

SOCIAL PROBLEMS
SOCIOLOGY 2750
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Welcome to Social Problems. This course is designed to offer you both theoretical and practical information on various social problems. This course is not designed to offer you lectures, but place in your hands relevant current events to be analyzed and discussed. Through the “sociological imagination” you will:

1. Come to understand the various theoretical approaches to defining and solving various social problems;
2. Begin a critical examination of several very different social problems;
3. Be responsible for the reduction of the impact that various social problems have on individuals; and
4. Be able to define and analyze social issues on your own.

The objectives used to achieve these goals will be through lectures, class discussion, class exercises, group projects, video and information found in the text. It is my hope that many of you take away a new understanding of these social problems and begin to think as a sociologist. In this same vein, I put in your hands the ability to effect social change. When you know about the issues as they have been researched, you can make informed decisions about how you want to participate in the solutions.

CLASS POLICIES:

Missed tests can only be made up as essay and must be discussed with me prior to the test date. You may take the test early. All other missed tests will be counted as a ZERO.

Plagiarism:

"EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY IS COMMITTED TO THE LEARNING PROCESS AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY THAT IS DEFINED IN THE STUDENT CONDUCT CODE (1.1). TO ENCOURAGE ORIGINAL AND AUTHENTIC WRITTEN WORK, ANY WRITTEN PROTECTED AND RESTRICTED USE DATABASE." ASSIGNMENT CREATED IN THIS COURSE MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW TO TURNITIN.COM AND WILL BECOME A SEARCHABLE DOCUMENT WITH THE TURNITIN-

- 1. IF ITS NOT YOUR WORK, IT NEEDS TO BE CITED**
- 2. IF ITS OFF THE INTERENT IT NEEDS TO BE CITED**
- 3. YOU CANNOT DOWNLOAD ANY INFORMATION FROM THE INTERNET PUT YOUR NAME ON IT AND HAND IT IN.**
- 4. YOU CANNOT CUT AND PASTE INTO YOUR DOCUMENT WITHOUT USING QUOTATION MARKS AND CITING YOUR SOURCE.**
- 5. IF ITS NOT A COMMONLY KNOWN FACT AND YOU STATE IT IN YOUR DOCUMENT, IT NEEDS A CITATION.**

PLAGIARISM IS A SERIOUS OFFENSE, YOU MAY RECEIVE AN F ON THE PROJECT OR IN THE CLASS IF YOU ARE CAUGHT!

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST HAVE SOURCE CITING WHERE APPLICABLE OR THEY WILL BE COUNTED AS A ZERO!!!!!!

Grading :

100-92 A	71-62 D
91-82 B	BELOW 61 F
81-72 C	

Your grade will be based on 4 tests, 1 quiz, 2 in class assignments and the group projects. The information on group projects is attached. For some there may be a writing component and in that case: **All assignments must be typed. Any assignment that is not typed will not be credited. All assignments are due on the date designated, late assignments will not be accepted, unless you have made prior arraignments.**

- ✚ TESTS ARE WORTH 100 POINTS**
- ✚ QUIZ IS WORTH 50 POINTS**
- ✚ CLASS PROJECTS ARE WORTH 50 POINTS**
- ✚ CLASS ASSIGNMENTS ARE WORTH 15 POINTS EACH**

Extra Credit:

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXTRA CREDIT OCCUR DURING THE SEMESTER BY ATTENDING VARIOUS APPLICABLE LECTURES ON/OFF CAMPUS. THESE ARE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS. THEY REQUIRE YOU TO TYPE A REACTION OR SUMMARY OF THE EVENT AND MUST BE TURNED IN THE FIRST CLASS MEETING AFTER THE EVENT! They are usually worth an additional 5 points.

Attendance:

While attendance is not figured into your grade, it will be to your benefit to attend class. I will take regular attendance.

CELL PHONES

Cell phones **MUST** be turned off or on vibrate during lecture. **NO** electronic devices will be permitted during the examinations. You will be allowed to use your phones during

class when we are working on our group projects. NO texting...if it is that important, you should probably stay home.

Alcohol/Drugs

Please do not come to class under the influence of alcohol or drugs (other than those prescribed by a Dr.). I reserve the right to ask you to leave if you are. Let's be respectful to our peers.

COURSE OUTLINE

Chapters 1-3	Introduction to Social Problems Poverty and Wealth Racial and Ethnic Inequality	August 20- September 17, 2007
NO CLASS	AUGUST 31, 2007	
EXAM 1	SEPTEMBER 19, 2007	
Chapters 6,7 & 9	Crime and Violence The Criminal Justice System Alcohol and Other Drugs	September 21- October 15, 2007
EXAM	OCTOBER 17, 2007	
Chapter 18	War and Terrorism	October 19- 26, 2007
QUIZ	OCTOBER 29, 2007	
Chapters 5, 10, 8 & 14	Mental and Physical Health Aging and Inequality Sexuality Family Life	October 31- December 7, 2007

Class Assignments:

The first of 2 class assignments deals with the summary of information during our lecture series on Crime, Violence and the Criminal Justice System. In this exercise your small group will be asked to solve a murder. Your points will be assigned as your group presents the evidence, identifies the suspect and declares the intent. Witnesses will be required to type a reaction paper as well and identify the evidence they have on their sheet that may be significant and why.

Your second class assignment will be the identification of services for your elderly parent. You will be responsible for typing up a plan of intervention for your elderly parent. Or if you are the elderly parent your summary of diagnosis, medication and reaction to the exercise. Or if you are an individual representing an agency, you will be responsible for contacting that agency and addressing several questions that will be passed on to you as we begin this exercise. These 2 learning exercises will be conducted in class and you will then be responsible for writing a document for grading.

USE THIS TABLE TO RECORD YOUR GRADES!

Tests	Quiz	Assignments	Extra Credit

Until Thanksgiving break (not after), if you can answer these questions it will be worth 5 extra credit points.

- 1. What are the objectives or goals of this course?**
- 2. What is the grading scale?**
- 3. How much are the tests/quiz worth?**
- 4. What are the 5 plagiarism points?**
- 5. When is an extra credit assignment due?**