

Basic Course Information

Semester	SPRING 2015	Instructor Name	Claudia S. Macias
Course Title & #	Contemporary Social Problems SOC 102	Email	claudia.macias@imperial.edu
CRN #	20914	Units	3
Room	# 202	Office	# 809
Class Dates	02/16/2015-06/08/2015	Class Days	Monday
Class Times	6:30-9:40pm	Office Contact	Elvia M. Camillo 760-355-6144

Course Description

This course examines contemporary social problems and the process by which competing groups make claims to define phenomena as social problems. Emphasis includes understanding these problems on the societal level, the group level, and from the standpoint of the individual.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, students will have acquired the skills and knowledge to:

1. Define and apply the basic concepts of sociology including culture, status, roles, norms, institutions, social class, race, gender. (ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
2. Distinguish different major sociological theoretical perspectives that explain social behavior. (ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
3. Read, summarize and evaluate peer-reviewed empirical studies. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)
4. Demonstrate the ability to make oral presentations that are organized, rely on evidence and engage the audience. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Be able to define a social problem and be familiar with the key components of the definition.
2. Identify health care as a social problem and explain what constitutes adequate health care in society.
3. Analyze the extent of mental illness in America and the nature of mental illness as a social problem.
4. Describe the nature of sex as a social problem.
5. Analyze alcohol use and abuse in the United States.
6. Recognize the types of crime and criminals in addition to the conditions and causes of crime.
7. Describe the extent of poverty in American society and identify the relationship between poverty and social class.
8. Identify the origins of prejudice and discrimination and the consequences of each.
9. Describe the significance of world population growth and other conditions that stress the environment.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Required Text:

Author: Kornblum
 Title: Social Problems
 Publisher: Pearson
 Edition: 14th
 ISBN: 9780205832323

Additional reading may be required and will be provided.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

- **Class Participation/Discussion:** Students are expected and encouraged to participate in class through verbal contributions. Students have different opinions therefore you are to agree to disagree and be respectful of each other.

- **Quiz:** The quiz will consist of: matching, true or false, multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer questions and extra credit question/s.
- **Newspaper Articles:** Students will summarize 6 newspaper articles that deal with social problems. The summaries are to be typed out and attached to the newspaper clipping. *Articles may not be over 1 week old.* A maximum of 2 articles per class may be presented.
- **Agency Interview:** *The paper will be due at the beginning of class. Deductions will be taken for papers turned in later that same class.* A set of required questions will be provided to students. The paper will be in 12 in. Times New Roman font, regular margins, double spaced and in paragraph form.
- **Midterm:** The midterm will consist of: matching, true or false, multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer questions and extra credit question/s.
- **Final:** The final will consist of: matching, true or false, multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer questions and extra credit question/s.
- **Extra-Credit:** Extra Credit will be available for completion throughout the semester. The assignments will be worth 1-2 points each.
- **Assignments:** All submitted assignments must be typed unless otherwise stated. Assignments that are to be printed out from the internet must have pertinent information highlighted.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Semester Grade:

Participation	100 points
Quiz	20 points
Newspaper Articles	60 points
Agency Interview	80 points
Midterm	100 points
Final	<u>200 points</u>
	560 points

Grading Scale:

A (100-90%)	560-504 points
B (89-80%)	503-448 points
C (79-70%)	447-392 points
D (69-60%)	391-336 points
F (59% & below)	335 points & below

Makeup and Late Assignments:

- **I do not accept late work.** If you will not be able to attend class, please notify me before class.
- If you will be unable to attend class, you may submit your work via email.
- **No make-ups on quizzes/tests will be given without a written statement from a physician that must be verified or extenuating circumstances that are verified. It is your responsibility to contact me before the class to reschedule.**
- If your absence is work related, you must inform me ahead of time to make prior arrangements.

Assignments:

- All submitted assignments must be typed or pertinent information highlighted, unless otherwise stated.
- Extra Credit will be available for completion throughout the semester.
- **Do not expect additional Extra Credit assignments when you have failed to complete the assigned work.**
- Study Guides will be handed out before the Midterm & Final Exam but not for the Quiz.
- Due to time constraints, there might be changes to the dates in which chapters & assignments are covered/discussed in class.

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.
- Respect: Students will respect each other and their opinions. Disrespectful attitudes or behaviors will not be condoned; agree to disagree.

Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to 'cite a source' correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Help –

- Learning Labs: There are several 'labs' on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Study Skills Center (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program.

- Library Services: There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the Study Skills Center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313, if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic
Week 1 - February 16	HOLIDAY
Week 2 - February 23	Syllabus & Introduction; Chapter 1
Week 3 - March 2	Chapter 1 & 2
Week 4 - March 9	Chapter 2 & 3
Week 5 - March 16	Chapter 3 & QUIZ
Week 6 - March 23	Chapter 4
Week 7 - March 30	Chapter 4
Week 8 - April 6	Chapter 5 & MIDTERM
Week 9 - April 13	Chapter 5 & 6
Week 10 - April 20	Chapter 6
Week 11 - April 27	Chapter 7
Week 12 - May 4	Chapter 7 & 8 & RESEARCH PAPER
Week 13 - May 11	Chapter 8 & 9
Week 14 - May 18	Chapter 9
Week 15 - May 25	Chapter 10
Week 16 - June 1	Chapter 10
Week 17 - June 8	FINAL