



Syllabus for Soc 2 Social Problems

Course Information

Semester & Year: Spring 2022

Course ID & Section #: Soc-2-D3268 (053268)

Instructor's name: Vanessa Vrtiak

Day/Time of required meetings: Distance Learning

Course units: 3.0

Catalog Description

Students learn to identify and examine social problems using a sociological perspective. Sociological concepts and theories are used to analyze social problems. Social movements such as global environmental, US civil, womens, LGBTQ and disability rights are explored with consideration of solutions for social change. This course requires critical reading and analysis.

Course Student Learning Outcomes *(from course outline of record)*

- Explain how two or more social problems are related.
- Use course tools to propose a potential solution for a social problem related to gender, self-identity, ethnicity, race, socio economic status, sexuality, world view, collective behavior and/or values.
- Employ a sociological perspective to evaluate a major social problem.

Prerequisites/co-requisites/ recommended preparation

None

Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting Pelican Bay Scholars Program Team.

Student Support

Correspondence is not easy, and I'm aware that things happen. There can be delays in the mail system, you may get ill, overwhelmed, etc. Please just communicate with me. I want each of you to be successful in this course. It's incredible that you have embarked on this educational journey, and I'm honored to be your instructor. I do not take this position lightly. I will do my best to provide you timely, honest feedback. If you are concerned with the time frame you are receiving your assignments, or something doesn't 'feel right', please send me a BQ (if appropriate).

Evaluation & Grading Policy

Reflection Question Assignments: 25%

Interview Assignment: 25%

Mid-Term: 25%

Final Paper 25%

Reflection Question Assignments:

The questions for these assignments will be included in the weekly packet. Please answer the questions clearly, and consisely. Reference the book, and relate the material to your own life for full credit.

Interview Assignment:

You will interview someone in your life regarding a Social Problem. Details to come.

Mid-Term:

You will be asked to write two questions for the mid-term. These can be true or false, multiple choice, or short answer. Your questions may or may not make it to the final mid-term. The questions should reflect the readings from week 1-8.

Final Paper:

TBA

Letter Grade Weight Breakdown

- A (100 – 94%) / A- (93 – 90%) Defined as “Excellent”: Fulfills all requirements and exceeds expectations.
- B+ (89 – 87%) / B (86 – 84%) / B- (83 – 80%) Defined as “Good”: Fulfills all requirements and meets expectations.
- C+ (79 – 74%) / C (73 – 70%) Defined as “satisfactory”: Fulfills most requirements and meets some expectations.
- D (69 – 60%) Defined as “Poor”: Fulfills some requirements; does not meet expectations.
- F (59 – 0%) Defined as “Failing”: Does not fulfill requirements and expectations.

These are the letter grades that will be given on your assignments, as well as your transcript after the course ends.

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Spring 2022 Dates

- *Classes begin: 01/15/22*
- *Last day to add a class: 01/21/22*
- *Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday (all campuses closed): 01/17/22*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 01/28/22*
- *Census date (or 20% into class duration): 01/31/22*
- *Last Day to file P/NP (only courses where this is an option) 02/11/22*
- *Lincoln's Birthday (all campuses closed): 02/18/22*
- *Presidents Day (all campuses closed): 02/21/22*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 03/03/22*
- *Spring Break (no classes): 03/14/22-03/19/22*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 04/01/22*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 04/01/22*
- *Final examinations: 05/07/22-05/13/22*
- *Semester ends: 05/13/22*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 05/30/22*

Class schedule

<i>Week</i>		<i>Topic for the Week</i>	<i>Text Chapters & Activities</i>	<i>Assignments/Due Dates</i>
<i>1</i>		<i>Introduction Review Syllabus</i>		<i>Brief Introduction due by 2/4</i>
<i>2</i>		<i>The Social Problems Process</i>	<i>Textbook p. 3-29</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>3</i>		<i>Claims</i>	<i>Textbook p. 29-65</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>4</i>		<i>Claims cont. Activists as Claimsmakers</i>	<i>Textbook p. 66-98 Read excerpt from <u>The Sun</u> interview with Feliz Moreno "Unstacking the Deck," pg. 5-14</i>	<i>Reflection Questions #1 Due by: 2/18</i>
<i>5</i>		<i>Claims cont.</i>	<i>Read excerpt from <u>Black Girl Dangerous</u> by: Mia McKenzie "You Mad Yet? On the Murder of Travon Martin..." p. 13-16 Read excerpt from <u>The Sun Magazine</u></i>	<i>Reflection Questions #2 Due by 2/25</i>

			interview with Thacher Schmid "Blind Hate." p. 5-13	
6		<i>Experts as Claimsmakers</i>	<i>Textbook p.99-129</i>	<i>N/A</i>
7		<i>The Media and Claims</i>	<i>Textbook p.130-164</i>	<i>N/A</i>
8		<i>Experts as Claimsmakers/The Media and Claims Cont.</i>	<i>Read excerpt from: <u>Tattoos on the Heart</u> by Father Greg Boyle pg. xi-17</i>	<i>Reflection Questions #3 Due by: 3/4 Submit 2 Questions for the Mid-Term</i>
9		<i>Public Reaction</i>	<i>Textbook p. 165-198 Mid-Term Distributed</i>	<i>Interview Assignment Due: 3/11</i>
10		<i>Spring Break</i>	***	***
11		<i>Public Reaction Cont.</i>	<i>Read Excerpt from: <u>Hood Feminism</u> by Mikki Kendall p.31-46 on "Hunger"</i>	<i>Reflection Questions #4 Due by: 3/25</i>
12		<i>Policymaking</i>	<i>Textbook p. 199-230</i>	<i>Mid-Term Due by 4/1</i>
13		<i>Policymaking cont.</i>	<i>Read Excerpt from: <u>How to Be an Anti-Racist</u> by Dr. Ibram X. Kendi on Failure & Success p. 201-227</i>	<i>Reflection Questions #5 Due by: 4/8</i>
14		<i>Social Problems Work</i>	<i>Textbook p. 231-263</i>	<i>N/A</i>
15		<i>Policy Outcomes</i>	<i>Textbook 264-295 Read Excerpt from: <u>Noone is too small to make a difference</u> by Greta Thunberg p. 12-22</i>	<i>Reflection Questions #6 Due by: 4/22</i>
16		<i>Claims Across Space and Time</i>	<i>Textbook p.296-328</i>	<i>N/A</i>
17		<i>No Reading</i>	<i>No Reading</i>	<i>Final Due by 5/13</i>

I reserve the right to edit the syllabus during anytime for any reason.

Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the

student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

I realize that you don't have this, so here is a section that applies to us, specifically:
Do not plagiarize. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- a) Using, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full, clear, and accurate acknowledgement.
- b) The unacknowledged use of another writer's ideas without proper citation.
Borrowing all or part of another individual's work or using someone else's outline to write your own work.
- c) Copying another individual's computer printout and/or computer files and using it as one's own.
- d) Using an agency or Internet website engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website.

Since you do not have the ability to access the above online resources, send a request to Ms. Eagles if you would like a physical copy of the CR Student Code of Conduct. In general, I trust that you know what is and is not acceptable behavior, even in a correspondence environment; be mindful and respectful with your language and actions, always.

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Del Norte Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review Pelican Bay State Prison for Emergency Procedures.

