

<p style="text-align: center;">Dixie State College of Utah</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sociology 1020 SOCIAL PROBLEMS Fall Term 2012</p>
<p>Instructor: Robert H. Oxley, Ph.D.</p> <p>Section: SOC 1020 01 CRN: 45557</p> <p>Meeting Days/Times: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 12:00 PM until 12:50 PM</p> <p>Room: McDonald Bldg. 106</p> <p>Instructor's Office: McDonald Bldg. RM 236</p> <p>Instructor's Office Hours: Wednesday, 1:00-2:00 PM</p> <p>Instructor's Office Phone: (435) 879-4221</p> <p>Instructor's E-mail: roxley@dixie.edu</p> <p>Non-Discrimination Policy: No person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, marital status, creed, or disability, be excluded from participating in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during term of this Social Issues course.</p> <p>SOC 1020 Syllabus 08/17/12</p>	<p>Course: SOC 1020 Social Problems 3 Credit Hours.</p> <p>Text: Best, Joel., <i>Social Problems</i>. W. W. Norton. Edition: First, 2008. AND Silver, Ira., <i>Social Problems: Readings</i>. W. W. Norton., Edition: First, 2008.</p> <p>Additional Materials: None.</p> <p>Course Description: This course examines the “problems” of our world as social constructions. The class will investigate the processes by which activists, experts, and the media make claims about what they perceive as injustices and inequalities in their respective worlds. Further, we will examine the roles of the public, policymakers, and social problems workers in the social problems process. At the conclusion of this course you will <i>understand</i> that what are popularly considered problems are culturally relative. The <u>only thing</u> that all social problems have in common is that people claim them to be a “social problem.”</p> <p>Prerequisites: SOC 1010 or equivalent introduction to Sociology is recommended.</p> <p>Core Abilities: Core abilities are broad outcomes or skills that every graduate of Dixie State College should strive to achieve. These skills go beyond the context of a specific course or program, are important in every area of learning, and are the skills employers and other stakeholders indicate are essential.</p> <p>The following core abilities have been identified as important in this course:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Think creatively and critically 2.. Demonstrate social and cultural awareness 3. Communicate effectively 4.. Manage information 5. Act responsibly

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Competencies:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Cultivate a “sociological imagination.”
2. Assess the underlying causes of social problems.
3. Identify the theoretical frameworks used in the analysis of current social problems.
4. Explore social indicators to determine the prevalence of social problems.
5. Describe the seriousness and ramifications of social problems.
6. Explain the role of institutions in the creation and/or resolution of various social problems.
7. Analyze social problems using sociological theory.
8. Investigate inequality associated with social class, race, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation.
9. Examine potential solutions to social issues.

Methods of Instruction:

Any combination or all of the following may be used in this course.

Delivery of Course Content:

Lecture, Electronic Presentation, Demonstrations, Video/Audio Presentations, Case Studies, Field Trips, Website(s), Course Books, Articles, Other Resources

Assessment:

Practical Application, Quizzes and Exams, Position Paper and , Discussion participation

Communication:

Lecture and Collaborative Discussion,

Student Responsibilities:

1. As a college student, you are expected to schedule at least two hours of study time outside of class for each hour the class meets.
2. You can expect that questions related to homework will be asked at each session.
3. You are responsible for reading the text and not relying entirely on the instructor presenting every detail.
4. You must show the attempted work when seeking help in completing an assignment. You are encouraged to contact the instructor by making an appointment to review your specific concerns..
5. You may not always be able to complete assignments during the scheduled class session. Therefore, extra time outside of class must be allowed to complete these assignments.
6. You should save (archive) samples of your best work because an electronic portfolio may be required for program completion. Contact your instructor if there are any questions.
7. You are responsible for all announcements and material presented in class, for completion of all homework and, and for actively participating in the learning process.

8. If you plan to e-mail your instructor with questions or to leave a message for the instructor via phone identify yourself and the class you are referring to before beginning your brief message or question. Be sure to leave a number for a return call.

9. If you have any health conditions that might create a classroom emergency (i.e., seizure disorders, diabetes, heart conditions), you are responsible for informing your instructor.

10. If you have any needs for test taking or other accommodations, you are responsible for discussing them with your instructor. The instructor must have received notification from the Disability Resource Center Coordinator (Baako Wahabu) for eligibility determination. The DRC is located at the ground floor of the Financial Aid Office. Visit or call 652-7516 to schedule an appointment to discuss the process. The DRC Coordinator determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services..

11. You should plan to attend all class sessions. Class attendance contributes significantly to academic success. Students who attend classes regularly tend to earn higher grades and have higher passing rates in courses. Excessive absences may jeopardize grades or even the ability to continue in the course.

Faculty Responsibilities:

1. Assignments will be graded and returned to the students within one week.
2. Exams and other major assessments not returned to students will be kept on file for a minimum of three months after the semester ends.
3. Courses will be taught in accordance with the description published in the catalog.
4. A Course Syllabus will be distributed at the first session of each class.
5. Timely feedback will be provided to students regarding their progress.
6. Faculty will make themselves available for student consultations and will respond to emails, phone calls, and student contacts in a timely manner.
7. Attendance will be taken and reported to the Records Office for State and Federal Report purposes.

Grading Rationale:

There will be a Mid Term Exam, Final Exam, unannounced Quizzes, and a comprehensive Position Paper.

One assessment is the Position Paper which requires students to analyze critical research, theories, social problems or institutions that define an individual's role in a civic or global setting..

Missed or Late Assignments/Assessments:

Students are expected to plan their schedule so that they can be present for scheduled class sessions and manage their time so that assignments and assessments can be completed on or before the date they are due. **All exams, quizzes, and the written Position Paper must be completed/submitted on the date/time that they are due. Late assignments will not be accepted which will result in a grade of zero for that type of assessment.**

Academic Integrity:

Academic dishonesty, in any form, will not be tolerated by Dixie State College of Utah.. Students are prohibited from engaging or participating in acts of dishonesty, including but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty.

Any academic dishonesty associated with assignments or exams in this course will result in the grade of zero and may lead to further disciplinary action.

Determination of Final Grade:

Example of Final Grade Computation:

	Points Possible	Student's Score
Quizzes (average score)	250	225
Mid Term Exam	250	215
Position Paper	250	235
Final Exam	250	225
TOTAL	1000	900

Calculation: $900 \div 1000 = 90.00\%$ Final Course Grade A

Final Grade is 3.8

Grading Scale						
	100-94	4.0	A		76	2.4 C
	93-92	3.9	A		75	2.3 C
	91-90	3.8	A		74	2.2 C
	89	3.7	B		73	2.1 C
	88	3.6	B	Average	72-70	2.0 C
Excellent	87	3.5	B		69	1.9 D
	86	3.4	B		68	1.8 D
	85	3.3	B		67	1.7 D
	84	3.2	B		66	1.6 D
	83	3.1	B	Below Average	65	1.5 D
Very Good	82	3.0	B		64	1.4 D
	81	2.9	B		63	1.3 D
	80	2.8	B		62	1.2 D
	79	2.7	C		61	1.1 D
	78	2.6	C	Poor	60	1.0 D
Good	77	2.5	C	Unacceptable	59 & Below	0.0 F

Students who do not officially withdraw from this course, have a score that falls in the unacceptable range, or do not take the final exam will receive a final grade of 0.0.

Class Cancellation:

For College closings due to weather or other emergencies, listen to major area radio or TV stations for updates.

Additional Services:

Important class and college information will be sent to your dmail email account. This information includes your DSC bill, financial aid/scholarship notices, notification of dropped classes, reminders of important dates and events, and other information critical to your success in this class and at DSC. All DSC students are automatically assigned a dmail email account. If you do not know your user name and password, then go to www.dixie.edu and select "dmail" for complete instructions. You will be held responsible for information sent to your dmail email, so please check it often.

Classroom Etiquette:

For your benefit and for the benefit of your classmates:

- At all times be considerate to your classmates and to your instructor.
- No food or beverage is allowed in any classroom.
- Come to class on time, ready to ask questions about previous lessons/assignments.
- Ask pertinent questions; contribute to discussions; avoid "private" conversations that distract the instructor and other students.
- Remember that the faculty member is the one to end the class - do not prepare to leave early.
- **Cell phones must be turned completely off during class time.**

Keys to Success:

- Have a positive attitude about learning and the class.
- Attend all class sessions and be punctual.
- Read the textbook and the handouts before the session and again after.
- Don't expect to understand every topic the first time it is presented; review often and spend as much time as necessary to master the material.
- Enjoy the class!

Important Dates:

Mid Term Exam: Friday, October 5, 2012 (12:00-12:50 PM)

Final Exam: Friday, December 14, 2012 (12:30-2:30 PM)

Position Paper: Due: Friday, November 30, 2012 (Due to be submitted at the beginning of class, i.e. 12:00 Noon)

No Class Meetings:

Monday, September 3, 2012 (Labor Day break)

Friday, October 12, 2012 (Semester Break)

Wednesday, November 21 and Friday, November 23, 2012 (Holiday Break)

Important dates for registration, semester start and end, withdrawal /refund from classes and holidays for each semester may be found by reviewing the DSC Website and dmail email account.

Schedule

NOTE TO STUDENTS:

The basic topics in this course must be covered but may be accomplished using a modified version of the schedule listed below.

Sessions	Topics	Target Competencies	Assignments/Assessments	Due Date
Week #1 August 20, 22, 24	INTRODUCTION: THE SOCIOLOGY-Critical Thinking			
Week #2 August 27,29, 31	Social Problems Process		August 31, 2012 Independent Research of the Social Problems Process Best: Chapter 1 Silver: Readings 5 & 26	
Week #3 September 5 and 7,	CLAIMS No class on Monday, September 3 Labor Day break		Best: Chapter 2 Silver: Reading 20	
Week #4 September 10, 12, and 14	Activists as Claimsmakers		Best: Chapter 3 Silver: Readings 9 & 12	
Week#5 September 17, 19, and 21	Case Studies using the Social Problems Process and Critical Thinking Skills		Group Analysis and Discussion of provided Case Studies	
Week #6 September 24, 26, and 28	Position Paper Assignment information provided on September 24 th .		Group Analysis of current Social problems	Due Date
Week #7 October 1, 3, and 5	Experts as Claimsmakers		Best: Chapter 4 Silver: Readings 6 & 13 October 5: Mid Term Exam	Mid Term Exam October 5th
Week #8 October 8 and 10	The Media and Claims No Class on Friday, Oct. 12th		Best: Chapter 5 Silver: Readings 1 and 11	
Week #9 October 15, 17, and 19	Public Reaction		Best: Chapter 6 Silver: Readings 16 & 21	
Week#10 October 22r 24, and 26	Policymaking		Best: Chapter 7 Silver: Readings 2 & 24	

Week #11 October 29, 31, and November 2	Social Problems Process Work		Group Analysis and Discussion focusing on information presented in Weeks 8, 9, and 10.	Due Date
Week #12 November 5, 7, and 9	Policy Outcomes		Best: Chapter 8 Silver: Readings 15 & 25	
Week #13 November 12, 14, and 16	Claims across Space and Time		Best: Chapter 9 Silver: Readings 30 & 33	Position Paper Due Nov 30th @ 12:00 Noon
Week #14 November 19	Using a "Constructionist Stance" No Class on Wednesday November 21 and Friday, November 23. "Holiday Break"		Best: Chapter 10 Silver: Reading 17	
Week #15 November 26, 28, and 30	Constructionist Stance (continued)		Best: Chapter 11 Silver: Readings 15 & 25	
Week #16 December 3, 5, and 7	Social Problems (a Review of historical, present, and predicable social problems and their effect on societies)	Last class session on Friday, December 7, 2012	Best: Chapters 1-11 and supplemental information presented	Final Exam on December 14th
FINAL EXAM WEEK	SOC 2010 01 (CRN: 45557) Final Examination is scheduled for Friday, December 14, 2012. Beginning at 12:30 PM and must be completed by 2:30 PM.		Final Exam Review	
	<i>Enjoy the Holiday Break!</i>			