

Sociology 2

Instructor: Daniel S. Vieira

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Class Web Site: <http://soc2.danielvieira.com>

Social Problems

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Office: T213-F (Technology Building)

Office Hours

Monday/Wednesday 11:30am - 1pm, Tuesday/Thursday 1pm-2pm

COURSE OBJECTIVE

A course designed to help the student understand the bases of some of the major social crises of the present day. Topics include alcoholism, delinquency and street crime, ethnic tensions, gender inequity, violence and terrorism, environmental pollution, and political corruption. We will study these crises via the lens of sociology, looking at how society produces its own problems, and so must be the source of correction.

TEXT

Leon-Gurrero, Anna. 2011. *Social Problems: Community, Policy and Social Action*, 3rd Edition, Sage Press

GRADING PROCEDURE

You will be graded in two areas: objective exams and analysis of current issues.

1. **Exams** -- there will be three exams in this class, each one covering five chapters. Each exam will be worth 100 points. Check the schedule for the dates for the exams.

Note that we will **not** read the textbook in a straight fashion, so check your syllabus each week for the next chapter.

Each exam will be 50 objective questions (multiple choice, matching, true/false), and you will have to bring a scantron form 882 to class for these tests. You are expected to have read the chapter *prior* to the week we cover it.

2. **Written Assignments** -- You will have five written assignments due during the semester. I will hand them out on Wednesday, and they will be due the next Monday we are in class. If the homework is not given to me the day it is due, you will lose five points on it (25%). See the schedule for the hand out dates for these. The assignments will also be posted on the website, so you have no excuse not to do them!

Exams = 300 points; Written Assignments = 100; 400 points total in class.

MAKE UP EXAMS

Make up exams will **NOT** be administered without prior notification that you cannot be here that day, unless you have a doctor's note showing that **YOU** (not Uncle Ed, your cat, or your car) were sick and unable to come to class. If you cannot be here on an exam day, be sure to tell me at least a week before so we can arrange to have you take it **PRIOR** to test day.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Attending class is a very important part of the learning experience. A good deal of what will be on the exams is covered in lecture. There will also be handouts given in class that you will need for the tests. Plus, simply reading a text is no substitute for class interaction. However, you are all adults now, so there is no direct penalty for not attending class. I will be inclined to "bump up" those who have been coming to class and have been participating in lecture discussion to the next highest grade if they are close pointwise (about 10 or fewer points).

Note that students that stop attending class in the first few weeks will be dropped, and I do reserve the right to drop students that miss 1/9 (or more than 6 hours) of instruction.

GENERAL RULES

1. Coming in tardy is rude to both the instructors and to your fellow classmates. If you can't make it to class on time, find another class. . If you need to leave early, please inform me before class.
2. Please be sure to pick up after yourself when you leave, taking any bottles or other trash with you.
3. As you are adults now, I assume you want to be here. Therefore, I expect no extra talking or passing of notes as junior high students like to do during class. You will be ejected from class if you can't stay quiet.
4. Cheating (stealing of people's work during a test) and plagiarism (stealing of other's intellectual material) are reprehensible acts that will give you a FAIL in this class if you are caught. Do your own work!
5. Please be sure that cell phones and pagers are on "vibrate" or "silent" mode in class. I reserve the right to answer your phone if it goes on in our class! No using of phones for text-messaging either!
6. Religious holidays that are off the main schedule will be honored. Please inform us prior to your absence.
7. **ACCESS:** Students with disabilities, whether physical, learning, or psychological, who believe that they may need accommodations in this class, are encouraged to contact ACCESS as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. **Authorization from ACCESS is required before any accommodation can be made.** Their phone number is 378-1461 and they are located in the building just to the right of the Campus Center.
8. **SMOKING:** In the interest of the health and welfare of students, employees and the public, smoking is not permitted anywhere on the Moorpark College Campus, except in the campus parking lots.
9. **The last day to add this class is FEBRUARY 16. The last day to drop this class and get a refund is FEBRUARY 14. The last day to drop this class without a "W" on your record is MARCH 7. The last day to drop with a "W" is APRIL 11. After that day, you MUST receive a grade!**

Remember, it is YOUR responsibility to drop this class if you no longer choose to attend, not ours! If you drop, be sure to drop both classes!

IF YOU DO NOT DROP THIS CLASS, THERE IS A VERY GOOD POSSIBILITY OF HAVING A "D" OR AN "F" ON YOUR TRANSCRIPT! DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU -- TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOURSELF AND DROP!

Department Chair: Cynthia Barnett; Division Dean: Lori Bennett

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Tentative Class Schedule

Dates on this schedule are subject to change during the semester

Dates for Readings	Chapter	Topic
02/09/11	1	Introduction to Studying Social Crises
02/14/11	2	Poverty
02/16/11	7	Crises in Family Life Homework #1 passed out 2/16
02/28/11	8	February 21, Holiday, No Class! Crises in Education
03/02/11	10	Health Care Crises
		EXAM #1 March 9 Homework #2 passed out 3/9
		Spring Break: March 14 and Mach 16: NO CLASS!
03/21/11	3	Issues in Race and Ethnic Relations
03/23/11	11	Media and Social Problems Mar. 30, Movie: <i>This Film is Not Yet Rated</i>
04/04/11 04/06/11	12 14	Alcohol and Drug Abuse Urbanization and City Problems Homework #3 passed out 4/6
		EXAM #2 April 13
04/18/11	13	Crime and Criminal Justice Documentary, "Inside the Body Trade" Homework #4 passed out 4/20
04/25/11	15	Environmental Problems
04/27/11	16	Violence, War and Terror May 4, Movie: <i>9/11, Press for Truth</i>
05/9/11	17	Social Action and Movements Homework #5 passed out 5/4
		EXAM #3 May11

The final exam is not cumulative, it only covers the last four chapters we will cover.

Homework Due Dates: #1: February 23
 #2: March 21
 #3: April 11
 #4: April 25

#5: May 9