

University of Hawaii at Manoa  
**SOC 218 – Introduction to Social Problems (3.0 credits)**  
Writing Intensive – 10 week version  
Online via Laulima June 4 – Aug 10, 2018

**Instructor:** Krista Hodges  
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Office and hours: tbd

### **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.

- The course is limited to 20 students
- The course uses writing to promote the learning of course materials
- The course provides interaction between the professor and students while students do assigned writing
- Written assignments contribute significantly to each student's course grade (at least 40%)
- Students write at least 4,000 words (about 16 typed pages - not including drafts and in- class essay exams)
- 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:**

- Read and understand syllabus, ask questions when needed.
- Read or watch the materials (text, articles, videos, etc) before the class that will cover them.
- Keep instructor informed of any potential issue that may impact your ability to complete the course work or be in class.
- 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 and to access course materials.

✓ For tutorials, please contact [http://www.hawaii.edu/talent/laulima\\_students.htm](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:



Social Problems 3<sup>rd</sup> edition

Joel Best

WW Norton Publishing

ISBN: 9780393283419 paperback

or

ISBN: 978-0-393-63090-9 for the ebook (\$20)

<http://books.wwnorton.com/books/webad.aspx?id=4294993789>

Additional readings are in the Resource folder on Laulima

### Course work:

#### Exams (300 pts)

- There will be three exams for this course. They will include multiple choice, fill in the blank and short essay questions and cover material from any readings, videos, activities or lectures. There are study quizzes posted in the on Laulima.
- The first two exams (100 pts each) are not cumulative and will cover the materials covered from the beginning of the course to the first midterm, then from the first midterm to the second. The final exam (100 pts) will be cumulative with slightly more emphasis given to the materials covered from the second exam to the end of the course.
- Due dates are on the schedule at the end of this syllabus. Students can work ahead but dates for quizzes and exams are not flexible
- There will be sample quizzes (in Assignments, Tests and Survey folder) and sample questions (in Resource folder) posted on Laulima for studying.
- Exams cannot be made up without documented extenuating circumstances.

#### Quizzes (extra credit 110)

- There will be a quiz posted in the Assignments, Test and Survey folder for each chapter and each quiz will be worth up to 10 pts. You will two attempts on each quiz, 20 minutes each time and have until Saturday of the week we cover that chapter to complete it's quiz. They are open note, open book and a good way to prep for exams. I do not reopen quizzes if you miss taking them. Week 6 will have two quizzes as we will cover two chapters that week.  
11 quizzes 10 pts each = 110 possible extra credit (the only extra credit for this course)

#### Participation (300 pts)

- Participation will be measured through 3 - 250-350 word reaction/position/proposal assignments (50 pts each), and 3 discussions (30 pts each) and an online meeting/office hours with required participation (60 pts)

#### Papers (400 pts)

- There will be two papers:
  - Paper 1: between 1,000 and 1,250 words, 300 pts and
  - Paper 2: between 2,500 and 2,750 word paper, 300 pts
- Each paper topic or area and specific instructions will be posted on Laulima at least 3 weeks before the paper is due and discussed in class.

- Papers will be returned with detailed feedback (content and writing).
- Paper 2 **can be** revised and revision must be resubmitted within 7 days of papers being returned to students. Revisions will earn up to half of the points missed on first submission.
- The Paper 1 **must** be revised. Initial submission is worth 200 pts, revision is worth 100 pts. Not submitting the initial submission (not a draft) or not completing the revision will result in an F for the course
- Late Papers  
I will accept only one late submission of one assignment or paper (except Assign3), final or initial version, not one of each. If you do have a late submission, you must have it submitted to instructor via an attachment to a Laulima message within 72 hours of the original due date/time or incur a penalty. There will be a 10% penalty for any part of each 24 hours late after 72 hours, submissions more than 7 days late will not be accepted. Once you have submitted a paper late, you do not have any further opportunities to submit late (meaning you cannot change your mind).

No makeup of quizzes or exams is allowed. Only exception is a documented 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 many 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 10 week Soc 218 Summer 2018, schedule is subject to change as needed*

Week		Topic	Deliverables
1	June 4	Introductions and Expectations  Chapter 1	Review syllabus Writing exercises in Assignment folder (must complete) Read Ch 1 in text  Complete Ch 1 quiz by 1159 pm Saturday Introductions (in Discussion folder on Laulima) Sign up for Mtg 1 and 2 – <u>mandatory (link is in Announcements)</u>
2	June 11	Chapter 2 Week 2 Readings in Resource folder	Read Ch 2 in text and readings in Resource folder on Laulima Complete Ch 2 quiz by 1159 pm Saturday <b>Assign 1 due 1159 pm Friday, June 15</b>
3	June 18	Chapter 3 Week 3 Readings in Resource folder	Read Ch 3 in text and readings in Resource folder on Laulima Complete Ch 3 quiz by 1159 pm Saturday Discussion 1, June 18-22 Mandatory Meeting #1: June 18-21 <b>Assign 2 due 1159 pm Friday, June 22</b>
4	June 25	Chapter 4 Week 4 readings in Resource folder	Read Ch 4 in text and readings in Resource folder on Laulima Complete Ch 4 quiz by 1159 pm Saturday <b>Midterm 1 available June 28 &amp; 29</b> Ch 1-4, any material introduced or covered
5	July 2	Chapter 5 Week 5 readings in Resource folder	Read Ch 5 in text and readings in Resource folder on Laulima Complete Ch 5 quiz by 1159 pm Saturday <b>Paper 1 due 1159 pm Monday, July 2</b>
6	July 9	Chapter 6 & 7 Week 6 readings in Resource folder	Read Ch 6 & 7 in text and readings in Resource folder on Laulima Complete Ch 6 & 7 quiz by 1159 pm Saturday Discussion 2, July 9 - 13 Mandatory Meeting #2, July 11-17 Paper 1 returned to students July 10-17
7	July 16	Chapter 8 Week 7 readings in Resource folder	Read Ch 7 in text and readings in Resource folder on Laulima Complete Ch 7 quiz by 1159 pm Saturday <b>Midterm 2 available July 19 &amp; 20</b> Ch 5-8, any material introduced or covered
8	July 23	Chapter 9 Week 8 readings in Resource folder	Read Ch 9 in text and readings in Resource folder on Laulima Complete Ch 9 quiz by 1159 pm Saturday <b>Revised Paper 1 due 1159 pm Monday, July 23</b>
9	July 30	Chapter 10 Week 9 reading	Read Ch 10 in text and readings in Resource folder on Laulima Complete Ch 10 quiz by 1159 pm Saturday Discussion 3, July 30 – Aug 3 <b>Paper 2 due 1159 pm Aug 3</b>
10	Aug 6	Chapter 11 Week 10 readings in Resource folder	Complete Ch 11 quiz by 1159 pm Saturday Discussion and office hours <b>Assign 3 due 1159 pm Aug 10</b> <b>Final Exam Available Aug 9-11</b> , cumulative but with more weight on Ch 8-11, materials presented since July 23.

