COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN

Social Problems
SOC.1306-010
8:00AM - 8:50AM MWF

Kurt Chunn, PhD
Course Description:
Study of social problems and issues facing the United States. Major problems and issues are analyzed and alternative solutions are evaluated. The course is designed for non-majors as well as majors.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites: None.

Instructor Information:
Instructor Name: Kurt Chunn, PhD
Office: Academic Building, Room 204H
ASU E-mail: kchunn@angelo.edu
Phone Number: 254-722-0051 cell; 325-486-6167 office.
Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Wed: 12:00pm – 12:50pm or arranged.

Required Text & Materials:
Title: Social Problems
Authors: Secombe & Kornblum
Edition: 16th
Publisher: Pearson Education
Digital ISBN: 9780135246986
Digital Textbook – Requires Revel Access
In addition to the textbook, the following resources are also needed:
• Reliable internet access for Blackboard, ASU email, and other relevant websites
• Word processing software and Adobe Acrobat

* Click here for help with Blackboard

Core Objectives:
Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

• Critical Thinking (CT) -- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information

• Communications Skill (COM) -- to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
• **Empirical & Quantitative Skills (EQS)** -- to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

• **Social Responsibility (SR)** -- to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

**Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Describe the theoretical viewpoints that help to explain the causes of social problems. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)
   *Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions. Assessed by objective exams & written assignments.*

2. Discuss the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that affect society (CT, COM, EQS, SR)
   *Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions. Assessed by objective exams & written assignments.*

3. Define, summarize and evaluate what constitutes a social problem. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)

4. Identify, compare and contrast various theoretical perspectives on social problems, objectively analyzing the information that has been read, heard & researched concerning specific social problem areas such as social inequality, deviance, poverty, crime and the criminal justice system, ecological/demographic issues, and institutional dysfunctions. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)
   *Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions. Assessed by objective exams & written assignments.*

5. Describe and appraise the implications of social policies addressing specific social problem areas. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)
   *Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions. Assessed by objective exams & written assignments.*

6. Understand how social problems and their processes interacts with, and can maintain, social inequalities in society. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)
   *Taught through lectures, assigned reading, and class discussions. Assessed by objective exams & written assignments.*
Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Testing:

Any missed tests can be made up, but you will lose 20 points for any late testing. You may call me or email me @ Kurt.Chunn@Angelo.edu. You have 3 days to make up the test. After that, the grade becomes a “0”.

Chapter Reviews:

For each chapter that we cover, you will find a chapter review sheet on "Blackboard" under "Assignments" to fill out and turn in on the dates listed on the calendar. Each chapter review will consist of fill-in-the-blank sentences that come straight from your textbook as well as some review questions. The last day to turn them in for credit is the date on the calendar. The reviews are due when the class begins, and no late chapter reviews will be accepted.

News Stories:

For 10 chapters you will need to turn in a news story that relates to the chapter. You choose which 10 chapters you want to do! Each news story needs to come from a news source on the internet. Do not use professional journals, encyclopedias, or other notes on the internet for these stories. News stories that are “Book Reviews” are not to be used either. The entire story must be included (cut and pasted electronically) and then 3 paragraphs should be typed by you.

The last day that the News Stories will be accepted will be are on the Calendar on Blackboard and no late chapter reviews will be accepted.

***See and follow the example under “News Stories” on Blackboard.

Two “Social Problems” Papers:

The papers that you are required to write are about Social Problems in the world. These papers need to be 5 full pages (typed), double-spaced with 1-inch margins and 12 point Arial Font. Please use proper grammar and correct spelling. The purpose of this paper is to explore some social problems that are of an interest to you and the possible solutions to these problems. Your paper will need to include the following:

*A look at the problem and whom it effects
*A look at how the problem develops or has developed
*A look at possible solutions? Have they been tried? Did they work? Reasons for why a solution may or may not work

Try to come at the problem from 2 sides, looking at the different viewpoints of those who define the "problem." Why do people "see" it differently? Use references for your work, and make sure to cite that reference in your paper and at the end of the paper list them on a separate "Reference Page". (Follow the format on Blackboard). The first paper is due: Friday, October 11. The second paper is due: Friday, November 15.
Extra Credit: Research Participation:
You may participate in up to three (3) research projects this semester.

Note: You must register through the department's sona-systems website in order to sign-up and receive credit for studies. Points will be posted in Blackboard once all the credits have been entered into sona-systems. If you have questions about a research project, please contact the researcher.

Go to http://angelostate.sona-systems.com to create an account and sign-up for studies. For additional details, see the “Research Opportunities” link on the department homepage at: http://www.angelo.edu/dept/psychology_sociology/

Exams:
We will have 5 exams this semester which are listed in the Course Schedule section of this syllabus.

GRADING:                                      Total Points:
600 – 6 tests @ 100 points each               1000 - 900 = A
150 – 10 News Articles @ 15 points each      800 - 899 = B
150 -- 15 Chapter Reviews @ 10 points each   700 - 799 = C
100 -- 2 papers on Social Problems @ 50 points each 600 - 699 = D
1000 points possible                          599 or below = F
(25 points extra credit for research participation)
**Course Schedule:** *NOTE: For specific dates for this course's assignments and exams, please refer to the Calendar for this course on Blackboard when class begins.*

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<tr>
<th>Week One: August 26, 28, 30</th>
<th>Week Nine: October 21, 23, 25</th>
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| Introduction to the course, review of the syllabus, calendar, and grading. | Exam # 3 – Chapters 6, 11-13  
Chapter reviews 12 & 13 and News Stories for chapters 12 & 13 due in class |
| Cover chapter 1 |  |

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<tr>
<th>Week Two: September 2, 4, 6</th>
<th>Week Ten: October 28, 30, November 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cover Research and Chapter 10</td>
<td>Cover Chapter 5</td>
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<th>Week Three: September 9, 11, 13</th>
<th>Week Eleven: November 4, 6, 8</th>
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| Cover Chapter 10 | Exam # 4 – Chapter 5  
Chapter review 5 and News Story for chapter 5 due in class |
| Exam # 1 – Chapters 1 & 10  
Chapter reviews 1 & 10 and News Stories for chapters 1 & 10 due in class | Cover chapters 2 & 3  
Chapter review 2 & News Story for chapter 2 due in class |

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<th>Week Four: September 16, 18, 20</th>
<th>Week Twelve: November 11, 13, 15</th>
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| Cover Culture and Chapter 7 | Cover Chapter 4  
Chapter review 3 and News Story for chapter 3 due in class  
Last day to turn in Social Problems Paper #2 |

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<th>Week Five: September 23, 25, 27</th>
<th>Week Thirteen: November 18, 20, 22</th>
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| Cover Chapters 7 & 8  
Chapter review and News Story 7 due in class | Chapter review & News Story for Chapter 4 due in class |

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<tr>
<th>Week Six: September 30, October 2, 4</th>
<th>Week Fourteen: November 25, 27, 29</th>
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| Cover Chapters 8 & 9  
Chapter reviews and News Stories for chapters 8 & 9 due in class  
Exam # 2 – Chapters 7, 8, & 9 | Exam # 5 – Chapters 2, 3, 4, & 14  
Chapter review 5 and News Story for chapter 14 due in class  
November 27 – December 1 - Thanksgiving Break!! No Classes! |

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<th>Week Seven: October 7, 9, 11</th>
<th>Week Fifteen: December 2, 4, 6</th>
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| Cover Chapters 6 & 11  
Chapter review and News Story for Chapter 6 due in class  
Last day to turn in Social Problems Paper #1 | Cover Chapter 15  
Chapter review & Chapter Insight 15 due in class |

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<tr>
<th>Week Eight: October 14, 16, 18</th>
<th>Week Sixteen: FINAL EXAM: Comprehensive!</th>
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| Cover Chapters 12 & 13  
Chapter review and News Story for Chapter 11 due in class | Monday, December 9 – 8:00am!! |
NOTE: The syllabus is subject to change, but changes will be announced in advance in class and on the Blackboard “Announcement Page” for this course.

Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:

1. **Is there any extra credit?** Yes, the “Research Participation” opportunity.

2. **May I make up missed work?** No. So, it would be wise to work ahead and stay ahead just in case: your frog croaks, your dog chokes, your computer smokes, etc. If you are in a car wreck on the way to class, what's the last thing that you need to tell the EMT’s as they load you in the ambulance?

3. **May I make up a missed exam?** Absolutely! But, whatever the reason, you will lose 20 points for having the extra study time and taking it late.

4. **May I turn in my work early?** Absolutely! Any of these assignments may be turned in early!! No problem!! These assignments just cannot be turned in late!!

5. **May I email in my assignments?** No. There are too many problems with email to make that feasible. Assignments must be turned in before or on the day that they are due. **No email assignments will be accepted.** So, make sure you have paper & ink in your printer.

6. **Can I get notes emailed to me?** No. So, keep up with your notes, and link up with someone who can help you out with missing notes in case you miss class.

General Policies Related to This Course:

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the Statement of Academic Integrity

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.
In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Absence Policy:
Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students. Students will be counted absent from class meetings missed, beginning with the first official day of classes. Students, whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades. A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

The last day for student initiated withdrawals from courses is October 31, 2019.

Incomplete Grade Policy:
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Disabilities/ADA Statement

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

The Office of Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting:
Ms. Dallas A. Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Houston Harte University Center, 112  
(325) 942-2047  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu

**Click Here for more information about Title IX**
Angelo State University is committed to the safety and security of all students. If you or someone you know experience sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic or dating violence, stalking, or discrimination, you may contact ASU’s Title IX Coordinator:
Michelle Nicole Boone, J.D.  
(325) – 486 – 6357  
Mayer Administration Building, 204  
Michelle.boone@angelo.edu

* You will need to access each link separately through your Web browser (for example: Internet Explorer, Mozilla, Chrome, or Safari) to print each link’s information.