South Central College

SOC 110 Social Problems

Common Course Outline

Course Information

Description
This course is a survey of the sociology of a selected set of social problems in the U.S. and globally, e.g. crime and violence, poverty, unemployment, war and terrorism, environmental degradation, and population growth. The social-structural and cultural sources of these problems are critically analyzed, and structural and cultural solutions following from such analyses are examined. (Prerequisite: Completion of Reading 80 or 90 with a grade of C or higher or a score of 78 or above in Reading comprehension on the Accuplacer; MNTC Goal Areas 5 & 7, Social / Behavioral Sciences & Human Diversity)

Career Cluster
Liberal Arts & Sciences

Instructional Level
Associate Degree

Total Credits
3.00

Total Hours
48.00

Types of Instruction

Instruction Type
Lecture

Credits
3

Pre/Corequisites

Prerequisite
Prerequisite: Completion of Reading 80 or 90 with a grade of C or higher or a score of 78 or above in Reading comprehension on the Accuplacer

Institutional Core Competencies

1. Civic knowledge and engagement - local and global: Students will understand the richness and challenge of local and world cultures and the effects of globalization, and will develop the skills and attitudes to function as “global citizens.”

2. Ethical reasoning and action: Students will develop ethical and social responsibility to self and others, and will collaborate with others to address ethical and social issues in a sustainable manner.

3. Intercultural knowledge and competence: Students will recognize and understand the rich and complex ways that group and individual inequalities and interactions impact self and society.

External Standards

Title
MN Transfer Goals
Target Standards
GOAL 5. HISTORY AND THE SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES To increase students' knowledge of how historians and social and behavioral scientists discover, describe, and explain the behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and ideas.
5.a Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
5.b Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
5.c Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
5.d Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
GOAL 7. HUMAN DIVERSITY To increase students' understanding of individual and group differences (e.g. race, gender, class) and their knowledge of the traditions and values of various groups in the United States.
7.a Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.
7.b Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
7.c Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
7.d Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.
7.e Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

Course Competencies
1. Explain the methods and theoretical paradigms of social problems from a sociological perspective
   Learning Objectives
   Demonstrate understanding of classical sociological theory
   Demonstrate understanding of quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection and analysis

2. Analyze and evaluate the social problem of Illness and Healthcare
   Learning Objectives
   Formulate and evaluate the ethical implications of healthcare inequality
   Quantify and qualify healthcare inequality and access issues
   Analyze the race/class/gender inequalities in healthcare outcomes

3. Analyze and evaluate the social problem of substance abuse
   Learning Objectives
   Formulate and evaluate the ethical and social implications of inequality resulting from substance abuse
   Quantify and qualify the race/class/gender differences in substance abuse

4. Analyze and evaluate the social problem of crime and social control
   Learning Objectives
   Formulate and evaluate the ethical implications of inequality in crime and deviance
   Quantify and qualify the race/class/gender differences in crime and deviance
   Critique and formulate alternatives to the inequalities in societal response to crime

5. Analyze and evaluate the social problem of poverty and economic inequality
Learning Objectives
Formulate and evaluate the ethical implications of social stratification
Quantify and qualify race/class/gender inequalities in social stratification

6 Analyze and evaluate the social problem of education

Learning Objectives
Postulate and evaluate the ethical implications of educational inequality
Quantify and qualify the race/class/gender stratification of educational inequality
Demonstrate understanding of the nature of educational inequality

7 Analyze and evaluate the social problem of work and unemployment

Learning Objectives
Formulate and evaluate the ethical implications of structural unemployment
Demonstrate understanding of the social safety net
Quantify and qualify the race/class/gender stratification of work / unemployment

8 Analyze and evaluate the social problem of the environment

Learning Objectives
Formulate and evaluate the ethical implications of environmental destruction
Quantify and qualify race/class/gender stratification in environmental policy, with particular attention to global development issues

9 For competencies 2 - 8, quantify and qualify the global and cultural variations in the social problem

Learning Objectives
Demonstrate understanding of global variation in the size, nature, and solutions to the social problem
Demonstrate understanding of cultural variation in the size, nature, and solutions to the social problem

10 For competencies 2 - 8, quantify and qualify the various solutions available to the social problem

Learning Objectives
Evaluate the ethical implications of the solution
Hypothesize and refine solutions available to the given social problem
Critically evaluate and synthesize the aforementioned solutions

SCC Accessibility Statement

If you have a disability and need accommodations to participate in the course activities, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. This information will be made available in an alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or cassette tape, upon request. If you wish to contact the college ADA Coordinator, call that office at 507-389-7222.

Disabilities page [http://southcentral.edu/academic-policies/disability-rights.html](http://southcentral.edu/academic-policies/disability-rights.html)