

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

SOCI 201

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of social dilemmas such as crime, pollution, war, poverty, drug addiction, and racial discrimination. Course content is both theoretical and practical.

RATIONALE

Many of us go through our lives without really understanding the many social problems that plague our world. There is a great need to study social problems because they arise out of human need or perceived need. These need-based behaviors and situations interlock to cause other social problems. A careful description and understanding of the causes of these problems will help to facilitate solutions.

I. PREREQUISITES

None

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES

Click the following link to view the required resources for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to LU students.)
- D. *The Holy Bible*

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Recognize, discuss, and write about social problems and their historical development in the United States and around the world.
- B. Discuss social problems from a biblical worldview perspective.
- C. Research various social problems and present facts, trends, and possible solutions in written APA format.

- D. Identify current group phenomena which are problematic in society.
- E. Describe specific problems in the following fields, but not limited to: poverty, sexual behaviors, prejudice and discrimination, family systems, crime and violence, mental health and health care, war and terrorism, and technology and environment.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Discussion Board Forums (4)

In the odd-numbered modules/weeks, the student is expected to participate in Discussion Board forums by 1) posting a 500-word original thread in response to the prompt, and 2) posting a 50-word reply to each of two classmates' threads. The thread will be due by the end of Thursday of the week assigned and the replies will be due by the end of Monday of the week assigned. Forums will be graded based on the depth of the content written and the frequency of student participation.

- C. Article Review

Each student will choose a journal article and write a 2–3-page paper reviewing it. The selected article should be published within the last four years, related to the research paper topic, and found in a scholarly journal. The paper should include a summary of the article, an analysis of all the main points, and a reflective conclusion. The article review is due by the end of Module/Week 3.

- D. Research Paper

Each student will write an 8-page research paper that addresses a specific social problem and investigates possible solutions to the problem. The paper should include at least 5 scholarly sources and should be formatted in proper APA style. The paper will be submitted in the following three stages:

1. Topic

By the end of Module/Week 2, the student should submit their chosen research topic to the instructor. The topic should be focused on a specific social problem and should be easily researchable.

2. Annotated Bibliography

By the end of Module/Week 5, the student should submit an annotated bibliography for the 5 scholarly sources that will be used in the paper. The bibliography will be graded based on its adherence to the rubric and the guidelines explained in the APA manual.

3. Final Submission

By the end of Module/Week 7, the student should submit the final version of the research paper. The paper should thoroughly address the chosen social problem, investigate possible solutions for the problem, incorporate all of the sources that were included in the annotated bibliography, and have a properly formatted reference page.

E. Tests (4)

Tests will be taken in every even-numbered module/week. The tests are comprised of 50 multiple-choice questions that cover information from the course materials. The tests are open-book, open-notes, and have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Discussion Boards (4 at 70 pts. ea)		280
Article Review		100
Research Paper Assignments		
Topic		10
Annotated Bibliography		90
Final Submission		120
Test 1	(Modules 1–2)	100
Test 2	(Modules 3–4)	100
Test 2	(Modules 5–6)	100
Test 2	(Modules 7–8)	100
	Total	1000

B. Scale

A = 900–1000 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

A. Late Work Policy

All assignments are due in module listed on the course schedule. Late work will be accepted but will be reduced by one letter grade per week; starting on the day after the assignment is due.

B. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact the LU Online Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations.

COURSE SCHEDULE

SOCI 201

Textbook: Henslin, *Social Problems: A Down-to-Earth Approach* (2010).

WEEK/ MODULE	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Henslin: chs. 1–2 3 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Discussion Board Forum 1	0 70
2	Henslin: chs. 3–4 2 presentations	Test 1 Research Paper: Topic	100 10
3	Henslin: chs. 5–6 2 presentations	Discussion Board Forum 2 Article Review	70 100
4	Henslin: chs. 7–8 2 presentations	Test 2	100
5	Henslin: chs. 9–10 2 presentations	Discussion Board Forum 3 Research Paper: Annotated Bibliography	70 90
6	Henslin: ch. 11 1 presentation	Test 3	100
7	Henslin: ch. 12 1 presentation	Discussion Board Forum 4 Research Paper: Final Submission	70 120
8	Henslin: chs. 13–14 3 presentations	Test 4	100
TOTAL			1000

NOTE: Each course week (except week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.