Course Prefix and Number: SLGY 202  

Credit hours: 3

Course Title: Social Problems

Course Prerequisites: None

Textbook(s): Dolch, Wise, Polson, & Wells-Lewis. Social Problems: A Case Study Approach. Kendall Hunt. (For the exact textbook requirement, please refer to your instructor’s course information syllabus.)

Course Description: This course provides the student with a basic understanding of social problems of modern life with particular attention to crime and delinquency, substance, family issues, health issues, and social reform.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, the student will:

A. demonstrate the fundamental knowledge of ways to define a social problem;
B. demonstrate the fundamental knowledge of the major theoretical approaches used by sociologists to analyze a social problem;
C. demonstrate the fundamental knowledge of the eight basic assertions about social problems that sociologists make when studying them;
D. demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of the various strategies proposed or being utilized to ameliorate or resolve major social problems and of ways to evaluate their effectiveness.

To achieve the learning outcomes, the student will:

1. define social problem and explain why many conditions harmful to people are never defined as social problems; (A)
2. identify the major theoretical approaches and four major research methods used by sociologists in their investigation of social problems; (B)
3. differentiate between macro and micro social problems; (B)
4. identify social problems emerging from such institutions as the economy, the family, and education; (B)
5. identify and analyze social problems emerging from social inequality such as poverty, racism/discrimination, ageism and the older population, and sexism; (B)
6. identify and analyze social problems emerging from social deviance such as sexual deviance and drug use and abuse; (B)
7. identify the number of assertions about social problems, most importantly the idea that problems result less from the choices individuals make than from the operation of society; (C)

8. utilize sociological concepts and theoretical approaches to describe, analyze and propose strategies that can be used to ameliorate or resolve a social problem. (D)

Course Requirements: The following are intended to help the learner meet the stated learning outcomes of the course: regular and prompt class attendance reflected in class roll and/or contact; read assigned chapters and materials (i.e. handouts, power points, articles, lecture notes, etc.); conducting library and internet research on assigned topics; critically analyzing information through submission of typed or e-mail assignments on materials (i.e. videos, power points, handouts, lecture and lecture notes, etc.) presented in class as well as information gathered through library and internet research.

In addition to requirements stated herein, each instructor will communicate additional requirements unique to his/her section via the instructor’s section syllabus.

Course Grading Scale:

- A 90-100%
- B 80-89%
- C 70-79%
- D 60-69%
- F 59% or below

Attendance Policy: The college attendance policy is available at http://www.bpcc.edu/catalog/current/academicpolicies.html

Course Fees: None

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