

SOCI 2105/01: Perspectives in Sociology

**Instructor:** Philippe Jayat

**Class meets:** SO Room 3007; M/W: 8:00 am – 9:15 am

**Texts:** *Social Problems*, 10th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 2009.  
Coleman, James W. & Kerbo, Harold K.

Office hours: by appointment

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**Course Description:**

This course is designed to present a sociological approach to major social problems in contemporary American Society. It emphasizes the concepts of troubled institutions, problems of inequality, and conformity and deviance. It will provide students the foundation for understanding the causes of various social problems and proposing possible policies applicable in addressing these issues.

**Course Objectives:**

- I- Sociocultural Relationships: understand social and cultural influences on human behavior.
- II- Global citizenship: demonstrate knowledge about global issues confronting persons in the contemporary world.
- III- Interdependence/Interdisciplinarity: integrate and compare knowledge and concepts across disciplines.
- IV- Critical/Creative Thinking: support a position with appropriate evidence.

## **Organization and Structure of the Course:**

The course will be a combination of lectures and class discussions addressing various social problems and will draw on information from the text and outside sources. It will also include group discussions about selected topics from current news/events. It is very important that you are doing all your readings as they will facilitate discussions and increase understanding and comprehension. Please refrain from using your cell phones during class.

## **Grading**

You will be graded on the following course components:

### **I. Class Participation: Attendance policy**

Class participation encompasses attendance and participation in group discussions. An attendance sheet will be passed around at the beginning of each class. It will be the responsibility of each student to sign the attendance sheet.

### **II. Exams**

There will be three examinations (final exam included). The questions will cover materials from the text, class lectures and class discussions. It will be a combination of multiple choice, true/false and essay questions.

### **III. Reflective Journals**

You will write 3 one and a half page reflective journals based on topics from the “Questions for Critical Thinking” section of selected chapters.

## **Grading Scale:**

-Class participation & Journals	25%
-First Examination	25%
-Second Examination	25%
-Third Examination	25%

A= 90-100    C= 70-79    F= Less than 60  
B= 80-89    D=60-69

## **Academic Honesty:**

Please read the Student Code of Conduct as published in the KSU Undergraduate Catalog.

## **Disability statement**

Should you need special services, please let me know. You can visit the Disabled Student Support Services office, website: [http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu\\_dev/dsss/dsss.html](http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/dsss.html).

**Academic Honesty:**

Please read the College's policy on academic honesty.

**Course Outline:**

August 20, 22	Sociology and Social Problems
August 27, 29	Problems of the Family
September 3 (holiday), 5	Problems of Education ( <u>reflective journal due 09/05</u> )
September 10	1 <sup>st</sup> Examination
September 12	Physical and Mental Health
September 17, 19	The Poor ( <u>reflective journal due 09/17</u> )
September 24	The Ethnic Minorities
September 26	2 <sup>nd</sup> Examination
October 1, 3	Conformity and Deviance (Sexual Behavior, Drug Use) - ( <u>reflective journal due 10/03</u> )
October 8, 10	Conformity and Deviance (Crime & Violence)
October 15, 17	Conformity and Deviance (continued).
October 22	Final Examination