SOC-201H: HONORS SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: SOC-201H: Honors Social Problems

Board of Trustees:
2007-05-24

Academic Term:
2007-08-25

Subject Code
SOC - Sociology

Course Number:
201H

Title:
Honors Social Problems

Catalog Description:
In-depth sociological analysis of contemporary social problems in the United States, cross-cultural solutions and their implications for individuals, social institutions and society. Emphasis on application of sociological imagination, sociological theories and multiple research methods to understand social forces that promote social inequalities and their consequences, based on race/ethnicity, gender, social class and other factors. Course culminates in student’s clarification and appraisal of personal values, and formulation of personal strategy to influence social policy and affect change regarding a specific social problem examined in the course.

Credit Hour(s):
3

Lecture Hour(s):
3

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite
SOC-1010 Introductory Sociology or SOC-101H Honors Introductory Sociology and eligibility for ENG-101H Honors College Composition I.

I. ACADEMIC CREDIT

Academic Credit According to the Ohio Department of Higher Education, one (1) semester hour of college credit will be awarded for each lecture hour. Students will be expected to work on out-of-class assignments on a regular basis which, over the length of the course, would normally average two hours of out-of-class study for each hour of formal class activity. For laboratory hours, one (1) credit shall be awarded for a minimum of three laboratory hours in a standard week for which little or no out-of-class study is required since three hours will be in the lab (i.e. Laboratory 03 hours). Whereas, one (1) credit shall be awarded for a minimum of two laboratory hours in a standard week, if supplemented by out-of-class assignments which would normally average one hour of out-of-class study preparing for or following up the laboratory experience (i.e. Laboratory 02 hours). Credit is also awarded for other hours such as directed practice, practicum, cooperative work experience, and field experience. The number of hours required to receive credit is listed under Other Hours on the syllabus. The number of credit hours for lecture, lab and other hours are listed at the beginning of the syllabus. Make sure you can prioritize your time accordingly. Proper planning, prioritization and dedication will enhance your success in this course.

The standard expectation for an online course is that you will spend 3 hours per week for each credit hour.

II. ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

If you need any special course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability, please notify your instructor within a reasonable length of time, preferably the first week of the term with formal notice of that need (i.e. an official letter from the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) office). Accommodations will not be made retroactively.
For specific information pertaining to ADA accommodation, please contact your campus SAS office or visit online at http://www.tri-c.edu/accessprograms/. Blackboard accessibility information is available at http://access.blackboard.com.
Eastern (216) 987-2052 - Voice
2. Contrast the advantages and limitations of interdisciplinary approaches to the study of social problems and issues.

1. Analyze the historical and contemporary forms and functions of social problems.

Objective(s):
Apply major sociological theories and concepts to analyze the scope, antecedents and consequences of social problems.

Course Outcome(s):
Outcomes documents/3354-1-20-10-zero-tolerance-for-violence-policy.pdf
comply with the College’s Zero Tolerance for Violence on College Property available at
the Tri-C student handbook, available at
As a Tri-C student, your behavior on campus must comply with the student code of conduct which is available on page 29 within
a designated parking area only by an individual in possession of a valid conceal carry permit.
College policy prohibits the possession of weapons on college property by students, faculty and staff, unless specifically approved in
in-person and blended courses, as described herein, within the first two weeks or equivalent, will be considered not attending.
For online courses, students are required to login at least two times per week and submit one assignment per week for the first two
weeks of the semester, or equivalent to the 15th day of the term. Students who have not met all attendance requirements for online
courses, as described herein, within the first two weeks or equivalent, will be considered not attending.
At the conclusion of the first two weeks of a semester or equivalent, instructors report any registered students who have “Never
Attended” a course. Those students will be administratively withdrawn from that course. However, after the time period in
the previous paragraphs, if a student stops attending a class or wants or needs to withdraw, for any reason, it is the student’s
responsibility to take action to withdraw from the course. Students must complete and submit the appropriate Tri-C form by the
established withdrawal deadline.
Tri-C is required to ensure that students receive financial aid only for courses that they attend and complete. Students reported for not
attending at least one of their registered courses will have all their financial aid funds held until confirmation of attendance in registered
courses has been verified. Students who fail to complete at least one course may be required to repay all or a portion of their federal
financial aid funds and may be ineligible to receive future federal financial aid awards. Students who withdraw from classes prior to
completing more than 60 percent of their enrolled class time may be subject to the required federal refund policy.
If illness or emergency should necessitate a brief absence from class, students should confer with instructors upon their return.
Students having problems with coursework due to a prolonged absence should confer with the instructor or a counselor.

IV. LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
Occasionally, in addition to submitting assignments to their instructors for evaluation and a grade, students will also be asked to
submit completed assignments, called 'artifacts,' for assessment of course and program outcomes and the College’s Essential
Learning Outcomes (ELOs). The artifacts will be submitted in Blackboard or a similar technology. The level of mastery of the outcome
demonstrated by the artifact DOES NOT affect the student’s grade or academic record in any way. However, some instructors require
that students submit their artifact before receiving their final grade. Some artifacts will be randomly selected for assessment, which
will help determine improvements and support needed to further student success. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak
with your instructor or contact the Learning Outcomes Assessment office.

V. CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT
College policy prohibits the possession of weapons on college property by students, faculty and staff, unless specifically approved in
advance as a job-related requirement (i.e., Tri-C campus police officers) or, in accordance with Ohio law, secured in a parked vehicle in
a designated parking area only by an individual in possession of a valid conceal carry permit.
As a Tri-C student, your behavior on campus must comply with the student code of conduct which is available on page 29 within
the Tri-C student handbook, available athttp://www.tri-c.edu/student-resources/documents/studenthandbook.pdfYou must also
comply with the College’s Zero Tolerance for Violence on College Property available athttp://www.tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures/
documents/3354-1-20-10-zero-tolerance-for-violence-policy.pdf

Outcomes
Course Outcome(s):
Apply major sociological theories and concepts to analyze the scope, antecedents and consequences of social problems.

Objective(s):
1. Analyze the historical and contemporary forms and functions of social problems.
2. Contrast the advantages and limitations of interdisciplinary approaches to the study of social problems and issues.
3. Analyze and appraise C. Wright Mills' sociological imagination as a theoretical means to link personal problems or troubles and
public issues in a socio-cultural context.
4. Analyze and appraise the micro and macro and global-level typology as a means to differentiate social problems and issues.
5. Apply, compare and contrast the three main theoretical approaches to social problems: structural-functionalism, conflict theory,
and symbolic interactionism.
6. Evaluate the respective impact of structural-functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism on social policy and social
change for specific social problems.
7. Describe the impact of technology and post-industrial society on the study of social problems.
8. Conduct research on a social problem using computer technology and write a research paper.
9. Assess secondary data bases of social problems using computer technology and analyze research methods used and findings.

Course Outcome(s):
Evaluate local, state, national and cross-cultural solutions to social problems in the United States.

Objective(s):
1. Evaluate the respective impact of the three main theoretical approaches to social issues and problems: structural-functionalism,
conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism, on social policy and social change in the United States.
2. Discuss the role of diversity in the identification and approach to social problems.
3. Discuss manifest and latent consequences of various efforts of local, state and national governments and groups to resolve
specific social problems.
4. Analyze the limitations of existing research and data in the field.
5. Discuss why efforts at social control have been insufficient to solve social problems.
6. Analyze the social, ethical, and moral issues related to social problems, social control, and social engineering.
7. Assess and appraise relevant research data bases using computer technology.
8. Analyze and appraise solutions to social problems used by comparable post-industrialized societies.

Course Outcome(s):
Analyze and appraise personal values and advocate for social policy to alleviate specific social problems.

Objective(s):
1. Write critical analysis of at least one social problem including micro and macro-level efforts to resolve the problem.
2. Critique own personal values relative to a specific social problem and interrelated social problems; analyze personal efforts to
resolve the problem.
3. Formulate a plan that reflects own personal values to publicly advocate specific action to resolve a specific social problem.

Methods of Evaluation:
1. Group discussions
2. Written critiques of academic journal articles
3. Participant observation reports
4. Research activities
5. Service-Learning

Course Content Outline:
1. Sociology and the study of social problems
   a. The sociological imagination, private troubles and public issues
   b. Defining social problems
   c. History of social problems and their study
   d. Interdisciplinary approaches to studying social problems
   e. Micro, macro and global-level social problems
2. Theoretical explanations of social problems and their resolution
   a. Structural-functionalism
   b. Conflict theory
   c. Symbolic interactionism
   d. Theoretical variants
   e. Cross-cultural perspective
3. Social scientific research methods to study social problems
   a. The research process
   b. Surveys
   c. Participant observation
d. Experiments
e. Case studies

4. Problems of inequality
   a. Poverty and affluence
   b. Racial, ethnic and immigration inequality
   c. Gender, sexual orientation and gender identity inequality
   d. Age inequality
   e. Physical, mental and emotional health inequalities

5. Problems of social institutions
   a. Changing families
   b. Crises in education
   c. Economy and work changes in structure
   d. Government regulation, protection, social order and social control
   e. Health care delivery

6. Behavioral social problems
   a. Crime, violence, delinquency and social justice issues
   b. Alcohol and substance abuse
   c. Sexual behavior and sex trade issues

7. Problems of the environment and population growth
   a. Urbanization and related housing issues
   b. Population changes
   c. Climatic and ecosystem changes
   d. Hunger and starvation
   e. Pollution and resource depletion
   f. Technological changes
   g. Critical demography
   h. Environmental justice

8. Values, social policies, programs, and dilemmas
   a. Cultural values influence on definition and responses to social problems
   b. Social activism and social movements
   c. Cross-cultural solutions

9. Future of social problems and their study

Resources


Hoggett, Paul, Marjorie Mayo and Chris Miller. "Private Passions, the Public Good and Public Service reform" 40. 2006-12-01 00:00:00.0.

Deacon, A. "Different Interpretations of Agency in Welfare Debates" 3.


**Resources Other**

1. Social Sciences electronic databases
15. Technological support to offer on-campus course to be taught with 1/3 semester spent on each campus—Metro, East and West to study local social problems live District-wide
16. District-wide Honors curriculum resources
17. Supplemental Blackboard course site
18. Faculty collaborations
19. Learning community opportunities
20. Field trips
21. Guest speakers
22. Selected DVDs

**Instructional Services**

OAN Number:
TMSBS and OSS025

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