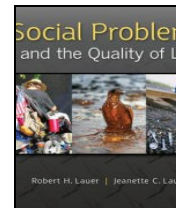


SOC 243 Social Problems

Purpose: The purpose of this course is to help students develop an understanding of the nature and scope of major social problems in America and their impact on society in both human and economic terms.

Recommended Textbook: The recommended textbook for this course is *Social Problems and the Quality of Life*, 13th Edition. The authors are Robert H. Lauer and Jeanette C. Lauer, Alliant International University. Softcover, 576 pages. ©2014, McGraw-Hill, ISBN-13: 9780078026867.



Learning Outcomes: By the end of this study, students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of:

1. The process through which social problems are identified, legitimized, and addressed.
2. How the major theoretical perspectives and the scientific method are used to evaluate and analyze social problems, develop proposals for addressing social problems, and compare and contrast specific social problems in cross-cultural context.
3. The effects of social structure and culture on social policy and the role of social policy in resolving, or exacerbating, social problems.
4. The impact of social structure in generating social problems, such as structures of inequality, the political system, and the economy.
5. The role of social movements in constructing and/or resolving social problems.

Structure: This course is divided into three sections. Each section has several Areas of Study which correspond to the chapters of the recommended textbook.

SOC 243.1 Problems of Behavioral Deviance

First Area of Study: Understanding Social Problems

Second Area of Study: Alcohol and Other Drugs

Third Area of Study: Crime and Delinquency

Fourth Area of Study: Violence

Fifth Area of Study: Sexual Deviance

SOC 243.2 Problems of Inequality and Global Social Problems

First Area of Study: Poverty

Second Area of Study: Gender and Sexual Orientation

Third Area of Study: Race, Ethnic Groups, and Racism

Fourth Area of Study: War and Terrorism

Fifth Area of Study: The Environment

SOC 243.3 Problems of Social Institutions and Global Social Problems

First Area of Study: Government and Politics

Second Area of Study: Work and the Economy

Third Area of Study: Education

Fourth Area of Study: Family Problems

Fifth Area of Study: Health Care and Illness: Physical and Mental

Academic Credit: Academic credit is earned for this course by passing the Social Problems Examination. The exam has three parts which correspond to the sections listed above.