

**University of Manitoba  
Department of Sociology  
Social Problems – A Canadian Perspective  
Sociology 2310 – A01  
Winter 2009 (3 Credit)**

**Instructor:** Susan Miller  
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**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**

Tepperman, Lorne, James Curtis, and Albert Kwan. (2007). *Social Problems – A Canadian Perspective, Second edition*. Don Mills, Ontario: Oxford University Press.

**Course Requirements**

1. *1 Mid-Term Test. Value: 25%* 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 to follow. Value: 10%
5. *Assignment #3* - Presentation and Annotated Bibliography Assignment. Total Value: 35%. Details to Follow.

**Letter Grade Assignments**

A+	94 and up	B	70 – 75.9	D	50 – 54.9
A	85 – 93.9	C+	65 – 69.9	F	0 – 49.9
B+	76 – 84.9	C	55 – 64.9		

## 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 19, 2009.**
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. University of Manitoba Senate Policy #1307 requires "a post examination review of final grades in multi-sectioned courses that will ensure an equitable correspondence between grades and level of performance in all sections." Accordingly, the final grade distribution in this course may be raised or lowered to achieve this equity and, therefore, your final grade may be changed.
11. Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on "Personation at Examinations" (Section 4.2.8) and "Plagiarism and Cheating" (Section 7.1) 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.
12. Disruptions due to excessive talking and late arrival or early departure from the classroom are especially distracting to large classes. 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.

## Course Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Jan. 6, 8	Intro to Course	
Jan. 13, 15	What are Social Problems?	Chapter 1
Jan. 20, 22	Poverty and Economic Inequality	Chapter 2
<b>Jan. 22</b>	<b>Presentations Organized – Attendance is Mandatory</b>	
Jan. 27, 29	Drugs and Alcohol Abuse	Chapter 3
Feb. 3, 5	Race and Ethnic Relations	Chapter 4
Feb. 10	Sexism and Gender Inequality	Chapter 5
Feb. 12	Sexual Orientation & Homophobia	Chapter 6
<b>Feb. 16 to 20</b>	<b>READING BREAK – no classes</b>	
Feb. 24, 26	Aging and Ageism	Chapter 7
<b>Mar. 3</b>	<b>Mid Term Test – value: 25%</b>	
Mar. 5	Family	Chapter 8
Mar. 10	Work and Unemployment	Chapter 9
Mar. 12	Health, Illness, and Health Care	Chapter 10
Mar. 17	Population, Urbanization and Environment	Chapter 11
March 19	War and Terrorism	Chapter 12
<b>Mar. 19</b>	<b>Last Day for Voluntary Withdrawal</b>	
<i>Mar. 24, 26, 31, and April 2, 7</i>	<b><u>PRESENTATIONS</u></b>	
<b>Apr. 9</b>	<b>Final Test - VALUE: 20%</b>	