

**University of Manitoba
Department of Sociology
Canadian Social Issues
Sociology 2310 –T01
Winter 2016 (3 Credit)**

Instructor: Susan Miller
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Class Location: 215 Tier

Course Description/Objectives

We will examine how the social structure and culture of society contribute to social problems and their consequences. We will learn to recognize that solutions cannot be effective if we don't fully understand the causes of a problem and acknowledge that our ultimate goal is not to solve any or all of society's problems in a few weeks. We will learn to appreciate differing points of view.

Required Text

Kendall, Diana, Edward G. Thompson, & Vicki L. Nygaard. (2016). *Social Problems in a Diverse Society*. Toronto: Pearson.

Course Requirements

1. *1 Mid-Term Test. Value: 30%* See Course Schedule for date of this test. This test will be some combination of multiple choice questions and/or short answer questions. This test will cover readings from the text, lectures, movies shown, and class discussions.
2. *1 Final Test. Value: 20%.* Last day of class.
3. *Assignment #1* – Letter assignment – details attached. Value: 10%
4. *Assignment #2* – News Article Assignment – details attached. Value: 10%
5. *Assignment #3* - Presentation and Annotated Bibliography Assignment. Total Value: 30%. Details to Follow.

Letter Grade Assignments

A+	90 and up	B	70 – 75	D	50 – 59
A	80 – 89	C+	66 – 69	F	0 – 49
B+	76 - 79	C	60 - 65		

Course Policies

1. *The penalty for late papers/assignments is 10% for every 15 minutes or portion thereof.*
2. *Referencing style to be used in this course is APA.*
3. Missed tests cannot be taken at a later date, unless a valid medical certificate is provided within 1 week of the scheduled test.
4. Students are responsible for all material presented in class and in the text.
5. Students cheating on a test will receive a "0" for the test and the Dept. Head will be notified to determine if further action is warranted.
6. If a student wishes to withdraw from the course, it is their responsibility to do so. The deadline for **Voluntary Withdrawal is March 18, 2016.**
7. Although the chapters on the Course Schedule will be covered in the order that they appear, I may exceed, restrict, or omit individual sections to facilitate smoother course delivery.
8. Students with special needs (e.g., learning, testing, hearing, sight, or physical) should discuss with me how I might make the learning environment more comfortable.
9. The university (and I) recognize and respect the right of all students to observe recognized holidays of their faith, which fall within the academic year. With instructor discretion, necessary arrangements can be made to ensure studies are not jeopardized. Please notify me 3 weeks in advance of any such intended absence where special arrangements are sought...
10. Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on "Personation at Examinations" (Section 5.2.9) and "Plagiarism and Cheating" (Section 8.1) found in the Undergraduate calendar. The Faculty of Arts reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.
11. Disruptions due to excessive talking and late arrival or early departure from the classroom are especially distracting. Please be considerate and respectful of the needs and rights of others in the class. Students should be aware that persistent disruption may result in disbarment from the course. Any student who has a legitimate reason for leaving class early should inform the instructor at the beginning of class.
12. Any term work that has not been claimed by students will be held for four (4) months from the end of the final examination period for the term in which the work was assigned. At the conclusion of this time, all unclaimed term work will become property of the Faculty of Arts and be destroyed according to FIPPA guidelines and using confidential measures for disposal.

Course Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Jan. 6	Intro to Course	
Jan. 8, 11, 13	Studying Social Problems in the 21 st Century	Chapter 1
Jan. 15, 18, 20, 22	Wealth and Poverty	Chapter 2
Jan. 22	Presentations Organized – Attendance is Mandatory Assignment #1 Due	
Jan. 25, 27, 29	Racism and Ethnic Inequality	Chapter 3
Feb. 1, 3	Gender Inequality	Chapter 4
Feb. 5, 8	Inequality Based on Age	Chapter 5
Feb. 10, 12	Inequality Based on Sexual Orientation	Chapter 6
Feb. 15 to 19	READING BREAK – no classes	
Feb. 22, 24	Pornography and the Sex Trade in Canada	Chapter 7
Feb. 22	Assignment #2 Due	
Feb. 26	Crime and Criminal Justice	Chapter 9
Feb. 29	Mid Term Test – value: 30%	
Mar. 2, 4	Health, Illness, and Health Care	Chapter 10
Mar. 7, 9, 11	Problems in Education	Chapter 12
Mar. 14, 16, 18	Problems in the Media	Chapter 14
Mar. 18	Last Day for Voluntary Withdrawal	
March 21, 23	Global Social Problems	Chapters 15 & 16
Mar. 25	Good Friday – no classes	
<i>Mar. 28, 30, and April 1, 4, 6</i>	<u>PRESENTATIONS</u>	
Apr. 8	Final Test - VALUE: 20%	

Sociology 2310
Assignment #1
Value: 10%

Due: January 22nd, 2016 at 10:30 sharp

(The penalty for late assignments is 10% for every 15 minutes or portion thereof, as noted on course outline.)

For this assignment you will be writing a letter about a current Canadian social issue about which you are particularly passionate.

You need to identify who would be the most appropriate person to express your concerns to about the problem in the letter.

You will need to clearly outline what the issue is, its consequences (i.e., why this issue is cause for concern), and how it might be remedied.

Your letter should be about 1 page long, single-spaced. It should be written in business letter format (look this up online, if you are unsure). When you hand in your letter, I will require 2 copies and an addressed, stamped envelope. I will be mailing one copy of your letter and marking the other for return to you.

You should also hand in a list of references, in APA format, used to solidify your knowledge of the issue.

Assignment #2
Value: 10%
Due: February 22nd, 2016

Find a news article about a social problem in Canada dated between January 23rd, 2016 and February 22nd, 2016 and write an analysis of the issue discussed using the most appropriate sociological theoretical perspective. Attach a copy of the article to your maximum 2 page analysis, and attach a reference list.

NOTE: For all written assignments, spelling, grammar, and punctuation will have an impact on your grade, as will originality and analytical skills.