

Basic Course Information

Semester	SPRING 2017	Instructor Name	Claudia Saldaña
Course Title & #	Contemporary Social Problems SOC 102	Email	claudia.saldana@imperial.edu
CRN #	20637	Units	3
Room	# 2735	Office	# 809
Class Dates	02/15/2017-06/07/2017	Class Days	Wednesday
Class Times	6:30-9:40pm	Office Contact	Elvia M. Camillo 760-355-6144

Course Description

This course examines contemporary social problems and the process by which competing groups make claims to define phenomena as social problems. Emphasis includes understanding these problems on the societal level, the group level, and from the standpoint of the individual.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, students will have acquired the skills and knowledge to:

1. Define and apply the basic concepts of sociology including culture, status, roles, norms, institutions, social class, race, gender. (ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
2. Distinguish different major sociological theoretical perspectives that explain social behavior. (ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
3. Analyze contemporary social problems related to economic, gender, and racial inequalities, and ways in which these inequalities create systems of power, privilege, and deprivation based on a person’s social location. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)
4. Identify political ideologies in the arguments of others, including those asserted in the media. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
5. Exercise their sociological imagination in order to reflect upon questions of personal and social responsibility in a complex and changing society. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)

Course Objectives

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

1. Be able to define a social problem and be familiar with the key components of the definition.
2. Identify health care as a social problem and explain what constitutes adequate health care in society.
3. Analyze the extent of mental illness in America and the nature of mental illness as a social problem.
4. Describe the nature of sex as a social problem.
5. Analyze alcohol use and abuse in the United States.
6. Recognize the types of crime and criminals in addition to the conditions and causes of crime.
7. Describe the extent of poverty in American society and identify the relationship between poverty and social class.
8. Identify the origins of prejudice and discrimination and the consequences of each.
9. Describe the significance of world population growth and other conditions that stress the environment.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Required Text:

Author: Kornblum
 Title: Social Problems
 Publisher: Pearson
 Edition: 14th
 ISBN: 9780205832323

Additional reading may be required and will be provided.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

- **Class Participation/Discussion:** Class participation is an integral component of this course and is required from all students. While your voice is encouraged and appreciated, you should be mindful and

considerate of your opinion toward others. Verbal harassment, disrespectful or obscene comments and/or behavior will not be tolerated. You will be asked to leave the class.

- **Quiz:** The quiz will consist of: true or false, multiple choice questions and extra credit question/s. **A small scantron is required.**
- **Newspaper Articles:** Students will summarize 6 newspaper articles that deal with social problems. The summaries are to be typed out and attached to the newspaper clipping. *Articles may not be over 1 week old.* A maximum of 2 articles per class may be presented.
- **Agency Interview:** *The paper will be due at the beginning of class. Deductions will be taken for papers turned in later that same class only. Any paper submitted after the due date will not be accepted.* A set of required questions will be provided to students. The paper will be in 12 in. Times New Roman font, regular margins, double spaced and in paragraph form **not** question and answer. *Further instructions will be given in class.*
- **Midterms:** The midterm will consist of: true or false, multiple choice questions and extra credit question/s. **A large scantron is required.**
- **Extra-Credit:** Extra Credit will be available for completion throughout the semester. The assignments will be worth 1-2 points each. Print out the page that contains the article information and **highlight the pertinent information requested. Do not copy and paste onto another page.**
- **Assignments:** **All submitted assignments must be typed unless otherwise stated. Assignments that are to be printed out from the internet must have pertinent information highlighted.**

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

I do not grade on a curve. Everyone has the potential to earn an A. Course expectations are clearly specified here. You will be evaluated by how well you do on the assigned work and exams.

Semester Grade:

Participation	100 points
Quiz	20 points
Newspaper Articles	60 points
Agency Interview	100 points
Midterm I	100 points
Midterm II	<u>100 points</u>
	480 points

Grading Scale:

A (100-90%)	480-432 points
B (89-80%)	431-384 points
C (79-70%)	383-336 points
D (69-60%)	335-288 points
F (59% & below)	287 points & below

Makeup and Late Assignments:

- **I do not accept late work.** If you will not be able to attend class, please notify me before class.
- If you will be unable to attend class, you may submit your work via email.
- **No make-ups on quizzes/tests will be given without a written statement from a physician that must be verified or extenuating circumstances that are verified. It is your responsibility to contact me before the class to reschedule.**
- If your absence is work related, you must inform me ahead of time to make prior arrangements.

Assignments:

- All submitted assignments must be typed or pertinent information highlighted, unless otherwise stated.

- Extra Credit will be available for completion throughout the semester.
- **Do not expect additional Extra Credit assignments when you have failed to complete the assigned work.**
- Study Guides will be handed out before the Midterm Exams but not for the Quiz.
- Due to time constraints, there might be changes to the dates in which chapters & assignments are covered/discussed in class.

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: All electronic devices (i.e.: cell phones, laptops, etc.) are to be turned off or put on silence during class time. The use of a computer is tolerated, provided that it is solely for the purpose of taking notes. Internet browsing and email checking in classroom are absolutely forbidden. Any student who refuses to comply with this rule will be asked to leave the classroom immediately.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.
- Respect: Students will respect each other and their opinions. Disrespectful attitudes or behaviors will not be condoned; agree to disagree.

Academic Honesty

- It is very important that you learn how to cite properly. In the social and behavioral sciences, the American Psychological Association (APA) format is used. As a rule of thumb, one cites whenever they are paraphrasing other people's words or when they quote other's words directly. You may choose to access the following website: www.apastyle.org.
- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to 'cite a source' correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during

an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Help –

- If you are having difficulties keeping up with the class, please come see me as soon as possible. Please do not wait until the end of the semester to come to talk to me.
- **Learning Labs:** There are several ‘labs’ on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Study Skills Center (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program.
- **Library Services:** There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the Study Skills Center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313, if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic
Week 1 - February 15	Syllabus & Introduction; Chapter 1
Week 2 - February 22	Chapter 1 & 2
Week 3 - March 1	Chapter 2
Week 4 - March 8	Chapter 3
Week 5 - March 15	Chapter 4
Week 6 - March 22	Chapter 5 & QUIZ
Week 7 - March 29	Chapter 5 & 6
Week 8 - April 5	Chapter 6
Week 9 - April 12	Chapter 7 & MIDTERM I
Week 10 - April 19	Chapter 7 & 8
Week 11 - April 26	Chapter 8 & 9
Week 12 - May 3	Chapter 9 & AGENCY INTERVIEW PAPER
Week 13 - May 10	Chapter 10
Week 14 - May 17	Chapter 11
Week 15 - May 24	Chapter 12
Week 16 - May 31	Chapter 13
Week 17 - June 7	MIDTERM II

