SOC

GLB/US-Social Problems

1306 02W

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2022

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Professor: Daniel Skinner
Virtual Office at D2L: 24/7 or by appointment
Office Phone: 903-886-5332
Office Fax: 903-886-5330
University Email Address: Daniel.Skinner@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: email
Communication Response Time: 24 hrs next business day

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Lectures (Web Based Class): Meets 8/29/22 through 12/16/22

Textbook(s) Required *SOCIAL PROBS.IN DIVERSE SOCIETY*
Author: Kendall Diana Edition: 7TH Published Date: 2019 ISBN: 9780134732848
Publisher: PEARSON The book is available in the university bookstore and online.
Optional Texts and/or Materials None

Course Description

A critical discussion of the sociological perspective on studying descriptions, causes, and prevention of social problems such as crime, mental illness, drug abuse, environmental degradation, poverty, terrorism, and declining quality of life in today's world.

Student Learning Outcomes: This course has been selected as a Global Course–tied to the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). Texas A&M University-Commerce

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

QEP seeks to prepare students for an interconnected world. In relation to the QEP, students completing this course will be able to (LO1) demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, trends, processes, and systems), (LO2) apply knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics, and (LO3) view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world. This course will provide activities, experiences, and opportunities to reach all of the QEP learning outcomes. The term project in this course will be utilized to assess the QEP student learning outcomes for each student. After completing this course:

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of societal and/or civic issues.

2. Students will be able to interpret, test and demonstrate principles revealed in empirical data and/or observable facts.

3. Students will be familiar with the major theoretical perspectives and/or paradigms within sociology and to compare/contrast them to their approaches to societal problems

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students at a minimum will need to be able to navigate discussion board and be able to use Microsoft Word for online assignments

Instructional Methods

Every effort will be made to provide the best possible learning experience by blending PowerPoint presentations with discussions, reading assignments, and other materials in an online format.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Students that do well in this course will be the ones who post on the discussion boards regularly and are involved in the conversations during the week. Just posting once at the beginning of a discussion and the last day the discussion is open will not result in full credit

Attendance and Participation- This is an online class therefore attendance is flexible! You are required to access D2L while you have time to participate various activities. Your regular participation activities, including the time spent online lessons, and virtual discussions will be checked. You are strongly encouraged to log into the course several times a week.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Final grades will be based on the five exams worth 100 pts. each (500 pts) 1 assignment worth 50 pts and 5 online discussions worth 20pts. each (100 pts).

5 Exams @ 100 pts. ea. = 500 pts. Discussions   =   100   Paper = 50

Assessments

Scale: A= 90 – 100 % (585 - 650 pts.) B= 80 – 89 %   (520 - 584 pts.) C= 70 – 79 % (455 - 519 pts.) D= 69 – 60 %   (390 - 454 pts.) F= less than 60 % (< 390 pts.)

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2Lsupports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones.
  - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.
    Pop-ups are allowed.
    JavaScript is enabled.
    Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/
  - Adobe Flash Player *(version 17 or later)* https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
  - Adobe Shockwave Player   https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
  - Apple Quick Time   http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu**.**

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT
Brightspace Support

Need Help?
Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "click here" to submit an issue via email.

System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I will make every attempt to respond to emails in a timely manner, normally within 24 hrs on the weekdays.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

EXTRA CREDIT: Don't ask, there won't be any. Two types of students usually want to do extra credit work: those who would like to make an even "higher" A; and those who are failing the course. In either case, extra credit makes no sense. Put in the time, energy, and effort on the "regular" work and you will not need any "extra" credit. I will not make any exceptions so DO NOT ASK!

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

NOTE: We will NOT be negotiating for grades at the end of the semester. You have plenty of opportunities to earn points throughout the semester. A few "bonus" points are built into each exam. At the end of the semester, e-college will calculate your total points and they will be applied to the scale on this syllabus. That is the grade you have earned, and that is the grade you will be assigned.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.
http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: Netiquette
http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

DATE: TOPIC: READING ASSIGNMENTS:

Week 1: **Aug 29** Studying Social Problems   Ch. 1   Discussion 1 begins at 12:01 Tuesday

Week 2: Sep 5 Wealth and Poverty   Ch. 2

Week 3: Sep 12 EXAM 1 on Thursday/Friday Ch. 1,2   Discussion 1 closes at 11:59 pm on Sunday

Week 4: Sep 19 Racial & Ethnic Inequality   Ch. 3 Discussion 2 begins at 12:01 Mon

Week 5: Sep 26 Gender Inequality   Ch. 4

Week 6: Oct 3 EXAM 2 on Thursday/ Friday Ch. 3,4 Discussion 2 closes at 11:59 pm on Sunday

Week 7: Oct 10 Inequality Based on Age   Ch. 5 Discussion 3 begins at 12:01 on Monday

Week 8: Oct 17 Inequality Based on Sexual Orientation   Ch. 6

Week 9: Oct 24 Study for Exam Paper Due

Week 10: Oct 31 EXAM 3 on Thursday/Friday, Ch. 5,6 Discussion 3 closes at 11:59 pm on Sunday

Week 11: Nov 7 Prostitution and Sex Industry   Ch. 7 Discussion 4 begins at 12:01 on Monday

Week 12: Nov 14   Alcohol and Other Drugs Ch. 8

Week 13: Nov 21 EXAM 4 on Thurs/Fri, Ch. 7,8   Discussion 4 closes at 11:59 pm on Sunday

Week 14: Nov 28 Crime and Criminal Justice Ch.9   Discussion 5 begins at 12:01 Monday

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Week 15: Dec 5 EXAM 5 on Thursday/Friday, Ch. 9 Discussion 5 closes at 11:59 pm
        Sunday

Week 16: Dec 12 Review for Final Exam

The *syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*