

Northwest Florida State College

COURSE SYLLABUS

Social Problems - SYG2010

HYBRID CLASS

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. David Schjott – Department of Social Science

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PHONE: 850-729-5303 (office); 850-978-1653 (cell)

SEMESTER:

LOCATION/TIME:

MEETING DATES:

BLENDED CLASS DEFINED: Blended classes offer a unique mixture of traditional in-class meetings and independent study activities to provide students with the advantages of both traditional classes and distance learning. In Blended classes, students attend about half the number of class meetings required in the traditional class format, and the balance of required course time is comprised of independent assignments, tests, and/or activities and work submitted on-line thru the D2L course site. Blended classes offer the convenience and cost savings of fewer trips to campus, yet allow students to benefit from valuable face-to-face instruction and direct interaction with classmates and the instructor.

CRITICAL INFORMATION FOR BLENDED CLASSES:

All Assignment Expectations for this course are in the “Syllabus” for the course. This class is a “Modified Gordon Rule” class...each student must write a total of 1,000+ original words to be even considered for a passing grade. If you do not complete the word expectation, you will fail the class. You must also attend all in-class meeting times.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Analysis of problems of inequality, population, deviance, violence, and the environment from various perspectives.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE: The student should be able to describe, explain, and comprehend the major sociological problems facing society today. This should include such major concepts as crime, deviance, family issues, religion, health care, education, and population issues.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES: Students should be able to:

- Describe the three major sociological theories relating to society
- Explain the nature of sociological theory as it relates to social problems
- Demonstrate a conceptual ability to analyze social problems focusing on basic foundations of sociology
- Explore current sociological problems via "Writing" assignments
- Apply the basic tools of conceptual thinking through writing ability and test-taking skills

TEXTBOOK: Social Problems in a Diverse Society, 6th Edition. Diana Kendall. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 2013. ISBN#13: 978 0205 152 902 or 10: 0 205 152 902

REQUIRED ADDITIONAL READING: Use only professional textbooks, journals and/or dissertation abstracts for research materials.

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL READING:

Statistical Abstracts of the United States - U.S. Department of Commerce

Upton Sinclair, "The Jungle" (New York: Grossett and Dunlap, 1905).

Lyman Ott, "Understanding Statistics" (Boston: PMS Kent Publishing, 1990).

Criminal Justice Research Bulletin (published monthly by the Criminal Justice Center at Sam Houston State University).

Vernon Fox, "Introduction to Criminology" (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1985).

James Wright, "Address Unknown: The Homeless in America" (New York: Andine de Gruyter, 1989).

Paul Kennedy, "Preparing for the 21st Century" (NY: Random House, 1993).

Rashi Fein, "Prescription for Change" (Modern Maturity, Aug-Sept, 1992).

Newsweek, "The Forgotten Half" (June 26, 1989).

Alex Haley, "The Autobiography of Malcolm X" (NY: Ballentine Books, 1973).

John Hall, "Apocalypse at Jonestown, (Society, September 1979).

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES/LEARNING OUTCOMES:

SS1: Recognize the scientific methods and research concepts used in the social sciences

SS2: Identify ways to promote the understanding of differences and commonalities within diverse cultures from a global perspective

SS3: Use appropriate social, historical, and/or psychological methods to analyze contemporary issues

SS4: (GORDON RULE ONLY) Demonstrate the effective synthesis of selected ideas, themes, and concepts present in the appropriate Social Science discipline

LINKING COURSE-LEVEL STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES WITH DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES, ASSESSMENT METHODS, AND ARTIFACTS:

Course-Level Student Learning Outcomes for SYG 2010	Discipline-Specific General Education Competencies	Assessment Methods for Course Level Student Learning Outcomes	Learning Artifact for AA Program Assessment
*Demonstrate comprehension of what constitutes a social problem from both a societal and personal perspective, and the role that research plays in this process	SS1; SS4	T; TT; EE; E	Exit Exam (Q – 1 - 5) Essay #1
*Analyze social problems related to sexuality, relationships, and the life span from both a personal and global perspective	SS2; SS4	T; TT; EE; E	Exit Exam (Q – 6 – 10) Essay #2
*Comprehend the issues of social stratification and inequality as it relates to issues of poverty, wealth, power and influence	SS2; SS4	DB; T; TT; EE; E	Exit Exam (Q – 11 – 15) Essay #4
*Understand the issues related to institutional problems in sociology – family, politics, economics, religion, education, health care, urbanization, and the environment	SS3; SS4	EE; T; DB; E	Exit Exam (Q – 16 – 20) Essay #4
*Explain the sociological impacts of social problems related to mental illness, substance use and abuse, crime, and violence	SS3; SS4	EE; T; E	Exit Exam (Q – 21 – 25) Essay #5

ASSESSMENT CODES:

T =	Tests	RP =	Research Paper
LS =	LearnSmart Study Modules	SL =	Service Learning
E =	Essay	TT =	TED Talks Critique
DB =	Discussion Board	Q =	Quizzes
EE =	Exit Exam		
W =	Writing Assignment		
P =	Portfolio		
H =	Homework		
GP =	Group Project		

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Students must do the following:

- Test 1 (In class)
- Test 2 (In class)
- Test 3 (In class)
- 5 Take-Home Tests (multiple-choice tests)
- 4 Mini-Essays Writing Assignment (250 -300 word essays each – 1,000 word minimum)
Word Count Must be Included on Writing Assignments – 1,000 word minimum
This assignment is to be submitted thru the D2L course site in the “Dropbox” link
- 5 Discussion Board Postings
These postings are to be submitted thru the D2L course site in the “Discussions” link
- Exit Exam (In class)

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: Textbook/Internet Resource/Other Learning Aides/D2L course site

METHOD OF EVALUATION: Grades will be determined as follows: Exam 1 (10%); Exam 2 (10%); Final Exam (10%); 5 Take-home Tests (10% each or 50% of grade); 5 Discussion Board postings (10% of grade or 2.0 each); and 4 Mini-Essay Writing Assignments (10% or 2.5 each).

ASSIGNMENT OF GRADES: Grades will be assigned as follows: 100-90 = A; 89-80 = B; 79-70 = C; 69-60 = D; 59 and below = F. Late submission of assignments will result in a letter grade deduction.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: All writings/assignments are time-sensitive. They have a specific due date. Late submissions may have point deductions due to circumstances. In a blended-class format, no more than two classes can be missed per semester. If you have a hardship, communication before the fact is the key.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES: See the current College Catalog for additional information regarding classroom conduct, plagiarism attendance, and cheating. Phone messages may not be returned if you have a filtering system as the college phone banks shows up as an “out of area” call. You are responsible for any missed work, assignments, or changes in dates. It is your responsibility to communicate with other students and make arrangements for notes, changes, etc. You must be responsible for missed material and information.

Statement Regarding Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability for which accommodations may be appropriate to assist you in this class, please contact the Office of Disability Support Services in the Student Services Center on the Niceville Campus. The counselor for Students with Disabilities may be reached by calling 729-6079 (TDD 1-800-955-8771 or Voice 1-800-955-8770) or by email at smithe15@nwfsc.edu.

Statement Regarding Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for adherence to all college policies and procedures, including those related to academic freedom, cheating, classroom conduct, computer/network/e-mail use and other items included in the *Northwest Florida State College Catalog and Student Handbook*. Students should be familiar with the rights and responsibilities detailed in the current *Northwest Florida State College Catalog and Student Handbook*. Plagiarism, cheating, or any other form of academic dishonesty is a serious breach of student responsibilities and may trigger consequences which range from a failing grade to formal disciplinary action.

Unusual or Extraordinary Circumstances

In the event of unusual or extraordinary circumstances, the schedule, requirements, and procedures in this course are subject to change. If the college closes for inclement weather or other emergency, the date for any exams, presentations, or assignments due during the closure period will be postponed. A revised schedule will be available at the first regular class meeting held once the college re-opens. If changes to graded activities are required, students will not be penalized as a result of the adjustments, but will be responsible for meeting revised deadlines and course requirements.

If weather or other situations necessitate cancellation of classes, students will be notified via the college website and through the NWFSC Alert System preference they have chosen through RaiderNet.

Statement Regarding Class Attendance

Regular and prompt attendance in all classes is expected. All instructors are free to establish attendance policies for their classes. It is the student’s responsibility to notify the instructor and arrange to complete any missed work. (Make-up work is offered solely at the discretion of the instructor.) Excessive absences, as defined in the course syllabus, will be reported to the Office of Financial Aid. Federal regulations require that students receiving Title IV aid must attend classes and

have verified attendance in order to receive financial aid funds. This general policy applies to the student absent from class traveling as a member of a college group, or club or for personal reasons.

*This class IS A MODIFIED GORDON RULE CLASS (1,000 word limit). Students must include a word count total on the cover page of the writing assignment.

**Additional Issues to Facilitate the Syllabus
For Classes Taught by Dr. Schjott
Northwest Florida State College**

I want to take this time to add a few critical components to augment the syllabus for Social Problems (SYG 2010), Sociology (SYG 2000) and The Family and Society (SYG 2430).

1. The goal of this class is to help student to grow intellectually, to broaden your own unique perspectives, and to expose students to new knowledge, ideas, philosophy, and theory. This class may explore controversial, disagreeable, or even offensive themes and discussions from time to time. I challenge each of you to be respectful of each other and to be courteous to others even though their opinions may differ from your own.
2. If the college closes for inclement weather or other emergencies, any exams, presentations, projects or papers due during the closure period will automatically be rescheduled for the first regular class meeting held once the college re-opens. In other words, you should be prepared when you return to class.
3. If you miss class for any reason, it is your responsibility to get any lecture notes, class adjustments, or changes to the schedule from someone other than the instructor. I encourage the “buddy system” or some other means to get information that you have missed. It is not my responsibility to do that for you.
4. If you miss a test, FOR ANY REASON, a new test date is not negotiable when you return. You must be prepared to test when you return to class.
5. Consult the most current Student Handbook for considerations of withdrawal from the class, plagiarism, or attendance guidelines. Cell phone use will be tolerated for emergency use only. Phone messages may not be returned by the instructor if you have a filtering/call screening system that stops “out of area” calls. The college phone system shows up as out of area.
6. If you have a special need, accommodations may be made by calling 850-729-5372 or TDD at 1-800-955-8771 or voice at 1-800-955-8770.
7. Office Hours are posted on my office door in Niceville and are verbally reviewed in each class for each campus.
8. Other Critical Issues:

Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory for all classes. Conditions for excused absences are stated in the make-up policy. In a class that meets once a week for a semester, no more than two classes can be missed per semester (This is equivalent to two weeks of classes in a traditional setting.) unless discussed with the instructor. In a mini-semester blended class, no

more than one class can be missed or you will be dropped from the class.

Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Academic Integrity: Students are responsible for adherence to all college policies and procedures, including those related to academic freedom, cheating, classroom conduct, computer/network/e-mail use and other items included in the most current *Catalog and Student Handbook*. Students should be familiar with the rights and responsibilities detailed in the most current *Catalog and Student Handbook*. Plagiarism, cheating or any other form of academic dishonesty is a serious breach of student responsibilities and may trigger consequences which range from a failing grade to formal disciplinary action.

Changes to Course Policies: In the event of unusual or extraordinary circumstances, the schedule, requirements, and procedures in this course are subject to change. If the college closes for inclement weather or other emergency, any exams, presentations, or other assignments previously scheduled during the closure period will automatically be rescheduled for the first regular class meeting held once the college re-opens. If changes to graded activities are required, students will not be penalized as a result of the adjustments, but will be responsible for meeting revised deadlines and course requirements.