SOC 1306: GLB/US SOCIAL PROBLEMS

COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2024

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Delia Wallace, Adjunct Faculty
Office Hours: by appointment
University Email Address: Delia.Wallace@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: allow 24-48 Hours; Monday to Friday 8-5

COURSE INFORMATION

Lectures (Web-Based Class): Meets 1/10/2024 through 5/10/2024

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: Diana Kendall, Social Problems in a Diverse Society, 7th edition. ISBN-10 0134732847. ISBN-13 978-0134732848. This book is available at the TAMUC Bookstore or you may seek other means of securing the textbook, even in its electronic version.

Software Required: Access to the course website- you need to have an active email username and password. I will post your grades to the course website, as well as your PowerPoints, assignments, and supplemental articles that I see fit to include in the weekly modules.

Optional Texts and/or Materials: None

Course Description
SOC 1306 – GLB/US Social Problems
Credit Hours: 3

The world as we know it, is made up of many layers. Often connecting us to each other through experiences that range from the most positive to the most challenging. Our social problems are diverse in their nature, reflective of the ways in which our world is diverse in its existence. Globally, people are faced with the challenge of injustice and inequality at many intersections of identity. We are forced to reckon with the ways that our actions or lack thereof, impact that of our neighbors. We are forced to bear witness to the atrocities that many face under the oppressive weight of different systems. And then, we are left with the task of choosing how we want to respond to these.

This course is an invitation to think critically about the ways we exist within a world filled with social problems. It is meant to make you question, answer, doubt,

and affirm your stance on issues regarding race, ethnicity, gender, wealth, crime, education, housing, health, war, etc. There is no one answer, but you will find that as you progress in this class, your perspectives will broaden. For it is true, that what some consider the problem, is the solution to others. And through this merge of ideas and perspectives, we can cultivate social change.

By making use of the sociological perspectives available to you through the course materials, you will analyze the concerns of our society on a micro and macro level.

The main goals of the course (SLOs) are:

- Be able to view how social problems affect people at the individual, group, and societal levels;
- Be able to understand the significance of social inequality and race, class, and gender as key factors in our understanding of problems in the United States and worldwide;
- Be able to place specific social problems within a larger social inequality framework;
- Be able to create a comprehensive view of contemporary perspectives on a vast array of social problems impacted by new technologies on social life and how the media depict social issues;
- Be able to apply the sociological imagination and relevant sociological perspectives to all the topics in a systematic manner

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using the Learning Management System, PowerPoint, Microsoft Word, and Internet.

Instructional Methods

This course will be conducted entirely via the web. All components of this class are online. We will not meet any time as a class. This course is primarily administered through D2L. If you need help using D2L, please see the technology services staff for help.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

1. It will be very important that you regularly read the syllabus and ALL announcements posted on the home page of this course very carefully and follow all instructions about course objectives, grading procedures, etc. Ignorance of details given in the course syllabus and various announcements posted on the D2L website cannot be accepted as an excuse in any manner. I urge that you FULLY understand course requirements and grading procedures. That will be the key to doing well in the course.

   Also, please feel free to ask me questions about the course requirements through e-mails as needed.

2. This is an online course. The class will be presented asynchronously, which means that you will be responsible for individually completing your readings and assignments based on the instructions and resources you are provided. Be sure to read the instructions given each week carefully.

3. All of your exams will be based on your textbook.

4. You can e-mail me whenever you have challenges or questions, particularly those that you don't want to share with your classmates.

Please specify the following in your e-mail: your full name and the course # you are enrolled in so that I check your record before responding to your need or question. You can also get an appointment for office hours through an e-mail to me.

Read all announcements posted on the Home Page of the course and read all e-mails sent by me at your *My Leo account* in the D2L. If you have a problem with your email system, please contact the *Instructional Technology office*. Do follow university deadlines in schedules given on the university's website and in the undergraduate catalog.

The *syllabus/schedule is subject to change.*

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale of 1000 total points:

A: 900 - 1000
B: 800 - 899
C: 700 - 799
D: 600 - 699
F: 0 - 599

Assessments

Assignment	Points
Response Papers (4@100 points)	400
Stage 1: Category Selection	50
Stage 2: Topic Selection	75
Stage 3: Sociological Connections	100
Stage 4: Annotated Bibliography	125
Stage 5: Final Presentation	250
Total Points	**1000**

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.

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.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:

- o 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
- o Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
- o Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
  - o Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - o Speakers or headphones.
  - o *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:
  - o Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/
  - o Adobe Flash Player *(version 17 or later)* https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
  - o Adobe Shockwave Player   https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
  - o 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.

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 prefer communication via email. I will respond to your email within 24 to 48 hours, between normal business hours of 8 am to 5 pm. Please be sure that when you email me, you use a proper greeting (Ms. Wallace, Instructor Wallace, etc.) an email body, and an appropriate closing. You should never send an email with just an attachment and no email body. Be sure you have an appropriate and informative subject line and include the name and section of the course you are enrolled in. If you have read this far, please send me via email, a photo that represents your favorite season of the year. The people to do this within the first two weeks of class will get 5 extra credit points towards an assignment. See the attached page for some email expectations that would serve you well in all future communication with any professors or potential employers.

I will try to get assignments and exams graded and handed back in a timely manner. Should you have any questions/comments/concerns about your grades, then you can speak with me regarding your grades. If you are unable to reach a satisfactory conclusion with me, then you can speak to the department head.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Students must hand in assignments on time. If, due to some emergency or illness, this proves impossible, students are required to contact me by way of an explanation <u style="color:red">before</u> assignments are due, and, if necessary, provide evidence of illness.

Response Papers: A handout with the requirements for the response papers and the grading rubric will be uploaded on D2L.

Stages: You will have five stages that lead to the completion of the course. Throughout the term, you will be working to compile information for one final project. You must complete each stage on time to keep up with the class successfully. More information on each of these stages will be provided.

Readings/Audiovisual Materials: You will have assigned materials to aid you in the completion of the course. You are required to engage with these and reflect said engagement in the work that you submit.

Points are accumulated in this course instead of averaged. You will have a grade report on D2L keeping track of your points as this semester progresses. Your grade is <u style="color:red">not</u> negotiable. It is your responsibility to keep up with your grades and your progress in the class. I will not change grades at the end of the semester, so please do not email me asking if you can do anything for a better grade. Keep up with your work during the semester.

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.as
px

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](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx).
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

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf

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
Waters 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

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

Please note: all assignments will be due by Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Start Date:	Module / Assignment Description:	Due Date:	Point Value:
1/10	**Week 1**	1/14	
	● Review the *Course Syllabus* and *Course Schedule* in their entirety.		0
	● Read Chapter 1: Studying Social Problems in the Twenty-First Century		0
	● Complete Class Intro Discussion		0
1/15	**Week 2**	1/21	
	● Read Chapter 2: Wealth and Poverty: U.S. and Global Economic Inequities and review any additional materials		0
	● Submit Stage 1: Category Selection		50
1/22	**Week 3**	1/28	
	● Read Chapter 4: Gender Inequality and review any additional materials		0
	● Submit Response Paper 1		100
1/29	**Week 4**	2/4	
	● Read Chapter 6: Inequality Based on Sexual Orientation and review any additional materials		0
	● Submit Stage 2: Topic Selection		75
2/12	**Week 5**	2/18	
	● Read Chapter 7: Prostitution, Pornography, and Sex Trafficking and review any additional materials		0
	● Submit Response Paper 2		100
2/19	**Week 6**	2/25	
	● Read Chapter 8: Alcohol and Other Drugs and review any additional materials		0
	● Submit Stage 3: Sociological Connections		100
2/26	**Week 7**	3/3	
	● Read Chapter 9: Crime and Criminal Justice		0

Start Date:	Module / Assignment Description:	Due Date:	Point Value:
	● Begin working on Stage 4: Annotated Bibliography		0
3/11	**Week 8 - Spring Break**	3/17	
3/18	**Week 9**	3/24	
	● Read Chapter 10: Health Care: Problems of Physical and Mental Illness		0
	● Submit Response Paper 3		100
3/25	**Week 10**	4/1	
	● Read Chapter 12: Problems in Education		0
	● Submit Final Annotated Bibliography		125
4/8	**Week 11**	4/14	
	● Read Chapter 13: Problems in Politics and the Global Economy		0
	● Begin working on Final Presentation		0
4/15	**Week 12**	4/21	
	● Read Chapter 16: Urban Problems		0
	● Submit Response Paper 4		100
4/22	**Week 13**	4/28	
	● Read Chapter 17: Global Social Problems: War and Terrorism		0
	● Final Presentations		250
4/29	**Week 14**	5/5	
	● Read Chapter 18: Can Social Problems be Solved?		0
	● Final Presentations		Cont'd
5/6	**Week 15**	5/10	
	● Final Presentations		Cont'd
	Total Points		**1000**