

**Eastern WV Community & Technical College  
Master Course Record**

<b>Course Prefix and Number:</b> SOC 207
<b>Course Title:</b> Social Problems
<b>Recommended Transcript Title:</b> Social Problems
<b>Date Approved/Revised:</b> 7/16/08; 10/5/17
<b>Credit Hours:</b> 3 <b>Contact hours per week (Based on 15 week term)</b> <b>Lecture:</b> 3 <b>Lab:</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> SOC 203 – Introduction to Sociology <b>Corequisite:</b> None <b>Pre/Corequisite:</b> None
<b>Grading Mode:</b> Letter
<b>Catalog Description:</b> This course deals with an analysis of major American social problems utilizing the theories, concepts and results of sociological research. There will be an emphasis on the problems faced by minority groups, including access to the world as a “global village.”
<b>Course Outcomes:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems of theories used in sociology (conflict, functionalism, symbolic interactionism).</li> <li>2. Employ the appropriate methods, technologies and the data that social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition including the case study, surveys, existing data, and the experiment.</li> <li>3. Recognize the concepts and components of culture (e.g., norms, values) and identify the differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.</li> <li>4. Recognize and apply reasonable criteria for the acceptability of historical evidence and social research.</li> <li>5. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods, social structures, and cultures.</li> <li>6. Identify various approaches to understanding social problems (e.g., problems as norm violations vs problems as social conditions).</li> <li>7. Identify challenges pertaining to race and ethnicity.</li> <li>8. Describe the power structure in America and gender stratification in the United States including issues such as wage discrimination, blocked opportunities and the “old-boy” networks.</li> <li>9. Describe various issues regarding drug and alcohol abuse, examine whether the behavior should be criminalized, medicalized or legalized.</li> <li>10. Analyze bias in the criminal justice system.</li> <li>11. Identify and discuss various problems confronting the family and children in U.S. society and issues in the educational system including the trend toward school vouchers and the decline of public education.</li> </ol>

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<p>12. Define political economy and analyze how it affects various social groups in the U.S.</p> <p>13. Describe how industrialization affects the ecosystem and how changes in ecology, in turn, influence human cultures.</p> <p>14. Identify confronting cities and explain why people are homeless, and why the homeless population is growing in the U.S.</p> <p>15. List various global social problems and discuss the relationships between rich and poor countries.</p>
<p><b>Implementation Cycle:</b> Spring</p>
<p><b>Role in College Curriculum: (Check all that apply)</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>General Education Core (Specify category) - A.A. &amp; A.S.</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Technical Core (Specify Program)</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Restricted Elective (Specify program)</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>General Elective</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Workforce Education</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other (Please specify)</b></p>
<p><b>Course Fee:</b> None</p>
<p><b>Instructor's Qualifications:</b> Master's Degree with 18 credit hours in sociology or related social sciences.</p>
<p><b>Expanded Course Description:</b></p> <p>OVERARCHING COURSE OBJECTIVES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To define the concept of "Social Problems" within a sociological framework.</li><li>• To explain the existence of and possible solutions to social problems by reference to a variety of sociological perspectives or theories.</li><li>• To sensitize students to the fact that social problems are complex issues arising out of social interaction between individuals and groups within and between societies.</li></ul> <p>COURSE FORMAT</p> <p>This course utilizes discussion question postings, requires student comment and topic discussion interaction, textbook readings, and short reports on articles drawn from Annual Editions: Social Problems.</p>

Prepared by: Holly Jordan, Adjunct Faculty, 10/5/17

Approved Per LOT Minutes

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Dean, Academic and Student Services

Date