



WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
Virtual Campus
Fall 2008

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, lifelong learning, and service to God and humankind.

SOCI 3304- Social Problems (CRIJ/JUAD 3304)

Instructor: Beth Durbin, MSW

Class Time and Location: Virtual Campus

Office Hours: 9:00 am to 9:00 pm (Alaska time)

Contact Information: Office: 907-377-4398 Home: 907-372-1551

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Catalog Description: Social problems including causes, interrelationships, and program of ameliorations.

Prerequisite: None, however SOCI 1301 is recommended

Textbook: 1. Understanding Social Problems – ISBN: 978-0-495-50428-3, 6th Edition, By L. Mooney, D. Knox & C. Schacht & 2. Study Guide – Understanding Social Problems- ISBN: 978-0-495-50855-7, 6th Edition by Lori Ann Fowler

Course Outline: Social Problems will cover the identification, research, and theories regarding today' social problems. The primary social problems we are facing nationally and globally will be discussed. Students will exam and present potential solutions to the problems.

Course requirements:

Your grade will be based on your performance on the following:

Discussion Board: Regular attendance and participation in online discussions/activities are important and strongly encouraged to facilitate the learning process. Assigned reading is to be completed prior to online interactive sessions for which the reading was assigned. At least one discussion question will be assigned per week that will require students to share their ideas and concepts with other students. Students are encouraged to share constructive information with the instructor and fellow classmates. Students are required to comment to the teachers discussion question by Wednesday

at 9:00 pm (CST) and then respond to two other comments by Sunday at 11:59 pm (CST) to receive the full credit weekly.

Homework: The homework is activities that come out of the Study Guide. The homework assignments need to be sent through digital drop box on Blackboard by Sunday midnight(CST) of that week.

Paper: For the paper select one of the social problems identified and discussed in the text book. Complete an 8 - 10 page paper on the history of the problem, research on the issue and propose possible solutions. The paper should be done in the simple APA format (see example under assignments section). Utilize at least 5 additional resources. Be creative in your solutions, there does not have to be research to support them. The paper needs to be sent to me through digital drop box.

Exams: The exams will be multiple choice, short answer and essay questions. The midterm will cover chapters 1-7 and the final exam will cover chapters 8-16.

Course Outcome Competencies: Upon successful completion of this course, each student will understand and be able to describe:

- Define social problems from the major three sociological perspectives
- Identify issues in society as it relates to wealth, social class, race/ethnicity and gender
- Critically analyze social problems and their affect on society
- Discuss strategies and interventions to decrease to ameliorate various social problems

Method of determining course grade:

Grade Weight: (based on 500 points possible)

Discussion Board: 50 points

Paper: 100 points

Homework: 150 points

Mid Term: 100 points

Final Exam: 100 points

The University has a standard grade scale:

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student's control. A grade of "incomplete" is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long (10 to 15 weeks) term, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion. If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

Attendance: Although you are not physically in attendance in a classroom for a Virtual Campus class, you are expected to complete all assignments in the specified timeframe and to participate in interaction with the instructor and other students when and in the manner specified in this syllabus.

Additional attendance policies: Exceptions will be made for TDY and deployments provided the instructor is notified ahead of the time.

Instructor's policy on Academic Dishonesty: Intellectual, integrity and truthfulness are fundamental to scholarship. Scholars, whether they are performing as students or as teachers, are engaged in a search for truth. Plagiarism is a form of cheating and also a form of theft. Plagiarism occurs when a student fails to give proper credit when information is either quoted or paraphrased. Carelessness is no excuse. As such, it is a breach of scholarly responsibility. It is also unethical and in some cases, illegal. Looking at or copying someone else's test, answer sheet, and/or paper are counted as cheating. Plagiarism may result in an "F" in the course.

Service for the Disabled: It is University policy that no otherwise qualified disabled person be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the University. Students should inform the instructor of existing disabilities at the first class meeting.

Tentative Schedule:

Week 1- Aug. 18 - Introduction/Course Review

Reading Assignment:

Chapter 1

Discussion board question

Homework: Study Guide Page 8 – Social Problems Alphabet

Week 2 - Aug. 25 - Reading Assignment:

Chapter 2 and 3

Discussion board question

Homework: Study Guide Page 27 – Chap. 2 - Eating disorder group activity - answer 2 out of 5 questions. Chap. 3 - Drug Abuse pg 49 – answer 2 out of the 6 questions

Week 3 Sept. 1 - Reading Assignment:

Chapter 4 and 5

Discussion board question

Homework: Study Guide Page 68 – Chap. 4 – Crime and Punishment – answer 2 of the 4 questions. Chap 5 – Molestation page 89 – answer 2 out of 4 questions

Week 4 – Sept 8 - Reading Assignment:

Chapter 6 and 7

Discussion board question

Homework: Study Guide Page 87 – Chap. 6 - Poverty page 110 or 111– Answer 1 question in Part I and 1 question in Part II. Chap. 7 – What is that job worth? Page 133– Answer 1 of 3 questions and page 134 – answer 2 of 5.

Week 5 – Sept 15 - Mid term exam

Week 6 – Sept 22 - Reading Assignment:

Chapter 8 and 9

Discussion board question
Homework: Study Guide Page 155 – Praise vs. Encouragement – Individual Activity. Chap. 9 Page 180 & 181 – Is race still an issue of concern in this country? Visit 2 of 6 websites and answer questions pertaining to site.

Week 7 – Sept 29 - Reading Assignment:
Chapter 10 and 11

Discussion board question
Homework: Study Guide Page 204 – Chap 10 -Female Genital Mutilation – Answer 2 of 4 questions. Chap. 11 – Page 224 – Child Molestation & Pornography – answer 2 of 3 questions

Week 8 – Oct. 6 - Reading Assignment:
Chapter 12 and 13

Discussion board question
Homework: Study Guide Page 246 – Chap. 12 – Suicide Pacts in Late Adulthood – Answer 2 of 5 questions. Chap. 13 – Page 266 – Population & Urbanization Critical Thinking – Answer 1 of 3 questions.

Week 9 – Oct. 13 - Reading Assignment:
Chapter 14 and 15

Discussion board question
Homework: Study Guide Page 293 – Chap. 14 – Environmental Critical Thinking – Answer 2 of 3 questions. Chap. 15 – page 318 - Science & Technology Critical Thinking – Answer 1 of 3 questions

Week 10 – Oct 20 - Reading assignment
Chapter 16

Discussion board question
Paper Due

Week 11 – Oct 27 - Final Exam