



# ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## COURSE OUTLINE

**DIVISION:** Humanities, Fine Arts, and Social Sciences

**COURSE:** SOC 2001 Social Problems

Date: Fall 2022

Credit Hours: 3

*Complete all that apply or mark "None" where appropriate:*

Prerequisite(s): SOC 1000

Enrollment by assessment or other measure?  Yes  No

If yes, please describe:

Corequisite(s): None

Pre- or Corequisite(s): None

Consent of Instructor:  Yes  No

Delivery Method:  **Lecture**                      **3 Contact Hours** (1 contact = 1 credit hour)  
 **Seminar**                        **0 Contact Hours** (1 contact = 1 credit hour)  
 **Lab**                                    **0 Contact Hours** (2-3 contact = 1 credit hour)  
 **Clinical**                            **0 Contact Hours** (3 contact = 1 credit hour)  
 **Online**  
 **Blended**  
 **Virtual Class Meeting (VCM)**

Offered:  **Fall**     **Spring**     **Summer**

### **CATALOG DESCRIPTION and IAI NUMBER (if applicable):**

This course will acquaint the student with society and its social problems. While some aspects of the course emphasize social problems within the United States, the course overall develops a long-term global perspective on the roots of social problems experienced by all human beings. Though various theoretical approaches to understanding social problems are explored, critical theory is presented as the most philosophically comprehensive perspective. This class will also work to develop within

the student the kind of critical thinking skills needed to begin to devise ways to reduce or ameliorate the problems facing society. Some of the topics discussed may include but are not limited to; domination and exploitation, violence, poverty, racism, environmental degradation, and sex / gender inequality. **IAI Equivalent: S7 901**

**ACCREDITATION STATEMENTS AND COURSE NOTES:**

None

**COURSE TOPICS AND CONTENT REQUIREMENTS:**

Some topics include: Poverty and Exploitation, Environmental Degradation, Sex / Gender Inequality, Race, Health Care / Health, Violence and War, Education, State Violence / Incarceration, Media and Globalization, but can include other current or past social problems of interest.

(Units may be added or deleted at the discretion of the instructor.)

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:**

1. Lectures and class discussion
2. Collaborative group exercises
3. Student projects/presentations/papers
4. Videos / simulations/ slides/ etc.
5. Field experiences / Guest lectures
6. Research review/critique
7. Handouts

(Methods may be added or deleted at the discretion of the instructor.)

**EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:**

1. Written unit examinations.
2. Class Participation and discussion
3. Collaborative group work (in and out of classroom)
4. Locate and define terms, names, and concepts.
5. Written reports or research papers.
6. Class or group presentations
7. Research simulation or case study.
8. Cross-Cultural Research Paper

(Methods may be added or deleted at the discretion of the instructor.)

**INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:**

**Textbook:**

Discretion of the Instructor

**Resources:**

None

**LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GOALS:**

**Institutional Learning Outcomes**

- 1) Communication – to communicate effectively;
- 2) Inquiry – to apply critical, logical, creative, aesthetic, or quantitative analytical reasoning to formulate a judgement or conclusion;

- ☒ 3) Social Consciousness – to understand what it means to be a socially conscious person, locally and globally;
- ☒ 4) Responsibility – to recognize how personal choices affect self and society.

### **Course Outcomes and Competencies**

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Comprehend the specific approaches of sociologists in understanding and ameliorating social problems and the social movements that follow.
  - 1.1 Explore the sub-fields of sociology and their interconnectedness.
  - 1.2 Apply sociological theory to understanding social problems.
  - 1.3 Demonstrate awareness of the differences in systems blame and victim blame.
2. Be able to recognize, define and research social problems within societies across the globe.
  - 2.1 Recognize critical social problems in the US and their global consequences.
  - 2.2 Recognize critical social problems globally.
  - 2.3 Understand the need for the use of the scientific method in the study social problems.
3. Be able to utilize a holistic problem-solving approach that incorporates sociological theories and takes into accounts ethical concerns.
  - 3.1 Be able to consider the various social problems from both a macro and micro level.
  - 3.2 Application of major theoretical perspectives in approaching social problems.
  - 3.3 Address the many ethical concerns involved in researching social groups, social behavior and social problems. This includes but not limited to; the importance of IRB approval, cultural relativity and respect to people and their environments.
4. Articulate and defend policy and social implications surrounding potential solutions to social problems. [Outcomes related to course specific goals.]
  - 4.1 Use various means of communication, written, oral, and non-verbal to express positions.
  - 4.2 Compare and evaluate past and proposed policy approaches to social problems.
  - 4.3 Understand and predict the latent and manifest effects of the various proposed solutions.

(Instructors may emphasize or de-emphasize outcomes and competencies at their discretion.)