# SOCIAL PROBLEMS

SOC 1303 (3-0)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will provide a general understanding of the world that we live in, and the problems in which humans face on this Earth.

This course is part of the ASU core. The learning outcomes, assignments/general activities, and assessments are identified below.

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| **Course Level Learning Outcomes** | **Proposed 2014 Core Assignments/General**  **Learning Activities for the Core Objectives** | **Proposed 2014 Core Assessment** |
| **SOC 1303**  **CT2:** Students will develop and demonstrate a logical position that acknowledges ambiguities or contradictions relevant to psychology [sociology]  **CS3:** Students will develop, interpret, and express ideas about psychology [sociology] through effective visual communication.  **EQS2:** Students will manipulate and analyze numerical data and arrive at an informed conclusion.  **SR2:** Students will demonstrate knowledge of civic responsibility. | **SOC 1303**  **CT2:** Five slide power point presentation analyzing a chart or set of data from a psychological/sociological research study. One slide will require students to explain how this information could be misinterpreted to demonstrate critical thinking  **CS3:** Five slide power point presentation analyzing a chart or set of data from a psychological/sociological research study. One slide will include a summary of the chart or data which will demonstrate whether students can develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective visual communication  **EQS2:** Five slide power point presentation analyzing a chart or set of data from a psychological/sociological research study. One slide will require students to explain what conclusions can be drawn from the chart or data set which will require them to manipulate and analyze the numerical data to arrive at an informed conclusion  **SR2:** Five slide power point presentation analyzing a chart or set of data from a psychological/sociological research study. One slide will require students to explain how the results of this study could be used to inform public policy | **SOC 1303**  All SLOs will be assessed with a 3-point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory, 2 is satisfactory, and 3 is exemplary |

# LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Our objectives in this course include, but are not limited to:

* To communicate the various sociological perspectives on social problems.
* Perfect the skills needed to read, write and think critically and analytically about complex social issues.
* Develop the ability to identify, define, and investigate social problems and to propose ways of dealing with them.

# GRADE CRITERIA:

The course grade will be based on the number of points earned out of a possible 1000.

The cutoffs for determining a letter grade will follow the traditional standard of 90% (A), 80% (B), 70% (C), and 60% (D).

You will earn points by taking four tests (500 points), completing one research paper (200 points), and by posting valid responses to online discussions (300 points).

EXAMINATIONS*:* There are 3 tests worth 100 points apiece and the final exam worth 200 possible points. Each test will be available for a seven-day time period, from 8:00AM on Monday until the next Sunday at 11:59PM.

* The tests are composed of multiple-choice questions. Each test will have 50 questions (worth 2 points per question), and you will have up to 3 hours to complete it. The test for a given week will be available in the Course Materials folder, and may only be taken ONCE.
* RESEARCH PAPER: Each student will be required to complete a research paper worth 200 total points. The paper requirements and topics can be found on Blackboard, and at the end of this syllabus.
* MESSAGE BOARD RESPONSES: Periodically throughout the semester, the instructor will post relevant discussion topics on our course discussion board. These will be relevant issues in Social Problems but will also tie together the subject matter and current events. For 300 points toward your final grade, please reply to every topic. The only criteria for message board posts is that they be 1) relevant to the topic at hand, 2) free of any profanity or vulgar vocabulary, and 3) at least 4 sentences in length. The purpose of this is for the instructor to evaluate your knowledge and personal feelings toward the selected topics. Message topics will be posted randomly, so it is the student’s responsibility to monitor the message board at all times. Because this a course conducted entirely online, **this is will also serve as our participation grade, and it is imperative that you pay attention to Blackboard and stay on top of our course.**

# CRUCIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING TESTS AND SUBMITTING

**PAPERS**: The tests are delivered with software called Respondus Lockdown Browser

(RLB). This software is already loaded in computer labs on campus, but if you want to take tests from other locations, you will need to download the software onto the computer where you take the test. The instructions for downloading RLB can be found on Blackboard, under the Settings tab. To take a test, click on the RLB icon on the desktop and it will take you into Blackboard. Then, click on this course; then click on the Tests & Quizzes folder; then click on the test you are to take. You will be asked if the instructor provided a “Password”; answer “No”. If you have entered Blackboard properly by

accessing it through the RLB icon, the password for the test will be entered automatically on your behalf and you can start the test. Once you begin a test, you will have 180 minutes to compete it. If you try to take a test without going through the RLB, you will be asked to provide a test password that you don’t have, so you cannot take the test.

# POLICY ON MAKE-UP WORK

Each of the tests and writing assignments give you seven days to complete the work. That should be an ample amount of time. To protect yourself against unexpected emergencies, **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST DAY TO DO YOUR WORK.** In

order to qualify for leniency on missed work, your reason will need to cover the entire week in which it could have been done.

Note: The last day to withdraw from this class with a “W” is Thursday, October 31, 2013.

**HONOR CODE:** Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at:

[https://www.ang](http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/Honor_Code.pdf)e[lo.edu/forms/pdf/Honor\_Code.pdf](http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/Honor_Code.pdf)

# DISABILITIES

Persons with disabilities which warrant academic accommodations must contact the

Office of Student Services (325 942-2191), Room 203-B in the Hardeman Building, in order to request such accommodations prior to their being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

# Social Problems SOC 1303

**Research Assignment**

The textbook covers many topics and issues in today’s society that would make great subjects. Choose the social problem that you believe to be the most dangerous to human life. Explain the problem fully, and be sure to include the reasons for your choice. Include the long term effects of the problem, and list any possible solutions that you, or other researchers may have. Include in your paper, other research that has been conducted on the topic. What have those before you said, and do you agree with their analyses? Be thorough in your reasoning.

The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate how to use the Library facility, research and analyze data, and compose and organize thoughts and ideas into a paper. These papers are to be no less 3 pages long. The paper should include a reference sheet and cover

page. Include an appropriate title for your work, and make sure that your pages are numbered. **The paper should be in standard APA format.** Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this paper format.

Papers will be graded by content, overall comprehension, and format.