

Social Problems
SOC – 115 – OL01
Winterim 2016
Iowa Western Community College

Section 1 Faculty Information

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Email Hours: I check email once daily. Please provide 24 - 48 hours for a response.

Section 2 Course Information

Course Prefix/Number: SOC – 115

Course Name: Social Problems

Credits: 3

Lecture: 0

Lab: 0

Prerequisites: None

Course Meeting Times and Location: December – January; online

Required Textbook: Eitzen, Zinn, and Smith. *Social Problems*. 13th Edition, Pearson.

Note – You will be required to have the textbook on the first day of class. No extensions on any course work will be provided during the winterim semester. Please plan accordingly and purchase/rent your book well in advance.

Course Description: Social Problems acquaints students with theoretical, methodological, and substantive issues in the sociological study of social problems. It examines a variety of social problems in terms of issues in the definition of social problems, difficulties in the measurement of the extent of social problems, contributions that have been made to explaining various aspects of social problems, and the implications of this knowledge for intervention (alleviation or treatment) or prevention of social problems. The course offers examples of social problems, such as racism, environmental decay, sexism, crime and delinquency, and child abuse.

Course Learning Objectives:

“Upon completion of this course, students should be able to...”

1. Identify and differential between the different aspects of social problems in our society
2. Identify how a society works in trying to solve social problems
3. Have an understanding of root causes of social problems
4. Have a wider understanding of our ability to solve (or not) social problems

Section 3 Grading and Activities

This course is worth a total of 600 points based on the completion and quality of the following activities:

Activity	Points Per Activity	Total
Exams (4)	100	400
Movie Review (1)	100	100
Discussion Boards (4)	25	100

Points earned for each activity (above) corresponds to a final letter grade, as follows:

Points Earned	Letter Grade
600 – 540	A
539 - 480	B
479 – 420	C
419 – 360	D
359 or fewer	F

Activity Descriptions:

Exams: You will be required to take 4 exams this semester. Exams contain short answer questions, and you have a specified time period in which to complete it. Please see the Course Schedule for the open and close times for each exam. You are certainly allowed to use your textbook/notes, but it is strongly advised that you have completed the assigned readings for that exam prior to starting it. Make up exams are not permitted for any reason. Please plan accordingly.

Discussion Boards: There are 4 discussion boards over the course of the semester. For each discussion board, you will be provided a prompt question to respond to. Your first post must be completed by a specified date and time, and you must also respond to one other classmate by a different date and time. All dates and times are specified in the course schedule and in the prompt of the discussion board itself. Your first post must be a minimum of 200 words. Your response must be a minimum of 100 words. Failure to make both posts on time will result in a zero for the activity.

Movie Review: The film review is your opportunity to illustrate your depth of knowledge on gender-related topics discussed in this course. There is a separate, more detailed instruction sheet available on ROC. Please thoroughly read through that sheet for instructions, prompt questions, and other paper requirements. The due date for this activity is specified in the course schedule.

An Important Note on Plagiarism: Do not plagiarize any portion of your assignments (not even a single sentence). If you are unclear on what constitutes plagiarism, please ask me for more information. Even one sentence of one answer/assignment that is plagiarized will result in an F on that activity and disciplinary action may be taken. Any subsequent plagiarism will result in an F in the course, and disciplinary action will be taken. Plagiarism is a crime.

Extra Credit: Extra credit is not available in this course. Please do your best on all activities, follow all instructions, and submit all work on time.

Attendance and Participation: This course takes place entirely online. As such, you are required to log in and interact with the course activities on a regular basis. Please be familiar with the course schedule, located at the end of this document.

Missed Deadlines/Late Work: No late work will be accepted.

Section 4 Iowa Western Policies and Procedures

Honor Code - Academic Honesty: Upon enrolling at Iowa Western Community College, each student assumes an obligation to conduct her/his academic affairs in a manner compatible with the standards of academic honesty established by the College and its faculty. If this obligation is neglected or ignored by the student, disciplinary action will be taken. *Do not plagiarize; the instructor does, in fact, check. If you are unclear on plagiarism, please see the description and details in the student handbook. One incidence of plagiarism (even a single sentence) will result in a zero on the assignment and a warning. Any additional incidents will result in an F in the course.*

Diversity Statement - Iowa Western Community College values diversity and supports learning experiences that promote intellectual growth and human enrichment.

American with Disabilities Statement Act - If you are an individual with a disability who requires an accommodation to fully participate in academic programs or campus activities, please email disabilityservices@iwcc.edu or call 712-325-3299. Accommodations are arranged through the Student Success Office, on the second floor of the Student Center on the Council Bluffs campus. Please allow for adequate time to implement your accommodations.

FERPA - Student rights concerning access to educational records are spelled out in Federal Public Law 98-380 as amended by Public Law 93-568 and in regulations published by the Department of Education. The law and regulations require educational institutions to limit the disclosure of information from the student's record to those who have the student's written consent or to officials specifically permitted within the law. Students who wish to grant access to their class schedule, transcript of final grades, and progress reports may do so by submitting an Access

to Student Information Consent Form to the Records and Registration Office. Access to information is only given at the Records and Registration Office. Students who wish to grant access to their educational (class schedule, transcript of final grades, and progress reports) or financial records (grants, loans, financial aid documents, statements and billing) may do so by submitting an Access to Student Information Consent Form to the Records and Registration Office. Access to information is only given at the Records and Registration Office or Financial Aid and Cashier Offices.

Cyber Library & Academic Support - Students can access books, magazines, journals, newspapers, films and audio books 24/7 through the Cyber-Library by clicking on the Cyber Library under Academics in ROC.

- For questions about finding information at your campus or center, email cyberlibrary@iwcc.edu or call 712-325-3247 for the Council Bluffs Campus or 712-542-5117 for the Clarinda Campus. You can find the library hours posted on ROC.
- FREE tutoring and academic assistance are available through the Academic Support Center, located on the second floor of the Student Center on the Council Bluffs campus in a variety of core, general requirement classes.

One-on-one assistance is available on a walk-in basis or by appointment for certain subjects.

Group tutoring is available, but must be scheduled in advance.

- FREE online tutoring is available through SMARTHINKING on ROC, to access
- SMARTHINKING, locate Online Tutoring next to My ROC Classes.
- For more information about tutoring services or help in your classes, email tutoring@iwcc.edu or call 712-388-6841. A full tutoring schedule is posted by subject area on ROC.

Dropping Classes - While we encourage students to do everything they can to complete classes, it is always better to drop a class than to fail it. If it becomes necessary for the student to drop a class, it can be dropped through ROC up to the last day to drop classes. We recommend that students always talk to their advisor and financial aid before dropping a class. For more information, see Advising Information site on ROC under the Academics tab.

Equal Educational Opportunity and Non-Harassment - Iowa Western Community College is committed to a policy of equal educational opportunity. Therefore, the college prohibits discrimination on the basis of unlawful criteria such as race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, genetic information, physical, or mental disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, marital status, veterans status, HIV/AIDs status, citizenship, or medical condition, as those terms are defined under applicable laws, in admitting students to its programs and facilities and in administering its admissions policies, educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic programs, and other institutionally administered programs or programs made available to students. In keeping with this policy of equal educational opportunity, the College is committed to creating and maintaining an atmosphere free from all forms of harassment.

Non-Discrimination Statement: It is the policy of Iowa Western Community College not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or age in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code sections 216.9 and 256.10(2), Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d and 2000e), the Equal Pay Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 206, et seq.), Title IX (Educational Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1688), Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.). Individuals having questions or complaints related to compliance with this policy should contact Kim Henry, Dean of Student Life and Student Success, phone number, 712/325-3207 or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661, phone number 312/730-1560 fax, 312/730-1576.

Conflict Resolution: If you have a conflict with me, concerns about my teaching, and/or the course material, please discuss it with me first. If we cannot resolve the difficulty, contact Dean Rick McFayden at rmcfayden@iwcc.edu or 712-325-3371.

Section 5 Course Schedule

This course is divided into four units, each containing assigned readings, a discussion board, and an exam. All activities have designated open and close dates. The movie review is due at the end of the semester, as noted in the course schedule. While reminders will be provided, it is ultimately your responsibility as the student to be aware of all expectations and due dates.

Dates	Readings	Assignments & Due Dates
December 19 – December 22	<i>Unit 1</i> Chapters 1 - 4	<u>Discussion Board 1</u> opens December 19 and closes December 19 – you MUST post on this discussion board on the first day of class. <u>Exam 1</u> opens December 20 and closes December 22 at 5:00pm
December 23 – December 27	<i>Unit 2</i> Chapters 7 - 10	<u>Discussion Board 2</u> opens December 23 and closes December 26 <u>Exam 2</u> opens December 24 and closes December 27 at 5:00pm
December 28 – January 1	<i>Unit 3</i> Chapters 12 - 13	<u>Discussion Board 3</u> opens December 28 and closes December 30 <u>Exam 3</u> opens December 29 and closes January 1 at 5:00pm
January 2 – January 5	<i>Unit 4</i> Chapters 16, 17, 19	<u>Discussion Board 4</u> opens January 2 and closes January 4 <u>Exam 4</u> opens January 3 and closes January 5 at 5:00pm

The movie review assignment is due January 6th at 10am in the dropbox provided on ROC.