Basic Course Information

Semester:	**Winter 2025**	Instructor Name:	**David Greif**
Course Title & #:	**SOC 102: Social Problems**	Email:	**David.greif@imperial.edu**
CRN #:	**15073**	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	**Online**	Office #:	
Class Dates:	**January 2 – February 3, 2025**	Office Hours:	No winter office hours. If you have questions, or need help, contact me through Canvas email or through Pronto.
Class Days:	**Fully online**	Office Phone #:	**Please contact me through Canvas email or through Pronto.**
Class Times:	Modules open on Sunday and close each Monday at 11:59 pm	Emergency Contact:	**Behavioral and Social Sciences 760-355-6144**
Units:	5	Class Format:	Asynchronous (fully online)

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. (C-ID: SOCI 115) (CSU/UC)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Compare and contrast the different major sociological theoretical perspectives that explain social behavior.
2. Assess both macro social influences and micro social influences in understanding a particular social issue.

Course Objectives

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

1. 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. Analyze alcohol use and abuse in the United States, as well as other patterns of drug use.
5. Recognize the types of crime and criminals in addition to the conditions and causes of crime.
6. Describe the extent of poverty in American society and identify the relationship.
7. Identify the origins of prejudice and discrimination and the consequences of each.
8. Describe the significance of world population growth and immigration that stress the environment.
9. Describe the changing family structure in America and the effects on society.
10. Analyze the success and failures of the American educational system and compare it to other countries.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Social Problems: Continuity and Change.
Creative Commons . 2012. S
Saylor Academy. ISBN: https://saylordotorg.github.io/text_social-problems-continuity-and-change/index.html

NOTE: This is an Open Educational Resource (OER). The textbook is available to you in our Canvas course. There is no cost for you to read the text online.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

This is a fully online course delivered in a short-term format. There are no scheduled class meetings, but your instructor is available during the week through Canvas email or on Pronto.

It is VERY important for you to make sure you do your work each week! Because of the flexibility to complete your work outside of class, deadlines WILL NOT be extended.

Manage your time. Do not try to complete your assignments in one day. It will be too much for you to do and too much for your brain to handle. "Online" does not mean "easy". If you do not do your work, or you do not submit your work when it is due, you will not pass the class.

Success: Reading the book is simply not sufficient for you to succeed. You must study, write, and participate in class. College guidelines suggest that you study two hours for every hour of class. Since this an intensive course, this means that you are expected to study or participate in some other learning activity for an about 10-15 hours every week.'

Instructional Method: Audio-visual, Group Work, Activities, Individual Assistance, and Lecture

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Discussions	30%
Quizzes and Assessments	30%
Other Assignments	10%
Annotated Bibliography Project	30%
TOTAL	*100%*

A = 90 – 100% (passing grade)
B = 80 – 89% (passing grade)
C = 70 – 79% (passing grade)
D = 60 -69% (non-passing grade)
F = 59% and below (non-passing grade)

Anything submitted after the deadline will receive a deduction.
Discussions are due by the deadline and will not be accepted late.

Course Policies

When do modules open and close? You have one week to complete each module. Modules open on Sunday morning and close at 11:59 pm Monday night.

Can I complete work when I want? Yes, you can! However, you must complete each module by the deadline. (Monday night at 11:59 pm).

Can I complete my work after the module closes? Yes! You can complete work after the module closes, but you will not receive full points. The only exception is the Discussion assignments. You may not work on the discussions after the module closes.

What happens if I have a problem? If something happens, please email me as soon as possible! I will work to help you! If you wait a week to let me know there was an issue, it will be too late.

Attendance:

Any student who does not complete the orientation unit or take at least one practice quiz by the end of the first day of class will be dropped. If you want to add the class, there must be space in the class. I do not drop students at any other time during the semester.

Regular participation is required. Participation includes:

- o   Posting and responding in weekly discussions;
- o   Completing weekly work on Canvas;
- o   Submitting your work on time;

If there is a problem with completing your work (such as being in the hospital or being sick), please let me know. I am willing to help you, but you need to make sure you communicate with me.

Participation:

To ensure your success, plan to participate in all class activities! There are many ways that we can participate, collaborate, and share ideas in an online environment. Here are a few:

• Contribute and share ideas in group discussion boards.
• Contact me with questions when you do not understand something.
• Read information from the instructor as well as classmates.
• Be prepared and complete homework before due dates.
• Turn in assignments, quizzes, homework on-time

If you are feeling lost and need a study buddy, then send me an e-mail and I can pair you up with a fellow classmate.

What happens if I don't participate?

You may be dropped if you are no longer actively participating in the course, logging into Canvas, and engaging in course material. Active participation includes logging into Canvas and engaging with course content, completing and turning in homework, assignments, and quizzes. If you are unable to log into Canvas for a long period, it is your responsibility to find out everything you missed. If you have a personal problem or issue, please communicate with me and let me know what's going on before too much time has passed.

Netiquette and Respectful Use:
IVC's Respectful Use and Netiquette Policy: IVC's official policy about netiquette is as follows:
What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online. Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette:

1. identify yourself,
2. include a subject line,
3. avoid sarcasm,
4. respect others' opinions and privacy,
5. acknowledge and return messages promptly,
6. copy with caution,
7. do not spam or junk mail,
8. be concise,

9. use appropriate language,
10. use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and
11. use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)

Our Respectful Use and Netiquette Policy: For this course, I expect all students to be treated with respect. If someone disagrees with an opinion, it is not an opportunity for name calling or belittling. It is a time to respectfully listen, contemplate, and learn. We do not have to agree in the discussion boards, but we do have to be respectful and kind. Any instances of disrespect in a discussion or group collaboration should be brought to the instructor's attention and may result in the disrespectful student losing points or being reported to the campus disciplinary officer.

Late Work Policy:
Any student struggling with a deadline should contact the instructor as soon as possible. With prior notice, some deadlines may be adjusted at the instructor's discretion. Without prior notice or contact, assignments may be submitted in the week following the original due date for reduced points. Quizzes and discussion assignments will not be accepted late and must be completed on or before the original due date.

Academic Honesty Policy and Artificial Intelligence (AI)
What's Academic Honesty?

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to
reach out to their instructors for clarification.

I expect that all students will conduct themselves with integrity. All students in my class are held to the highest academic honesty standards. Please help keep this a positive learning environment for all students by doing your own work. The following are some examples of plagiarism and/or cheating:
- buying or copying papers;
- plagiarizing or copying chunks of text and then claiming them as your own;
- getting someone else to write papers or to take quizzes or tests for you;
- doing someone else's work for them;
- copying others' homework and handing in others' work as your own;
- submitting an assignment/journal that was completed for a different course;
- Sharing information with another person during a test or exam;

*Summary: You may not copy or use material written by another person unless there is proper citation. Cheating or plagiarizing in any form will result in a "zero" for the assignment and/or referral to the Dean of

Language Arts. For a complete description of academic honesty policies, see the Imperial Valley College Catalog (www.imperial.edu)

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) should not be used without permission from your teacher. This includes using:
• ChatGPT
• Grammarly
• Grammarly Pro
• You.com
• Microsoft Co-Pilot

In our class, all of your papers will run through Turnitin, IVC's plagiarism software. Turnitin also runs a report for AI. Remember: you are in this class to learn. I am not impressed by perfect writing.

If the report shows you copied your paper from somewhere else or have used AI, I will email you. You may receive a zero (0) on the assignment or you may be asked to write another paper on a different topic.

<table>
<tr><td>**IVC Student Resources**</td></tr>
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IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources or click the heart icon in Canvas.

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<tr><td>**Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar**</td></tr>
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Tentative, subject to change without prior notice

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 Module 1 Jan 2 - Jan 6	Orientation Module Chapter 1 Chapter 2 Chapter 3	For each chapter, complete: Warm Up Read Chapter and PPT Discussion Question Unit Quiz Reflection
Week 2 Module 2 Jan 5 – Jan 13	Begin Annotated Bibliography Project Chapter 4 Chapter 5 Chapter 6 Chapter 7	For each chapter, complete: Warm Up Read Chapter and PPT Discussion Question Unit Quiz

		Reflection
Week 3 Module 3 Jan 12 – Jan 20	Continue Annotated Bibliography Project Chapter 8 Chapter 9 Chapter 10 Chapter 11	For each chapter, complete: Warm Up Read Chapter and PPT Discussion Question Unit Quiz Reflection
Week 4 Module 4 Jan 19 – Jan 27	Continue Annotated Bibliography Project Chapter 12 Chapter 13 Chapter 14	For each chapter, complete: Warm Up Read Chapter and PPT Discussion Question Unit Quiz Reflection
Week 5 Module 5 Jan 26 – Feb 3	Finish Annotated Bibliography Project Chapter 15 Chapter 16	Annotated Bibliography Project DUE For each chapter, complete: Warm Up Read Chapter and PPT Discussion Question Unit Quiz Reflection

***Subject to change without prior notice**