

Department:

Sociology

Course Description:

This course will examine a wide variety of social problems, including crime, racial discrimination, poverty, drug abuse, disorganization of social institutions, and rapid social change. The course will apply sociological theories to explain social problems and will focus on approaches used to address these problems.

Course Competencies:

The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups for this course as approved by the Kansas Board of Regents. **(Kansas Regents Shared Number Course and Title: KSRN Course SOC2010 Social Problems.)**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe social problems and personal troubles and explain the differences between the two.
2. Analyze the micro and macro dimensions of social problems utilizing sociological theories and evidence.
3. Describe how social problems are associated with patterns of social inequalities and/or disparities.
4. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of solutions to a social problem utilizing a sociological perspective.
5. Analyze the relationships between social problems and the policies and practices of social institutions.

Course Content:

- A. Studying Social Problems
- B. Poverty and Wealth
- C. Racial and Ethnic Inequality
- D. Gender Inequality
- E. Age Inequality
- F. Crime and Criminal Justice
- G. Violence
- H. Sexuality
- I. Alcohol and Drugs
- J. Physical and Mental Health Issues
- K. Economy and Politics
- L. Work and Workplace
- M. Family Life
- N. Education

- O. Cities and Urban Life
- P. Population and Global Inequality
- Q. Technology and the Environment
- R. War and Terrorism

Learning Assessments:

Course competencies will be assessed by use class assignments, quizzes, major paper or project, response papers, class participation, and final exam

Instructional Materials:

Textbook: Macionis, J. (2012). *Social Problems* (5 th ed.). New York, NY: Pearson Education. ISBN-13: 978-0205881390

Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” on our [Disability Services website](#).

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.

A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct

Highland Community College seeks to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX, and College policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. Highland Community College encourages anyone experiencing harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct to talk to report to the Vice President for Student Services, the Human Resources Director or complete an [online report](#) about what happened so that they can get the support they need and Highland Community College can respond appropriately.

There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. Highland Community College is legally obligated to respond to reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of a report, unless made to a confidential resource. Responses may vary from support services to formal investigations. As a faculty member, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. I must provide our Title IX coordinator with relevant details such as the names of those involved in the incident. For more information about policies and resources or reporting options, please review our [Equity Grievance Policy](#).