

Montgomery County Community College
 SOC 103
 Social Problems
 3-3-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course offers a critical examination of major social problems in the contemporary United States within the context of wider global issues. Students will learn to think sociologically about the causes and consequences of contemporary social problems. Course focus is on uncovering the social conditions, forces, and social structures that give rise to social problems. Problems covered include but are not limited to: poverty, gender, homophobia/heterosexim, race and class inequality, crime, education, environment and health care.

REQUISITES:

Previous Course Requirements

None

Concurrent Course Requirements

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Explain the causes and consequences of major domestic and global social problems using a Sociological framework.	Exams Case Studies Small Group Work Reading Lecture Videos	Exam Written Assignments
2. Apply key Sociological concepts germane to the study of social problems.	Exams Case Studies Small Group Work Reading Lecture Videos	Exam Written Assignments
3. Evaluate social policy solutions to specific social problems and their ethical implications.	Lecture Discussion Multimedia Materials Small Group Work	Written Assignments Research Paper and Presentation

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The

benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria.*

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

1. The Political Economy of Social Problems
2. The Sociological Approach to Social Problems
3. Wealth and Power: The Bias of the System
4. Global Inequality: The Third World and the United States
5. Threats to the Environment: Pollution and Resource Depletion
6. National Security, Militarism, and War
7. Poverty in the United States
8. Racial and Ethnic Minorities
9. Sex Roles and Sexism, Age and Ageism
10. Formal Education and the Perpetuation of Inequality
11. Jobs, Work, and Social Change
12. Social Deviance
13. Crime and Justice
14. Mental Disorders and Society

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Henslin, James. *Social Problems A Down To Earth Approach* 10th ed. Pearson.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: C. Sodano and D. Creciun	Date: 10/1995
Revised by: Judy Gay	Date: 9/1998
Revised by: Sophia deMasi	Date: 6/7/2009
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 9/15/2011
Revised by: Sophia deMasi	Date: 5/2013
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 5/22/2013
Revised by: Sophia de Masi	Date: 2/27/2018
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:	Date: 2/27/2018



This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.