

University of Hawaii at Manoa
SOC 218 – Introduction to Social Problems (3.0 credits)
Writing Intensive
Course Syllabus – Fall Semester 2015

Instructor: Krista Hodges

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Office and hours: Saunders 204, Tuesday 9 – 10 am or by appointment

Course Description

This course is designed introduce students to various sociological perspectives regarding a range of social problems and trends. Topics that may be covered include, but are not limited to:

- Illness and the Health care Crisis.
- Alcohol and other Drugs.
- Crime and Violence.
- Family Problems.
- Race and Ethnic Relations.
- Gender Inequality.
- Poverty.
- Environmental Problems.

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)

Upon completion of the course students should be able to:

- Describe and evaluate different perspectives and ideologies of the social problem process
- Understand theoretical approaches to social problems
- Recognize strengths and weaknesses in methods of constructing social problems
- Illustrate and discuss through written examinations and assignments concepts of social problems and different factors that impact the construction of social problems and their policy outcomes.
- Describe how the construction and framing of social problems can affect our societal framework

This course is designated as meeting the requirements for the Writing Intensive designations.

1. The course is limited to 20 students
2. The course uses writing to promote the learning of course materials
3. The course provides interaction between the professor and students while students do assigned writing
4. Written assignments contribute significantly to each student's course grade (at least 40%)
5. Students write at least 4,000 words (about 16 typed pages - not including drafts and in-class essay exams)
6. Students must adequately complete all writing assignments to pass the course with a 'D' or better. Students who do not complete all writing assignments will get a D- or an F and will not earn W Focus credit.

Requirements:

Internet Access: All students must have a University of Hawaii email account and regular access to the internet. Your grade will depend on your timely submission of work. Please be sure to have a backup plan for internet access in case of travel or problems with your current access. Problems with access are not an excuse for not completing your work.

Laulima access: Each student is to have access and know how to use to the Laulima site for tests, quizzes and other assignments.

For tutorials, please contact http://www.hawaii.edu/talent/laulima_students.htm.

For any technical problems, you will need to contact UH-ITS by clicking on the Request Assistance tab at the bottom of all Laulima pages.



Required Text:

Understanding Social Problems, 9th Edition

Linda A. Mooney, Ph.D. East Carolina University

David Knox, Ph.D. East Carolina University

Caroline Schacht, M.A. East Carolina University

ISBN-10: 1285746503 | ISBN-13: 9781285746500

Additional readings/videos as assigned

Course work:

Midterms (200 pts)

- There will be two non-cumulative midterms worth 100 pts each.
- Exact due dates are on the schedule at the end of this syllabus and are available on Laulima.
- There will be sample quizzes you can use for studying posted on Laulima.

Participation (220 pts)

- Participation will be measured through attendance (taken daily) and in-class activities.
- In-class activities will include writing assignments, brief presentations, group activities, peer review activities and quizzes. Some in-class activities will also involve out of class work (that you complete outside of class and bring back to class).
- In class activities cannot be made up without documented extenuating circumstances.

Papers (500 pts)

- There will be two papers (between 500 and 750 words each, 100 pts each) and one 2,500 to 3,000 word paper (300 pts) assigned for this course.
- Each paper topic or area and specific instructions will be posted on Laulima at least 3 weeks before the paper is due.
- Papers will be returned with detailed feedback (content and writing).
- The two shorter papers cannot be revised.
- The longer paper must be revised. Initial submission is worth 200 pts, revision is worth 100 pts.

There may be shorter, ad hoc writing assignments assigned as needed.

Missed or Late Assignments/Quizzes/Papers

- I will accept only one late submission of either a short paper or assignment or initial submission or revision of longer paper, not one of each. If you do have a late submission, you must have it submitted to me via an attachment to a Laulima message within 72 hours of the original due date/time. There will be a 10% penalty for any part of each 24 hours it is late. After 72 hours, late submissions will not be accepted.
- No makeup in-class work or midterms are allowed.
- Only exception is a documented medical emergency.

Final grades will be calculated on the percentage of points earned:

Total number of points available for the course may vary depending on any needed class adjustments so final grades will be calculated on the percentage of points earned:

A+= 97% or 970 pts	A = 93% or 930 pts	A- = 90% or 900 pts
B+ = 87% or 870 pts	B = 83% or 830 pts	B- = 80% or 800 pts
C+ = 77% or 770 pts	C = 73% or 730 pts	C- = 70% or 700 pts
D+ = 67% or 670 pts	D = 63% or 630 pts	D- = 60% or 600 pts
		F ≤ 59% or 590 pts

All course information and resources are accessible on the website

<https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal>

Email: From time to time, I will use Laulima messages for assignments and/or to get in touch with the students for assignment updates or modifications, etc. Please make sure you check your Laulima messages frequently. Not knowing about a change is not an excuse for missing an assignment or doing it incorrectly or late.

Do not use regular email (UH or otherwise) to contact me unless you are absolutely unable to log on to Laulima. I will not respond to emails unless there is a problem with Laulima and you have let Laulima know.

ADA statement: Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability is invited to contact me privately. I would be happy to work with you, and the KOKUA Program (Office for Students with Disabilities) to ensure reasonable accommodations in my course. KOKUA can be reached at (808) 956-7511 or (808) 956-7612 (voice/text) in room 013 of the Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services.

Student Conduct: “Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual's work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another's idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student's language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or "drylabbing," which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms.” (University of Hawaii at Manoa, Student Conduct Code, Section H. Academic Dishonesty, Part 2, Page 6).

Schedule for Soc 218 Fall 2015, subject to change as needed

Week		Topic	Deliverables (Due dates for in-class work will be provided in class)
1	Aug 24	Introductions/Expectations Writing discussions and exercises	Have reading done by Aug 26 Review syllabus Bring questions to class
2	Aug 31	Chapter 1 Week 2 Readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week Sign up for meeting with Krista week of Sept 28 – Oct 9
3	Sept 7	Chapter 2 Week 3 Readings in Resource folder	**reminder: no class Sept 7
			Complete readings b4 1 st class of week
4	Sept 14	Chapter 3 Week 4 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week
5	Sept 21	Chapter 4 Week 5 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week Paper 1 due on Laulima Sept 20
6	Sept 28	Chapter 5 Week 6 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week Paper 1 returned to students Sept 28 Meetings with Krista
7	Oct 5	Chapter 6 Week 7 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week
			Meetings with Krista
8	Oct 12	Chapter 7 Week 8 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week
			Midterm 1 in class Oct 12
9	Oct 19	Chapter 8 Week 9 reading	Complete readings b4 1st class of week Paper 2 due on Laulima Oct 18
10	Oct 26	Chapter 9 Week 10 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week Paper 2 returned to students Oct 26 Midterm 1 in class Oct 26
11	Nov 2	Chapter 10 Week 11 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week
12	Nov 9	Chapter 11 Week 12 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week
			**Reminder: No class Nov 11
13	Nov 16	Chapter 12 Week 13 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week Paper 3 due in class Nov 18
14	Nov 23	Chapter 13 Week 14 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week **Reminder: No class Nov 27 Paper 3 returned to students Nov 25
15	Nov 30	Chapter 14	Complete readings b4 1st class of week
16	Dec 7	Chapter 15 Week 16 readings in Resource folder	Complete readings b4 1st class of week
			Revised Paper 2 due Nov 30 in class, must return edited copy with final copy
	Dec 14	Finals Week	Final Dec 14, 12:00 – 2:00 pm

Grading Papers and Assignments

As this is a writing intensive course and there are certain standards to adhere to, papers and assignments will be graded according to this matrix.

Satisfaction				
HIGH <<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>LOW				
	10-9	8-7	6-5	4-0
<i>Organization and Content</i>	Information is very organized with well constructed paragraphs, and information demonstrates creative thought about the ideas of the readings	Information is organized and the information demonstrates thought about the ideas of the readings but paragraphs are not well constructed,	The information appears disorganized and demonstrates very little thought about the ideas of the readings	Information is not only disorganized, but the information does not address the question or reflects no or little thought of the ideas of the readings
<i>Quality of Information</i>	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It includes several supporting details and/or examples	Information clearly relates to the main topic. No details and/or examples are given	Information has little to do with the main topic	Information has nothing to do with the main topic
<i>Mechanics</i>	No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors	A few grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors	Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors	Way too many mistakes for a college student
<i>Sources</i>	All sources are accurately documented in the desired format (ASA, APA)	All sources are accurately documented, but many are not in the desired format (ASA, APA)	Some sources are not accurately documented	Many sources are not documented accurately and there is not a format used