

SOC 1306-D10

Introduction to Sociology

Second Summer Semester 2022



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Office: TBD

Office Hours: call to arrange meeting

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

3 hours

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

None

Prerequisite Skills

Accessing Internet websites, including the electronic textbook, and proficiency with Microsoft Word are expectations of the Social Problems course.

Course Delivery

This is an online course offering. The course will be delivered via the Blackboard Learning Management System. The course site can be accessed at [ASU's Blackboard Learning Management System](#)

Angelo State University Core Curriculum Objectives for Social and Behavioral Science Courses and Related Course Assessments:

Students in this course (Sociological Theory) will practice, utilize, and demonstrate proficiency with the following core curriculum learning objectives: This course meets 4 of the six Core Objectives established by Texas:

- ☒ Critical Thinking Skills (CT) – Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis; evaluation and synthesis of information
- ☒ Communication Skills (COM) – effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- ☒ Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS) – The manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- ☒ Social Responsibility (SR) – Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Student Learning Outcome By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:
Describe the theoretical viewpoints that help to explain the causes of social problems. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)	<i>Taught through lectures and assigned readings. Assessed by objective exams& written assignments.</i>
Discuss the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that affect society (CT, COM, EQS, SR)	<i>Taught through lectures and assigned readings. Assessed by objective exams& written assignments.</i>
Define, summarize and evaluate what constitutes a social problem. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)	<i>Taught through lectures and assigned readings. Assessed by objective exams& written assignments.</i>
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,	<i>Taught through lectures and assigned readings. Assessed by objective exams& written assignments.</i>

Student Learning Outcome By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:
ecological/demographic issues, and institutional dysfunctions. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)	
Describe and appraise the implications of social policies addressing specific social problem areas. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)	<i>Taught through lectures and assigned readings. Assessed by objective exams& written assignments.</i>
Understand how social problems and their processes interacts with, and can maintain, social inequalities in society. (CT, COM, EQS, SR)	<i>Taught through lectures and assigned readings. Assessed by objective exams& written assignments.</i>

Required Texts and Materials

Title: Social Problems

Authors: Seccombe & Kornblum

Edition: 16th

Publisher: Pearson Education

Digital ISBN: 9780135246986

Digital Textbook – Requires Revel Access

To participate in one of ASU's distance education programs, you need this technology:

- 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: internet Explorer, **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)

Refer to Angelo State University's Distance Education website for further technology requirements: [Angelo State University's Distance Education Website](#)

Communication

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 48 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

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

Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

GRADING:	<u>Total Points:</u>
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
<u>100</u> -- 2 papers on Social Problems @ 50 points each	600 - 699 = D
1000 points possible	599 or below = F

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 to the subject of Sociology.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

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).**

Exams:

We will have 6 exams this semester which are listed on the Calendar in our Blackboard course.

Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:

1. ***Is there any extra credit?*** No, but we have enough assignments that you can earn points to overcome a grade that is less than you desired.
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.
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!!

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, course projects, reflective logs, 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

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.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

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](#)⁸ for more information.

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.

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.

End of Syllabus

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>