

11. Writing for the Sociology of Social Problems

*** Complete the following only if course is seeking general education status ***

GENERAL EDUCATION Competencies and Skills *:

In the box to the right of the Competency/Skill, enter all specific **student learning outcome** unit numbers, as indicated in the course outline (i.e. 1.1, 2.7, 4.2, 4.0 and 5.12) that apply.

Course must include <u>all</u> of the following:	
1. Read with critical comprehension**	4.7,8.5,9.4.2
2. Write clearly and coherently**	4.5,4.7,5.3,11.1
3. Demonstrate literacy as appropriate within a given discipline**	2.1,3.2,5.3,6.3,8.2,9.1.1 (d) 8.4 (e)
4. Apply problem solving skills or methods to make informed decisions in a variety of contexts**	4.4,4.7
Course must include at least <u>one</u> of the following:	
5. Differentiate between ethical and unethical behavior	
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the physical, biological, and social environments and how individual behaviors impact this complex system.	8.2
7. Demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for human diversities and commonalities	3.1,3.4,4.4
8. Speak and listen effectively.	

**General Education Competencies and Skills endorsed by 2010-2011 General Education Task Force*

****Required Competencies**

1) Read with critical comprehension.

The student will be introduced to the basic texts, concepts, vocabulary, and methods necessary for developing an understanding of the discipline and meeting the required benchmarks as stated in the course outline.

2) Write clearly and coherently.

The student will demonstrate an understanding and mastery of subject matter in a variety of ways, including writing. Writing activities may include both graded and ungraded essays, short answer quizzes, summaries, reactions, journals, and various other reports.

3) Demonstrate and apply literacy across all the disciplines (indicate which ones apply).

- a) **Information literacy** means understanding how to locate needed information, using the appropriate technology for the task, managing and evaluating the extracted information and using it effectively and ethically.
- b) **Technology literacy** is the ability to responsibly and effectively use appropriate technology to access, manage, integrate, or create information, and/or use technology to accomplish a given task.
- c) **Workplace literacy** is having the appropriate knowledge and skills to communicate and work with others effectively and perform job duties, whether it is through the use of computers and/or other technology.
- d) **Cultural literacy** is recognizing, understanding, and appreciating the similarities and differences between one’s own culture and the cultures of others through a study of the arts, customs, beliefs, values, and history that define a culture.
- e) **Quantitative literacy** is having the ability to formulate, solve and interpret mathematical/statistical operations and graphical/tabular representations to make informed decisions.
- f) **Scientific literacy** means understanding the methodology and application of the scientific process, the physical and biological worlds, and recognizing that scientific knowledge is continuously updated or revised as new information is discovered.

- 4. Apply problem-solving skills or methods to make informed decisions in a variety of contexts.**
The student will use acquired skills or methods to recognize, analyze, adapt, and apply critical thinking to solve problems and make informed decisions.

EVALUATION:

In the box to the right of the Methods of Assessment, enter all specific learning outcome numbers (i.e. 1.1, 2.7, 4.0, 4.2 and 5.12) that apply.

1. Portfolio	
2. Short essays	4.5,4.7,5.3
3. Research Papers	2.1,4.5,4.7,5.2,6.3,7.4
4. Group projects	2.4
5. Discussions (In class and online)	1.4,2.2,3.2,7.4,9.1.1,9.4.3,10.2.3,10.3.1,10.3.2
6. Multiple Choice tests	1.2,2.1,2.4,3.1,3.4,4.1,4.2,5.1,6.1,7.2,8.1,9.3.1,10.1.2,
7. Presentations	
8. Service Learning Projects	9.2.2
9. Pop quizzes	
10. Take-home tests	
11. Summaries and critiques	
12. Reaction papers	9.4.2,11.2
13. Surveys	
14. Performance	
15. Short answer tests	1.3,2.4,3.4,4.5,5.1
16. Classroom debates and colloquia	6.3
17. Blogs, wikis, web pages	
18. Other (Please explain)	

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

UNITS

Unit 1 The Sociology of Social Problems

General Outcome:

- 1.0 The students should be able to state the sociological definition of a social problem and identify various perspectives and causes of social problems.**

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to:

- 1.1 Define the sociological imagination and apply to various social problems throughout the course.**
- 1.2 Distinguish between microlevel and macrolevel analyses of social life.**
- 1.3 Discover the functionalist, conflict and symbolic interactionist perspectives on society and how the theorists believe social problems arise.**
- 1.4 Discuss, and compare, the different sociological research methods.**

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

Unit 2 U.S. and Global Economic Inequalities

General Outcome:

- 2.0 The student should be able to identify and explain the inequalities associated with the U.S. and world economy.**

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to:

- 2.1 Recognize similarities and differences among various economic systems.**
- 2.2 Discuss the functionalist, conflict and symbolic interactionist perspectives on social inequality.**
- 2.3 Explain social inequality and the distribution of income and wealth.**
- 2.4 Differentiate between personal, cultural and structural explanations of poverty.**

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

Unit 3 Racial and Ethnic Inequality

General Outcome:

- 3.0 The students should be able to identify and analyze social inequalities as they relate to race and ethnicity.**

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to:

- 3.1 Define racial and ethnic groups.**
- 3.2 Discuss discrimination and distinguish between individual and institutional discrimination.**
- 3.3 Describe and analyze the functionalist, conflict and symbolic interactionist perspective on racial and ethnic relations.**
- 3.4 Distinguish between prejudice and discrimination and explain the consequences of each on society and individuals.**

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

Unit 4 Inequality Based on Gender and Sexual Orientation

General Outcome:

- 4.0 The students should be able to identify the causes of gender inequality and analyze as to why these inequalities persist.**

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to:

- 4.1 Distinguish between sex and gender and explain their social significance.**
- 4.2 Differentiate between the symbolic interactionist, functionalist, and conflict perspectives on gender.**
- 4.3 Examine the biological and sociological explanations for differences between the sexes.**
- 4.4 Offer explanations for gender inequality and sexual orientation.**
- 4.5 Compare and contrast in writing the ways in which parents, peers, teachers, sports, and the media contribute to the process of gender socialization.**
- 4.6 Compare the biological and social explanations for homosexuality.**
- 4.7 Critically read the text concerning how religion and law influence people's beliefs about homosexuality. Discuss the influence religion and law may have on people's opinions about homosexuality.**

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

Unit 5 Inequality Based on Age

General Outcome:

5.0 The students should define ageism and explain age-based inequality.

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to:

- 5.1 Define ageism and state why it is considered a social problem.**
- 5.2 Examine the functionalist, conflict and symbolic interactionist perspectives of age-based inequality.**
- 5.3 Analyze some of the ways in which people cope with the processes of aging and dying.**

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

Unit 6 Alcohol and Other Drugs

General Outcome:

- 6.0 The students should be able to distinguish between legal and illegal drug use in society. The students should also be able to analyze the cause and effect of drug use in society.**

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to:

- 6.1 Distinguish between legal and illegal drug use in society.**
- 6.2 List the major hazards associated with use and abuse of tobacco, prescription drugs, and over-the-counter drugs.**
- 6.3 Explain the various perspectives on alcohol and drug addiction and evaluate treatment programs.**

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

Unit 7 Social Problems Related to Sexual Behavior

General Outcome:

- 7.0 The students should be able to define and explain prostitution and pornography and the impact each has on society along with various other forms of sexual deviance.**

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to:

- 7.1 Investigate sexual behavior as a social problem.**
- 7.2. Define pornography and erotic material.**
7.2.1 Analyze the social implications of pornography.
- 7.3 List the hierarchy of prostitution.**
- 7.4 Discuss the industrialization of prostitution (commercialization and globalization).**

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

Unit 8 Crime and Criminal Justice

General Outcome:

- 8.0 The students should be able to identify and discuss the sociological perspectives of crime and interpret crime statistics as they relate to society.**

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to:

- 8.1 Differentiate between the biological, psychological, and sociological theories that explain violence.**
- 8.2 Analyze the symbolic interactionist, functionalist, and conflict perspectives of violence.**
- 8.3 List the components of the criminal justice system and state the supposed function of each.**
- 8.4 Describe the principal sources of crime statistics and explain why official statistics regarding crime may be misleading.**
- 8.5 Locate a current event article from a local news source about crime at the local level. Critically read the article and write a summary paragraph and a reaction paragraph concerning the article.**

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

Unit 9 Social Institutions

General Outcome:

- 9.0 The students should be able to identify and critically analyze the social problems associated with major social structures.**

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to describe and analyze social problems associated with social institutions such as:

9.1 Family

- 9.1.1 Discuss major contemporary problems faced by the family.**
9.1.2 List factors of divorce.
9.1.3 Evaluate the consequences of divorce.

9.2 Education

- 9.2.1 Explain how race, class, and gender affect educational opportunities.**
9.2.2 Describe some of the major problems in education in the United States and offer solutions.

9.3 Politics

- 9.3.1 Distinguish between different forms of government.**
9.3.2 Explain impact of propaganda, lobbying and partisan interest.

9.4 Media

- 9.4.1 Define framing and discuss its effect on media coverage.**
9.4.2 Critically read the text concerning media ownership and discuss how the concentration of power in the media may influence our perception on issues.
9.4.3 Discuss the problems arising out of media depictions of violence and explain how the media may contribute to gender, racial, and ethnic stereotyping.

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

Unit 10 Global Social Problems

General Outcome:

10.0 The student should be able to identify the causes and consequences of global social issues.

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to describe and analyze social problems associated with global social problems such as:

10.1 War and Terrorism

10.1.1 Analyze the symbolic interactionist, functionalist, and conflict perspectives view on war.

10.1.2 Identify the different types of terrorism.

10.2 Population

10.2.1 Define the primary factors that affect population growth and state why population growth is a problem.

10.2.2 Describe the Malthusian and neo-Malthusian perspectives on population growth.

10.2.3 Discuss how immigration is changing the U.S. population composition.

10.3 Environment

10.3.1 Discuss the reasons for pollution in the industrializing nations.

10.3.2 Discuss the pessimistic versus the optimistic view on environmental problems.

10.3.3 Identify and discuss the variety of pollutants that endanger our environment.

Common Course Number: SYG 2010

Unit 11 Writing for the Sociology of Social Problems

General Outcome:

11.0 Through writing assignments, students should learn to apply and analyze terminology and theory as it applies to social problems.

Specific Measurable Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student shall be able to:

11.1 Apply sociological terminology in various writing assignments throughout the course.

11.2 Identify and explain causes of social problems and offer solutions.