

# El Paso Community College

## Syllabus

### Part II

## Official Course Description

<b>SUBJECT AREA</b>	<u>Sociology</u>
<b>COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER</b>	<u>SOCI 1306</u>
<b>COURSE TITLE</b>	<u>Social Problems (F)</u>
<b>COURSE CREDIT HOURS</b>	<u>3            3            :</u> Credits            Lec            Lab

### I. Catalog Description

Application of sociological principles and theoretical perspectives to major social problems in contemporary society such as inequality, crime and violence, substance abuse, environmental issues, deviance, or family problems. **Prerequisite: Placement at college-level English Language Arts Reading by TSIA2 or equivalent; OR completion with a "C" or better or concurrent enrollment in the following: INRW 0311 or INRW 0312 or ESOL 0340. (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 (Americans 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.

#### **VII. Title IX and Sex Discrimination**

Title 9 (20 U.S.C. 1681 & 34 C.F.R. Part 106) states the following "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prohibits stalking, date violence, sexual violence, and domestic violence for all students, employees and visitors (male and female). If you have any concerns related to discrimination, harassment, or assault (of any type) you can contact the Assistant to the Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services at 915-831-2655. Employees can call the Manager of Employee Relations at 915-831-6458. Reports of sexual assault/violence may also be reported to EPCC Police at 915-831-2200.