered late as of 11:59.01pm, and will close at midnight. If you log on to take the quiz at 11:45 PM you will have less than fifteen minutes to take the quiz.

Remember also that the lowest three grades will be dropped and will not count towards your final grade. We will not discuss chapters 6, 8, 10, 11, and 14 in detail in class. Quizzes for these chapters may be submitted at any time prior to 11:59pm on Tuesday, November 22nd.

Exams 2 & 4

100 pts each

Exams 2 and 4 will also be completed online within Blackboard. Specific due dates are provided for each exam, please refer to the calendar within the Exam area within our course in Blackboard. Exam 2 will consist of 50 randomly selected true/false and multiple-choice questions. The comprehensive Exam 4 will consist of 100 randomly selected true/false and multiple-choice questions. You will have one attempt on each exam, with 75 minutes to complete exam 2 and 120 minutes to complete exam 4.

Exams will be found by clicking on the EXAM tab on the left side of the course page in Blackboard. Only when you are ready to complete the exam should you access it. Once you begin an exam the system will consider that your attempt whether or not you submit it. Please keep in mind that although you will have a set amount of time to take the exam, it will "turn off" or deactivate at the specified time indicated. For **example:** Exams should be submitted before 11:59pm, are considered late as of 11:59.01pm, and will close at midnight. If you log on to take the exam at 11:45 PM you will have less than fifteen minutes to take the exam.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISCUSSION LEADER GROUPS 50 pts

As a group, you will be responsible for facilitating discussion of the chapter. Although you are free to choose how you present the material and facilitate the discussion, listed below are my suggestions for successfully leading discussion.

- a. Present overall summary of major points developed in the chapter. As far as the rest of the class is concerned, **you are the expert** when your group is presenting. It is your responsibility to engage with the chapter readings and the members of your group to achieve this status.
- b. Present and facilitate discussion related to 1 each theoretical perspective (4 questions) related to the chapter reading. This will obviously require a focus on understanding the theoretical perspectives, their level of analysis, and the kinds of questions that would arise from sociological theorists applying each specific perspective to the social problem of focus.
- c. Present and facilitate discussion related to 2 – 3 non-theoretically based questions related to the chapter reading. Consider questions related to the social problem as a personal trouble or public issue as well as potential pathways to resolutions.
- d. Research to find current events/news stories related to the topic and/or whatever other method(s) you find appropriate to further facilitate discussion with the rest of the class.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR READING RESPONSE PAPERS 10 pts

Reading Responses (RRs) will be **due at the beginning of class (by 11:30am)** on the day those readings are discussed. Refer to the course outline for due dates. RRs should be no less than 1 page, but no more than 4 pages (preferably double-sided) describing your reaction to the chapter for that day's class. Summaries of the readings should be minimal. Your response, or reaction, to the reading is most important. What thoughts came to mind as you read? Are you surprised, confused, or angered by what you read? Why? Or why not? What connections to current day real-world events can you make to the chapter? What are your thoughts on each theories' perspective on the social problem discussed? Which do you believe best applies to the problem discussed in the chapter? **You will not submit RR on the day you act as discussion leader.** Zeroes will be recorded in the grade book but will not count against you since two RR grades will be dropped. One additional RR grade will be dropped.

PAPERS MUST FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES:

Typewritten	Double-spaced	12 pt Times New Roman font
1" margins all around	Stapled	5 page maximum
Heading (name only) upper left corner of 1 st page		Include reference citations
Your papers should be proofread and submitted as grammatically correct and error-free as possible.		
You may lose points if I am unable to or find it difficult to read your analysis.		

PAPER INSTRUCTIONS 75_{pts}

This assignment gives you the opportunity to move beyond the pages of your textbook and utilize your sociological imagination to examine an area of interest to you related to social problems. As you apply the sociological imagination you will be able to explore the complexities of the social problem, even if this is the first time you have been made aware of or analyzed the issue. Your task will be to look at the topic through an objective, sociological lens as you consider the problem and solutions to the problem.

Part one of this project requires you to work as a group to explore any specific area of interest to you related to the social problem you have decided upon. You will first research then briefly summarize your findings on your chosen problem. Secondly, you will investigate local attempts to resolve the problem. Lastly, you will work with your group to synthesize your findings into a cohesive and informative presentation.

Topic Research Summary & Theoretical Analysis Paper

Using at least one scholarly source of data (article, book, report, etc...) related to your topic, briefly discuss the specific social problem you will explore. What is the social problem? Why is it of interest to you or why did you choose to examine this problem? How have you defined it as a problem (who is impacted by it, how are they impacted, is it clearly a public issue or personal trouble?) Why is it something that should be of interest to sociologists?

Consider the problem from the perspective of each sociological theory. What would sociological theorists from each perspective have to say about this topic? How would they explain trends or issues associated to the topic? Remember to consider the level of analysis for the perspective. Consider questions that would arise from each theoretical perspective as you seek to understand the issue of concern.

PAPERS MUST FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES:

Typewritten	Double-spaced	12 pt Times New Roman font
1" margins all around	Stapled	5 page minimum
Heading (names only) upper left corner of 1st page		Include reference citations
Your papers should be proofread and submitted as grammatically correct and error-free as possible. You may lose points if I am unable to or find it difficult to read your analysis.		

A Sociological Analysis

PRESENTATION INSTRUCTIONS 100 pts

Wednesday, December 7th

This assignment gives you the opportunity to move beyond the pages of your textbook and utilize your sociological imagination to examine an area of interest to you related to social problems. Part one of the project gave you the opportunity to explore the social problem and to analyze that problem through the lens of each of the major theoretical perspectives. Now you will synthesize that information, with more, into a cohesive and informative presentation.

What is the social problem and who does it affect? What are local responses to the problem? Who are the actors involved in responding to the problem (agencies, organizations, etc...) and what solutions to the problem are being implemented by them? Now you will focus on at least one, no more than two, agencies or organizations working towards resolving the problem. Your job now is to gather as much information as you can about the attempts at resolving the social problem locally. You are required to locate at least one agency or organization but may find it helpful to research multiple organizations and their attempts at resolving the problem. What is the agency's mission? Are the attempted solutions working? What difficulties do they face in achieving the goals they have established? What more can be done?

Your presentation should include the following information:

1. A brief discussion of the social problem: What is the social problem? Why is it of interest to you or why did you choose to examine this problem? How have you defined it as a problem (who is impacted by it, how are they impacted, is it clearly a public issue or personal trouble?) Why is it something that should be of interest to sociologists?
2. A brief theoretical analysis of the problem: Consider the problem from at least one of the theoretical perspectives.
3. A focus on local responses to the social problem: Address all questions in paragraph two above.

A Sociological Analysis

PRESENTATION INSTRUCTIONS 100 pts

Your group will develop an 8 – 12 minute presentation. You will be graded on:

1. your discussion of the social problem, and accurate theoretical analysis of the problem—a depth of understanding should be displayed of the social problem and the theoretical perspective(s) applied to the topic; 50 pts
2. information provided about the agency or multiple agencies working to resolve the problem; 15 pts
3. the presentation of your findings (overall cohesive flow of information, cooperation and participation of all group members, creativity, appeal); and 25 pts
4. timeliness—presentations should be no less than 8 but no more than 12 minutes. 10 pts

Total 100 pts

Each group's grade for the presentation will also be the grade for each individual member.

Teamwork and cooperation will play a vital role in your group's grade.

Each group member is expected to contribute equally to the successful completion of the project.

Critiques by: Print Your Name _____

Using a scale of 0-5 (where 0 is poor/negative and 5 is excellent/positive), please evaluate yourself and each of your group members. Total points = your rating of the quality of contributions of each team member (ranging from 0 – 25). You must also provide comments in the reflections area for each group member, including yourself.

<p>Critique for: YOU _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed fair share of work _____ 2. Exhibited a positive attitude _____ 3. Communicated well with others _____ 4. Gave quality suggestions and input _____ 5. Worked as a team member _____ <p style="text-align: right;">Total (0 – 25) points _____</p> <p>Reflections: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Critique for: _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed fair share of work _____ 2. Exhibited a positive attitude _____ 3. Communicated well with others _____ 4. Gave quality suggestions and input _____ 5. Worked as a team member _____ <p style="text-align: right;">Total (0 – 25) points _____</p> <p>Reflections: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Critique for: _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed fair share of work _____ 2. Exhibited a positive attitude _____ 3. Communicated well with others _____ 4. Gave quality suggestions and input _____ 5. Worked as a team member _____ <p style="text-align: right;">Total (0 – 25) points _____</p> <p>Reflections: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Critique for: _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed fair share of work _____ 2. Exhibited a positive attitude _____ 3. Communicated well with others _____ 4. Gave quality suggestions and input _____ 5. Worked as a team member _____ <p style="text-align: right;">Total (0 – 25) points _____</p> <p>Reflections: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Critique for: _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed fair share of work _____ 2. Exhibited a positive attitude _____ 3. Communicated well with others _____ 4. Gave quality suggestions and input _____ 5. Worked as a team member _____ <p style="text-align: right;">Total (0 – 25) points _____</p> <p>Reflections: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Critique for: _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed fair share of work _____ 2. Exhibited a positive attitude _____ 3. Communicated well with others _____ 4. Gave quality suggestions and input _____ 5. Worked as a team member _____ <p style="text-align: right;">Total (0 – 25) points _____</p> <p>Reflections: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

