

**Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – Sociology 102: Contemporary Social Problems,
CRN-10641**

Basic Course Information

Semester	Fall 2018	Instructor Name	Abril T. Diaz, MBA/MA
Course Title	Sociology 102: Contemporary Social Problems	Email	abril.diaz@imperial.edu
CRN #	CRN-10641	Webpage	N/A
Room	Bldg. 2700, Room 2735	Office	Room 809
Class Dates	08/15/18-12/05/2018	Office Hours	Appointment Only
Class Days	Wednesdays	Office Phone #	N/A
Class Times Units	6:30- 9:40 pm, 3 units	Contact if student will be out or emergency	Email Instructor

Course Description

Sociology 102 examines contemporary social problems and the process by which competing groups make claims to define phenomena as social problems. Emphasis will be given to understanding these problems on the societal level, the group level, and from the standpoint of the individual. (C-ID SOCI 115) (CSU, UC)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able 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. Read, summarize and evaluate peer-reviewed empirical studies. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)
4. Demonstrate the ability to make oral presentations that are organized, rely on evidence and engage the audience. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)

Course Objectives

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

1. 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. Analyze alcohol use and abuse in the United States, as well as other patterns of drug use.
5. Recognize the types of crime and criminals in addition to the conditions and causes of crime
6. Describe the extent of poverty in American society and identify the relationship.
7. Identify the origins of prejudice and discrimination and the consequences of each.
8. Describe the significance of world population growth and immigration that stress the environment.

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – Sociology 102: Contemporary Social Problems, CRN-10641

9. Describe the changing family structure in America and the effects on society.
10. Analyze the success and failures of the American educational system and compare it to other countries.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Required Texts:

Kornblum, William & Julian, Joseph. *Social Problems*, (2017) 15th Ed. Pearson/Prentice Hall

Recommended:

Durkheim, Emile (1964). *SUICIDE* Glenco, IL Free Press.

Mead, George Herbert (1934). *MIND, SELF AND SOCIETY*. Chicago University Chicago Press.

Mills, C. Wright (1956). *THE POWER ELITE*. New York Oxford University Press.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

This course will consist of a combination of lectures, class discussion, presentations, assigned readings, group and individual projects and performance on quizzes and exams.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Student Grade Evaluation

Participation	300 points
Individual Critical Thinking Assignment	100 points
Written Assignments	100 points
Midterm Exam	100 points
Group Project	200 points
Quizzes	100 points
Final Exam	<u>100 points</u>
Total Points	1000 points

The grade distribution is based on the following percentage points:

A	1000-900	90%
B	899-800	80%
C	799-700	70%
D	699-600	60%
F	Under 599	59% or less

**Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – Sociology 102: Contemporary Social Problems,
CRN-10641**

Grading Rubrics: In addition to the percentages and points listed above the following grading rubric will be used when grading student assignments. The description that best fits your work will be the assigned grade.

General Grading Rubric for Assignments	
A	Focused and clearly organized. Contains advanced critical thinking and analysis. Convincing evidence is provided to support conclusions. Clearly meets or exceeds assignment requirements.
B	Generally focused with some development of ideas, but may be simplistic or repetitive. Evidence is provided to support conclusions. Occasional grammatical errors. Meets assignment requirements, but does not exceed.
C	Unfocused, underdeveloped, or rambling, but has some coherence. Minimal evidence is provided to support conclusions. Several grammatical errors. Meets minimum assignment requirements.
D	Unfocused, underdeveloped, and/or rambling. Limited evidence is used to support conclusions. Serious grammatical errors that impede overall understanding. Does not address the assignment requirements
F	Unfocused, underdeveloped, and/or rambling. Incomplete or too brief. No evidence is used to support conclusions. Serious grammatical errors that block overall understanding. Does not meet assignment requirements. Minimal to no student effort.

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a 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.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.
- You are required to attend class every session. Please make arrangements to keep up with all assignments in case you cannot attend a class session for any reason. Remember the student is responsible for obtaining all information and material when absent.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Please turn your cell phones off during class. No texting is allowed. This class does not require students to use their laptops computers in class. Please consult with me in the event that you need to use a computer in the classroom
- 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.

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – Sociology 102: Contemporary Social Problems, CRN-10641

- 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. Most of you are here to learn but some students are not serious. To preserve a productive learning environment, 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.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.
- Classroom Expectations and Behavior: Students are responsible for knowing the material and announcements presented during lectures whether or not you attend class. Please arrange with another student for missed notes and announcements. Please do not disrupt other students' ability to hear lectures. Prepare to take notes before lectures begin, do not talk during lecture, sit in a seat, and do not begin packing your belongings before class ends.
- Late arrival/early departure: Arriving late or leaving early from class may subject you from a loss in participation points. Students are expected to remain in the classroom throughout the entire class session. Students leaving the class early, or just briefly, without prior instructor approval, will have points deducted from their class points

Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism is to take and present 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 correctly 'cite a source', 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, or assisting others in using materials, which 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) use of a commercial term paper service

Additional Help

- CANVAS Login will be required for this course.
 - Canvas support Hotline, Dial # 877-893-9853
- 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 Learning Services (library).

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – Sociology 102: Contemporary Social Problems, CRN-10641

- Library Services: There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the learning 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. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in Building 1500 in Room 1536, Next to the Assessment Center, Contact Number: 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 help 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/>

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CRN-10641**

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

SOC 102 Course Outline

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	Due
1	08/15	Course Overview- Syllabus and Introductions	Buy Textbook	Syllabus/Canvas Login
2	08/22	Sociological Perspectives on Social Problems What is Social Research?	Chapter 1	Coat of Arms Intro- Due 08/29
3	08/29	Coat of Arms In-Class Presentations Problems of Health and Healthcare	Chapter 2	CH1: CR page 3 CH1: CR page 24 Quiz #1
4	09/05	Problems of Mental Illness and Treatment <i>Guest: IVC MH Counseling</i> Alcohol and Other Drugs	Chapter 3 Chapter 4	CH2: CR page 32 CH2: CR page 38 CH2: CR page 53
5	09/12	Crime and Violence <i>"The Prison Experiment" Movie</i>	Chapter 5	CH3: CR page 66 CH3: CR page 71 CH4: CR page 103 Quiz #2
6	09/19	Poverty Amid Affluence* <i>Guest: The United Way of Imperial Valley</i>	Chapter 6	CH5: CR page 135
7	09/26	Midterm Exam	Chapters 1-6	Midterm Exam CH6: CR page 153 CH6: CR page 172 CH6: CR page 176
8	10/03	Racism, Prejudice & Discrimination <i>"The Eye of the Storm" Documentary</i>	Chapter 7	
9	10/10	Sex and Gender An Aging Society	Chapter 8 Chapter 9	Quiz #3 CH7: CR page 196 CH7: CR page 205
10	10/17	The Changing Family Problems of Education	Chapter 10 Chapter 11	CH8: CR page 219 CH8: CR page 231 CH8: CR page 236 CH9: CR page 242 CH9: CR page 249
11	10/24	Problems of Work and the Economy <i>Written Assignment Intro</i>	Chapter 12	CH10: CR page 303 CH10: CR page 290 CH11: CR page 314 CH11: CR page 328
12	10/31	Population and Immigration	Chapter 13	CH12: CR page 348 CH12: CR page 356 Quiz #4
13	11/07	Technology and the Environment War and Global Insecurity	Chapter 14 Chapter 15	CH13: CR page 375 CH13: CR page 386
14	11/14	<i>Written Assignment Due ~Canvas~</i>		CH14: CR page 412 CH14: CR page 421 CH15: CR page 431
15	11/21	Campus Closed ~Thanksgiving Break~		No Class
16	11/28	Group Project Presentations		Group Presentations
17	12/05	Final Exam	Chapter 7-15	Final Exam

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NOTE: This course outline should be considered tentative since some minor changes may be made according to the needs of class. If a date or assignment needs to be changed, I will announce it in class before the date it is listed in the syllabus.

**All items submitted must have name, class and date unless instructed differently.*

**Extra Credit opportunities will be announced during the course.*