

El Paso Community College
Syllabus
Part II
Official Course Description

SUBJECT AREA	Sociology
COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER	SOCI 1306
COURSE TITLE	Social Problems
COURSE CREDIT HOURS	3 3 : 0
	Credits Lec Lab

I. Catalog Description

Provides an application of sociological principles and theoretical perspective to major social problems in contemporary society such as inequality, crime and violence, substance abuse, environmental issues, deviance, or family problems. **(3:0)**.

II. Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Understand how the sociological concepts of culture, socialization, social organization, and social change are used to explain human behavior.
- B. Know the sociological perspectives used to explain social problems, specifically structural functionalism, conflict and symbolic interaction.
- C. Distinguish among the sociological approaches of structural functionalism conflict and symbolic interaction in their analysis of social problems.
- D. Distinguish the difference between a personal problem and a social problem
- E. Describe causes for social problems using the particular sociological perspectives.
- F. Identify and discuss both the characteristics and scope of at least five different problems in contemporary society.
- G. Understand the history of a social problem and underlying causes.
- H. Evaluate proposals for solutions to social problems demonstrating an awareness of the interconnections in the social system.

III. THECB Learning Outcomes (ACGM)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 1. Describe how the sociological imagination can be used to explain the emergence and implications of contemporary social problems.
- 2. Explain the nature of social problems from at least one sociological perspective, e.g., critical, functional, interpretive, etc.
- 3. Identify multidimensional aspects of social problems including the global, political, economic, and cultural dimensions of social problems.
- 4. Discuss how “solutions” to social problems are often contentious due to diverse values in society.
- 5. Describe how the proposed “solutions” to a social problem, including social policies, may bring rise to other social problems.

IV. Evaluation

Methods for course evaluation will be at the discretion of each instructor. It is strongly encouraged that instructors use research papers as part of the students' evaluation. The weight of the research paper should be left up to the instructor. Instructors may employ one or more of the following methods of evaluation:

- Short paper assignments
- Research Paper
- Presentation of Research Paper
- Exams and/or quizzes (format and type is left to the instructor)
- Field projects/In-Class projects/Research Activities
- Participation in classroom debates/discussions

Each instructor is free to modify the standard college grading scale to suit their classes. Make-up and final examination policies are at the discretion of each instructor. However, classes will be held during finals/exam week and a "learning activity" will take place in each class during this week.

V. Disability Statement (American with/Disabilities Act [ADA])

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024).

VI. 6 Drop Rule

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.