

## Wayland Mission Statement

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

## Contact Information

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**Course:** SOCI 3304 Social Problems

**Campus:** Kapolei/Online

**Term/Session:** Spring 2022 (March 21, 2022- May 14, 2022)

**Instructor:** Laura Johnston

**Office Phone Number:** (808) 218- 5734

**WBU Email Address:** laura.johnston@wayland.wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** Virtual office is open Thursdays 5:30pm- 7:30pm on Collaborate, or please contact me to schedule a meeting.

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Monday 5:30pm- 9:30pm, Kapolei/Collaborate

## Textbook Information

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**Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Materials:** Understanding Social Problems, Money/Knox, Cengage 11<sup>th</sup> edition, ISBN: 978035707421

## Course Information

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

**Prerequisite(s):** None, however, SOCI 1301 is recommended.

**Course Outcome Competencies:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Define social problems from the major sociological perspectives
- Identify social problems that result from inequality
- Analyze the consequences of social problems for society
- Evaluate interventions designed to ameliorate social problems

## Attendance Requirements

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Students enrolled at one of the university's external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings. All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up. When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the external campus executive director/dean. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course. Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university's attendance policy. A student may petition the Academic Council for exceptions to the above stated policies by filing a written request for an appeal to the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

**(WBU Hawaii/American Samoa Addendum)** Students who miss the first class meeting without providing a written explanation to the instructor will be automatically dropped from the roster as a “no-show.” Students who know in advance that they will be absent from the first class meeting and who wish to remain in the class must inform the instructor in order to discuss possible arrangements for making up absences.

**Additional attendance policies:** Students are responsible for obtaining any information missed during the lectures. Students are also responsible for being up to date with readings, quizzes, and for turning in assignments on time. Students are encouraged to attend all lectures and classes. In the case of emergencies and unforeseen military deployments or TDYs occur, please contact the instructor so other arrangements can be made in order to avoid any deducted points on assignments, papers, and exams. Students should make every effort to inform the professor of the absence prior to missing class.

## University Policies

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**Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:** Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

**Disability Statement:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Director of Counseling, Career and Disability Services serves as the coordinator of students with disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation request at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Accessibility issues with content in WBUonline courses or in Blackboard should be addressed to the WBU accessibility coordinator, Dr. Trish Ritschel-Trifilo, [trifilot@wbu.edu](mailto:trifilot@wbu.edu) or call (806) 291-3745.

**Student Grade Appeals:** Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

[WBU Catalog](#)

## Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

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**Class Attendance and Participation:** This is a hybrid course. We will meet both in person and online. Students are required to attend in-person classes at the Kapolei campus, and online classes via Collaborate on Blackboard according to the class schedule listed in this syllabus.

**Weekly Discussion Questions:** Weekly discussion questions will be posted under 'assignments' on Blackboard. Students will submit responses on Blackboard by the due date each week. To receive full credit, students must answer each discussion question in 4-5 sentences (minimum) using class materials or other academic resources, and post responses by the due date.

**Paper Topic Presentation:** Students will present their final paper topics during the last 2 weeks of class using powerpoint/google slides. Presentations should highlight the key points of the final paper, including the social problem which is the topic of the final paper, an explanation of the social problem from a sociological perspective (theory), and an interpretation of the consequences of the social problem in society, and the ameliorations in place that are intended to address the social problem being discussed. Presentations will be 20-30 minutes in length.

**Final Paper:** Students will choose a social problem to research and discuss in a final paper. The final paper must include a description of a specified social problem, an explanation of the social problem from a sociological perspective (theory), a discussion of the consequences of the social problem, and an interpretation of the ameliorations in place that are intended to address the social problem. The final paper must include citations from 10 academic sources (minimum) and be presented in American Sociological Association (ASA) format. Papers are required to be 8 pages in length at minimum (excluding title and reference pages), double spaced and using a 12 size font. Final papers must be submitted by 12:00pm 5/14/21.

A rough draft of the final paper is not required, but students may submit a rough draft if they would like feedback on their paper. Students may also visit me virtually during office hours or contact me to set up a meeting to discuss the final paper.

**Weekly Discussion Questions = 40 pts (5pts each week)**

4-5 sentences for each response to a question = 2.5 pts  
cites class material or other academic material = 2.5 pts  
\*\*Late responses = .5 pt deduction for each day late

**Paper Topic Presentation = 25 pts**

statement of social problem = 2.5 pts  
Social problem from a sociological perspective = 5 pts  
Consequences of the social problem in society = 5 pts  
Interpretation of ameliorations in place = 5 pts  
Presented using powerpoint/google slides = 5 pts  
Presentation 20- 30 minutes in length = 2.5 pts  
\*\*Late presentations = 5 pt deduction for each day late

**Final Paper = 35 pts**

statement of social problem = 3 pts  
Social problem from a sociological perspective = 7 pts  
Consequences of the social problem in society = 7 pts

Interpretation of ameliorations in place = 7 pts

8 page minimum met = 4 pts

10 academic sources cited = 4 pts

Formatted in ASA format = 3 pts

\*\*Late papers are not permitted

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**Total Maximum Class Points = 100pts**

**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 = withdraw failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term, within the last week of an 8-week session, 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 16-week term or 8-week session, 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.

**Tentative Schedule**

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Date	Topic	Assignments
3/ 21 Online/Kapolei	Review Syllabus Chapter 1: Social Problems	Chapter 1 discussion questions due by 3/26 11:59pm
3/ 28 Online/Kapolei	Chapter 2: Health and Healthcare	Chapter 2 discussion questions due by 4/2 11:59pm
4/ 4 Online/Kapolei	Chapter 3: Alcohol and Other Drugs	Chapter 3 discussion questions due by 4/9 11:59pm
4/ 12 Online/Kapolei	Chapter 4: Crime and Social Control	Chapter 4 discussion questions due by 4/16 11:59pm
4/ 19 Online/Kapolei	Chapter 5: Family Problems	Chapter 5 discussion questions due by 4/23 11:59pm
4/26 Online/Kapolei	Chapter 6: Economic Inequality	Chapter 6 discussion questions due by 4/30 11:59pm
5/2 Online/Kapolei	Chapter 7: Work and Unemployment  Paper Presentations	Chapter 7 discussion questions due by 5/7 11:59pm
5/9 Online/Kapolei	Final Class Wrap-up  Paper Presentations	Final class discussion questions and final paper due by 5/14 12:00pm

