

Matthew Irvin, Ph.D. Professor of Sociology

Course SOCIAL PROBLEMS Fall 2016

Online Consultation/ 7:00-8:30 PM Monday; or by appointment .

UPDATED August 14 2016

SOCI 2251 - Social Problems

3 Class Hours 0 Laboratory Hours 3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: SOCI 1101.

An overview of current social problems facing American society with attention to developing insights into the conceptual analysis of meaningful solutions.

Enrollment Status Statement: **PLEASE NOTE** Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a course; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

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Welcome to class! I am your course facilitator, Matthew Irvin.

Here is the text with ISBN number for this class:

Social Problems (Sixth Edition) by John J. Macionis. ISBN-19: 0-13-390959-X

Course Objectives. For this course, you will be expected to:

1. Explain the benefits of learning about sociology and using the sociological imagination.
2. Define the concept "social problem" and explain how societies come to define some issues—and not others—as social problems.
3. Explain the difference between personal troubles and public issues.
4. Apply sociological theory to the study of social problems.
5. Discuss the methods sociologists use to study social problems.
6. Identify factors that shape how societies devise policy to respond to social problems.
7. Analyze how political attitudes shape how people define social problems and solutions.

8. Identify how social problems are the product of social organization.
9. Analyze data to identify and explain social problems.
10. Evaluate the effectiveness of social policies that attempt solutions.
11. Assess how different groups across the political spectrum define social problems and social solutions.

LATE POLICY: Late assignments are not accepted or awarded credit without prior arrangement with the professor. If there is a critical situation, please let me know in advance or, in the case of an emergency, as soon as possible and I will work with you to arrange an extension. Emergencies include accidents, acute health issues, or family emergencies. I will have work graded and submitted to you in five to seven days from the due date.

Summary Grade Points

We will do this through a series of active learning activities designed to keep you on task in both reading the text and engaging the concepts that are covered here. There are three types of assignments for our Social Problems course.

1 **Introduction:** You will receive 2.25 points for introducing yourself

2. **Chapter Quizzes.** Each chapter will have a one to two question quiz (open book) worth 1.75 points each. These must be completed by the due dates listed below and in the course modules. There is one quiz for each chapter (17 chapters) for a total of 29.75 points
3. **Discussion Questions.** Alternating modules have discussion questions, worth three points each. There are eight discussion questions. These are designed to assess your ability to apply the concepts from two chapters. An ideal post should be a paragraph or two. Respond to at least one other classmate. You can access your text and course PowerPoints for these discussion questions: 24 points

4 There are four tests throughout the semester, covering the chapter materials as outlined below. Each of these four tests is worth 17 points.

I treat these due dates as I would work deadlines on a job. If you miss the due dates, the material is not available to make up, and you receive no credit.

Modules with DUE DATES:

<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Module and Chapter Number</i>	Chapter (s)	<i>Chapter Quiz</i>	<i>Discussion</i>	<i>Test</i>
August 28	1	1. Sociology's Basic Approach	Chapter One August 28	Introduce Yourself August 28	
August 28	2	2. Poverty and Wealth	August 28	Poverty as a Social Problem August 28.	
September 4	3	3 Racial and Ethnic Inequality	Quiz Chapter 3 September 4	-----	
September 11	4	4 Gender Inequality	Quiz Chapter 4, September 11	Discussion: Race, Gender and Double Consciousness	
September 18	5	5 Aging and Inequality	Quiz Chapter 5, September 18		TEST One: Modules (Chapters) One through Five, September 18-20
September 25	6	6 Crime, Violence, and Social Control	Quiz Chapter 6, September 25	Discussion: Stigma at Work September 25	
October 2	7	7 Sexuality	Quiz October 2		
October 9	8	8 Alcohol and Drugs	Quiz October 9	Discussion: The Social Definition of	

				Consent October 9	
October 16	9	9 Physical and Mental Health	Quiz October 16		TEST Two: Modules (Chapters) 6 through 9, October 16-18
October 23	10	10 Economy and Politics	Quiz October 23	Discussion: Identify Your Congressperson! October 23	
October 30	11	11 Work and the Workplace	Quiz October 30		
November 6	12	12 Family Life	Quiz November 6	Discussion: The Tension between Wage Work and Family Life: November 6	
November 13	13	13: Education	Quiz November 13		Test Three Modules 10 through 13 November 13-15
November 21	14	14: Urban Life	Quiz November 21	Discussion: : Quality of Life on the Rural Urban Continuum	
November 21	15	15: Population and Global Inequality	Quiz November 21		
No work due	Thanksgiving Break	November 21 through November 27	No work due	No work due	Nope. No work due this week.
December 5	16	16. Technology and the Environment	Quiz December 5	Discussion: which system explains world stratification?	
December 5	17	17. War and Terrorism	Quiz December 5		Test Four, Modules 14 through 17, December 6 through December 9

IMPORTANT LINKS: [STUDENT RIGHTS](#), [DISABILITIES](#), [SEXUAL HARRASSMENT POLICY](#), [ACADEMIC HONESTY](#)

Below you will find important links for your life here at Kennesaw: student responsibilities, protections, and rights. Please take a minute and review these updated links below, with the latest information reflecting the latest Kennesaw State University policies.

1. Academic Honesty/Integrity Statement

Kennesaw State University takes seriously the issue of academic integrity, including plagiarism and cheating. For a full account of the academic policy, please click the link below and read pp 17-21.

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/KSU%20Codes%20of%20Conduct%202016-2017%20edits.pdf>

Another quick guideline is the link for student information. Please click this link below.

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/students/general-info/cheating.php>

2. Confidentiality and Privacy Statement (FERPA)

Your privacy as a student here at Kennesaw is also protected by Federal Law (FERPA). For the complete overview of your protections under FERPA, please see the link below.

<http://enrollmentservices.kennesaw.edu/training/ferpa.php>

3. University – Student Rights Statement

You have specific rights as a student here at Kennesaw. Please take a minute and review your rights via the link below.

<http://catalog.kennesaw.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=2263>

4. Ethics Statement

There is a code of ethics that guides academic life at Kennesaw States. Please take a few minutes and review this Ethics Statement.

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

5. Sexual Harassment Statement

Kennesaw State takes seriously the issue of sexual harassment in the university environment. Follow the link below for the latest statement on sexual harassment

<http://scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php>

6. Course Accessibility Statement (ADA statement)

Kennesaw State complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please follow the link below for information about the ADA.

<http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds/institutional-policies.php>