

**Department of Social Work
and Sociology
SOC 1306–D10
Social Problems
Summer 1 2022**



Instructor: Jennifer Shoemake

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Office: HHS Building, 120B

Office Hours:

By Appointment

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.

Course Credits

Three Semester Credit Hours (3-0-0)

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

None

Prerequisite Skills

The course will be delivered via the Blackboard Learning Management System.

Program Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be prepared to:

Student Learning Outcome By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:
To communicate the various sociological perspectives on social problems.	Research/Reflection Assignment Chapter Quizzes
Perfect the skills needed to read, write and think critically and analytically about complex social issues.	Research/Reflection Assignment, Midterm, Final Examination

Develop the ability to identify, define, and investigate social problems and to propose ways of dealing with them.	Research/Reflection Assignment
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Course Delivery

This is a online course offering.

Required Texts and Materials

Macionis, J (2017). *Social Problems*. 8th Edition. Pearson.

Technology Requirements

- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OSX 10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these web browsers: Chrome, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam

Communication

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Written communication via Blackboard: It is an expectation of this class that you use formal writing skills giving appropriate credit to the source for your ideas. Follow APA (2010) 6th edition (2nd Printing or higher only) guidelines for referencing.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes.

Virtual communication: Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, email, Blackboard Collaborate.

- Use Good "Netiquette":
- Check the discussion frequently and respond appropriately and on subject.

- Focus on one subject per message and use pertinent subject titles.
- Capitalize words only to highlight a point or for titles. Otherwise, capitalizing is generally viewed as SHOUTING!
- Be professional and careful with your online interaction. Proper address for faculty is by formal title such as Dr. or Ms./Mr. Jones unless invited by faculty to use a less formal approach.
- Cite all quotes, references, and sources.
- When posting a long message, it is generally considered courteous to warn readers at the beginning of the message that it is a lengthy post.
- It is extremely rude to forward someone else's messages without their permission.
- It is fine to use humor, but use it carefully. The absence of face-to-face cues can cause humor to be misinterpreted as criticism or flaming (angry, antagonistic criticism). Feel free to use emoticons such as J or :) to let others know you are being humorous.

(The "netiquette" guidelines were adapted from Arlene H. Rinald's article, The Net User Guidelines and Netiquette, Florida Atlantic University, 1994, available from Netcom.)

Grading System

Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- A = 90.00–100%
- B = 80.00–89.99%
- C = 70.00–79.99%
- D = 60.00–69.99%
- F = 0–59.99 %

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

1. Examinations (2): 50%
 2. Reflection Paper/Writing Assignment (1): 25%
 3. Chapter Quizzes (10): 25%
- Total: 100%

1. (2) EXAMINATIONS (50%): There will be two exams during this semester: A midterm exam, which covers Chapters 1–6, and the final exam, which will cover Chapters 7–11. The exams are composed of multiple-choice and true-false questions. There will be 50 questions

(worth 2 points per question), and you will have 3 hours to complete it. The test for a given week will be available until 11:59 PM, of the assigned week and may be taken three times. After the third attempt has been used, exam access will lock.

Access to exams will be through Respondus Lockdown Browser and will be video recorded via Respondus Monitor [See Other Required Materials for a list of needed equipment]. Use of another electronic device is prohibited.

There is one practice quiz: a short 8 question practice quiz over ASU trivia that is not graded. This tool will be available to the student to assure accessibility. Students are highly encouraged to go through this practice quiz in advance of taking a graded quiz. This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve the testing environment. These quizzes, instructional videos, and more information regarding Respondus Monitor can be found under the Respondus Monitor Help tab in your Blackboard course.

Technical Assistance: If you have any technical problems associated with the test (i.e. webcam problems, lock down browser problems) you should contact the IT Department. The IT Service Department is open M-F from 8-5 and the number is (325) 942-2911. If you call any time after 5 or on the weekend, most likely you will not be able to get assistance until the following week day, so please plan accordingly.

Other Notes:

- Be sure not to mute your microphone. It is important that the audio be on.
- Be sure to have a light source in front of or next to your computer monitor. If your image is dark and difficult to see on the "Student Photo" step, please add lighting to the front of your computer and retry.

Make sure that on the "Student Photo" step, you are nicely framed so your face and shoulders can be seen as well as some of the background. *****Use an Ethernet cord to "hard wire" your computer to the router helping to ensure you will not lose connection with Blackboard.

2. (1) REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT (25%): Each student will be required to complete a research/writing assignment taken from specific course content. The paper requirements and topic can be found on Blackboard, and is worth 100 points possible; 25%.

3.(10) CHAPTER QUIZZES (25%): Each chapter completion will require the student to submit a 10 question quiz pertaining to the key

terminologies and ideas from the readings and from class lectures/discussions. Each chapter quiz (10) is worth 100 points possible.

Teaching Strategies

Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (**beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course**) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.

Assignment Submission

All assignments MUST be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at jennifer.newman@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. **Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue.** This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

Policy on late or missed assignments

Late Work Policy

The course is set up on weekly modules. The week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. Assignment due dates are shown on the calendar/schedule or posted within Blackboard. Late assignments are not accepted without prior approval of faculty. Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the original due date.

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](#)¹

[Angelo State University Catalog](#)²

Student Responsibility and Attendance

Online: This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time. There are readings which you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities i.e. discussion boards and reflection papers, etc. Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions which reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate. Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week on average.

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 Health and Human Services adheres to the university's [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).³

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

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.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).⁴ The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford

Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 [Grading Procedures](#)⁵ for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)⁶ 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. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the [ASU Writing Center](#).⁷

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

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](#)⁸ for more information.

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.

Syllabus Changes

The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary

during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student's responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form

Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

Course Schedule Spring 2022

Week/Date	Topic/Assignments/Assessments DUE
June 6–12	<p>Welcome! Review Welcome! Page Review Course Syllabus and ASU Honor Code. Select “Mark Reviewed” to agree to terms of the course and ASU’s policies and access course content. Post: Self-Introduction discussion board</p> <p>Module 1 Chapter 1 Sociology: Studying Social Problems: Chapter 1 Quiz</p> <p>Module 1 (Continued): Chapter 2: Economic Inequality/Chapter 2 Quiz</p> <p>Module 1 (Continued): Chapter 3: Race and Ethnic Inequality/Chapter 3 Quiz</p>
June 13–19	<p>Module 2: Chapter 4: Gender Inequality/Chapter 4 Quiz</p> <p>Module 2 (Continued): Chapter 5: Sexuality and Inequality/Chapter 5 Quiz</p> <p>Module 2 (Continued): Chapter 6: Aging and Inequality/Chapter 6 Quiz</p> <p>DUE June 19th, by 11:59PM* Midterm Examination (Chapters 1–6)</p>
June 20–26	<p>Module 3: Chapter 7: Crime, Violence and Criminal Justice/Chapter 7 Quiz</p> <p>Module 3 (Continued): Chapter 8: Alcohol and Other Drugs/Chapter 8 Quiz</p> <p>Module 3 (Continued): Chapter 9: Physical and Mental Health/Chapter 9</p>

	Quiz
June 27–July 3	<p>DUE July 3, 2022, 11:59PM. Research/Reflection Paper</p> <p>Module 4 (Continued) Chapter 13: Family Life/Chapter 13 Quiz</p>
July 4–8	<p>Final Exam (Chapters 7–9, 13) Closes/Due 11:59PM, Friday, July 8, 2022.</p>

* all due times are 11:59 pm CST, unless otherwise specified

Grading Rubrics

See My Grades and View rubrics for the Research/Reflection Paper Rubric.

Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences.

Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

Student Learning Outcomes Emphasized During This Course:

- Developing knowledge and understanding of diverse perspectives, global awareness, or other cultures

- Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing
- Learning how to find, evaluate, and use resources to explore a topic in depth
- Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view.

¹ <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/>

² <https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/>

³ <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

⁴ <https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/>

⁵ <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>

⁶ <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>

⁷ https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php

⁸ <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>