

Social Problems and Issues (SOC 206)  
Fall 2019  
MW 080:30-9:50(NSH 109)

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My LBCC Web Page:

[http://cf.linnbenton.edu/artcom/social\\_science/aflatoa/web.cfm?pgID=86](http://cf.linnbenton.edu/artcom/social_science/aflatoa/web.cfm?pgID=86)

## **Course Description**

This course examines how some social conditions come to be defined and labeled as “social problems”. In this class, we will be learning about the social construction of social problems, methods of analyzing their emergence and the reactions to social problems by the public, the media, advocacy groups and governmental institutions. The course provides an academic platform for discussion that encourages critical thinking and finding remedies to our social problems. I strongly encourage the students in this class to participate in class discussions, present their views and experiences politely in relation to various issues that will be discussed in class.

## **Prerequisite**

**Introduction to Sociology or Soc 204 is the prerequisite for this class.** If you have not taken Soc 204, then you need to have my permission to take this class. It is also highly recommended that you take **Writing 115 or Writing 121 before you take this class.**

## **Course Outcomes**

1. Increase awareness of the existence of social problems in our community, country and world at large.
2. Understand the past, present and future trends (policies) within identified social problems.
3. Understand the importance of community involvement by both individuals and groups to achieve real remedies.

## **Required Readings**

**Social Problems and the Quality of Life (14th edition) by Robert Lauer and Jeanette Lauer, published McGraw-Hill.** You will get access to the e-version of this book when you sign up for this class. A Moodle course shell is created for this course that gives you access to **McGraw-Hill Connect** site. Please see the attached instructions. There is a possibility that the link to McGraw-Hill Connect site may not be ready in the first week of class but you can access your ebook via this direct link to

Connect:<https://connect.mheducation.com/connect/hmlInstructorSectionHomePortal.do?sectionId=115237725>

**You will find my lectures Powerpoint Slides on your Moodle course shell. You will be doing your readings assignments on McGraw-Hill Connect site. Since we can not cover the entire book in ten weeks, I have selected eleven chapters that we will be covering in this class. Of those eleven chapters, ten of them tackle ten social problems that will be examined in class.**

### **Exams**

There will be **two in-class tests (one midterm and one final)** for this class. The questions on each test come from chapters, lectures, videos, and class discussions.

**Your final test is NOT cumulative.** There are study questions at the end of each chapter that you can use to prepare yourself for your midterm and final exams.

### **Internet Resources/Exercises**

There are **eight internet exercises** that you will have to turn in class each week (**Wednesday**). You will find these resources/exercises at the end of the chapters that we will be covering in this class. You choose and explore the materials offered by these websites and then write your opinion or reflections on what you have read. Each exercise will help you understand the nature of social problems that we face today and the resources available to remedy them. Each report **should be typed not exceed two pages and turned in class.**

### **Grassroots Paper and Presentation**

Each student is also required to find a grassroots organization that addresses and tries to remedy a social problem. Please read the following article on the **Natural History of a Social Problem** before you start researching your chosen organization:

[https://catalog.flatworldknowledge.com/bookhub/reader/3064?e=barkansoc\\_1.0-ch01\\_s01](https://catalog.flatworldknowledge.com/bookhub/reader/3064?e=barkansoc_1.0-ch01_s01)

**You will not receive full credit for your report if you do not present it to the class. You need to submit to me the name of your chosen organization by November 4. Two students cannot choose the same organization and if they do, one of them needs to pick a different organization. Your class presentation should not exceed 10 minutes. You can make some PowerPoint slides for your presentation or just give an oral presentation. Your report should be typed and double spaced (3-4 pages) and turned in on the day of your presentation.**

**Here are the criteria for choosing a Grassroots Organization:**

- The organization must be a **non-governmental organization (NGO)**. **Your chosen organization cannot be a lobbyist group or a Think Tank.**
- It has to be founded by an individual or a group of individuals who sought to define a condition as a social problem and remedy it. Make sure you discuss how the organization **frames** its cause as a social problem.

- It has to address **a very specific** social problem. (i.e., racial or gender discrimination, crime and drug problems, health and educational disparities, environmental issues, effects of war on society, etc.).
- It has to have a history of **nonviolent activism** at the local, national or international level and was able to foster some kind of social change. In addition, how has the organization used the media or other outlets (political, religious, etc.) to **legitimize** its cause?
- It has to offer some **realistic and workable and solutions** to the problem (history of some of its achievements). What has it accomplished?

### **Final Grade Breakdown**

**Two Tests = 40% (20% each)**

**Connect Reading Assignments: 20%**

**Internet Exercises: 20 %**

**Grassroots Paper and Presentation = 20%**

### **Absences and your grade**

I take attendance for every class and missing class will lower your grade. For each unexcused absence up to and including 3, your final grade will be lowered by 1% point. Here are some examples of unexcused absences: Car problems beyond one incident (after the first incident, I expect that you can arrange some other way to get to school); attending camp, family vacation or other social event; waking up late; working on school work (whether for our class or another class). I will judge other types of incidents on an individual basis. Unexcused absences 4 and 5 will each cost you 5% points off your final grade, and for every unexcused absence over 5, you will lose 1 letter grade. If you have over 5 unexcused absences, you probably won't be able to pass, and you should drop the course.

### **Class policy on Plagiarism**

Students who use someone else's work as their own will receive an "**F**" for their work.

**Do Your Own Work! Please always have a pen and a pencil and notepad along with your textbook in class at all times. These are the tools of your trade as a student. Do not expect me to provide you with them!**

### **Students with Disability**

Students who have some type of disability or medical condition that will require them to take their tests either at the **Student Assessment Center (RCH Room 111)** or the **Center for Accessibility Resources (RCH-105)** should contact me at the beginning of the term (the first week) and provide documentation from the **Center for Accessibility Resources** so that I can make the appropriate arrangements with them to take their tests there.

## **Class Policies Regarding Missed Exams, Late Papers, Tardiness and Chatting**

Missed exams will be counted as zeros except for **extraordinary circumstances**. Acceptable reasons for missing an exam would include major health problems, a death in the family, etc. **Please note that the arrangements should be made with me before the exam. I do accept late papers but late papers will receive ½ credit. All late work should be turned in by December 4. I will NOT accept any late work on the day of your final.**

**Tardiness is not tolerated in my class, come to class on time and if you need to leave early you need to notify me at the beginning of class.**

**Talking and chit chatting in my class will also result in your dismissal from the class.**

## **Limited Use of Email and Electronic Devices in Class**

This is **not** an online class and therefore I expect that most of our communications will take place in person and in class. If there is something that you need to discuss with me please come and see me in my office before the class. On rare occasions where you are out of town or very ill and need to communicate with me you can send a short message or email you work to me. **Please turn off your cell phone before class. I reserve the right to dismiss you from the class if I see you using your cell phone or any other electronic devices for personal use.**

## **Lecture Topics and Course Outline**

### **Week 1**

**Understanding Social Problems**

**Reading: Chapter 1**

### **Week 2**

**Alcohol and Other Drugs**

**Reading: Chapter 2**

**Internet Exercise # 1 (page 70)**

### **Week 3**

**Violence**

**Readings: Chapter 4**

**Internet Exercise # 2 (page 134)**

### **Week 4**

**Sexual Violence**

**Reading: Chapter 5**

**Internet Exercise # 3 (page 157)**

### **Week 5**

**Poverty**

**Reading: Chapter 6**

Internet Exercise # 4 (Page 191)

## Midterm: November 4

### Week 6

Gender and Sexual Orientation and Race, Ethnic Groups and Racism

Reading: Chapter 7 and 8

Internet Exercise # 5 (pages 223 or 257)

### Week 7

Education

Reading: Chapters 11

Internet Exercise # 6 (page 349)

### Week 8

Health Care and Illness: Physical and Mental

Reading: Chapter 13

Internet Exercise # 7 (page 413)

### Week 9

War and Terrorism and Environment

Reading: Chapters 14 and 15

Internet Exercise # 8 (pages 445 or 476)

### Week 10

Presentations of Grassroots Organizations

## Final Exam: December 11 at 8 am

**If you have a difficult time finding a grassroots organization, here is a list of some grassroots organizations (as suggestions) that you can choose from:**

Bread for the World

Food For The Hungry

Foods Not Bombs

Freedom From Hunger

The Hunger Project

National Center for Children in Poverty

National Coalition for the Homeless

Children's Defense Fund

Sisters of the Road (Oregon based)

Oregon Rural Action

Southern Poverty Law center

Urban League  
Catalyst Project  
Anti-Racist Alliance  
Crossroads Antiracism Organizing & Training  
The Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization  
Urban Institute  
National Organization for Women  
Students Active for Ending Rape (SAFER)  
The WAGE Project: Closing the Gender Wage Gap  
Men's Work: Violence Reduction  
Techbridge: Encouraging Girls to Pursue Science  
Human Rights Campaign  
GLAAD  
Matthew Shepard Foundation  
The Grassroots Education Movement  
The Center for Education Reform  
The Grassroots Education Project  
Teachers without Borders  
Environmental Defense Fund  
Green Peace  
Sierra Club  
Doctors without Borders  
Iraq Veterans against the War  
Peace One Day  
Amnesty International  
The Brady Campaign  
Citizens for Tax Justice  
Teach for America  
The Women's Trust (microfinance organization)  
Volunteers of America  
Tahirih Justice Center



### 1. MH Campus

NAVIGATION  
Home  
Dashboard  
Site pages

My courses  
**Test Course**

Teacher: [Name]

Login to your LMS account and select your course

### 2.

ADMINISTRATION  
Course administration  
Grades

4 March - 10 March  
11 March - 17 March

MCGRAW-HILL AAIRS  
**McGraw-Hill Campus**  
Tegrity Campus

LOCATE THE 'McGraw-Hill Campus' tool.

OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT 13e  
Stevenson  
2017 © McGraw-Hill, Inc.  
ISBN-10: 125994820x  
ISBN-13:

Then click on 'Connect'

### 3.

welcome to Connect!

register for Connect

On the next screen select 'Register' and 'Register now' to create your Connect account.

already registered? sign in:

email address:  
password:

\* If you have an existing Connect account you may directly 'Sign in'.

Note: Sign in with the info you used to create your Connect/McGraw-Hill account.

### 4.

Create your McGraw-Hill Education account.

Email Address  
Password  
Full Name  
Security Question And Answer

Enter the details on the next screen to create your account; then select 'Next Step' and 'Confirm'.

Digital Access for Connect

Stevenson: Operations Management  
13e edition, © 2017  
By William Stevenson  
ISBN: 125994820x

Component Products: - LearnSmart  
Access: Your access to this product will expire in 5 months, 2 weeks and 9 days from today on Nov 12th

CONFIRM CANCEL

### 5.

Success

You're done! You may now Go to Connect or return to your LMS.

✓ For additional relevant guides & resources please visit our [Success Academy](#)