"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed."
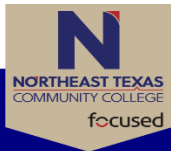
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Office Hours

Monday	9:00- 11:00
Tuesday	3:00- 4:00
Wednesday	9:00- 12:30
	1:30- 4:00
Thursday	3:00- 4:00

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description: Application of sociological principles and theoretical perspectives to major social problems in contemporary society such as inequality, crime and violence, substance abuse, environmental issues, deviance, or family problems. Three credit hours.

Prerequisite(s): None

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Describe how the sociological imagination can be used to explain the emergence and implications of contemporary social problems.
2. Explain the nature of social problems from at least one sociological perspective, e.g., critical, functional, interpretive, etc.
3. Identify multidimensional aspects of social problems including the global, political, economic, and cultural dimensions of social problems.
4. Discuss how "solutions" to social problems are often contentious due to diverse values in society.
5. Describe how the proposed "solutions" to a social problem, including social policies, may bring rise to other social problems.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Social Problems Project	300 points
Statement of Problem	*100 points*
Survey	*100 points*
Presentation of Social Problem	*100 points*
Mid-term	100 points
Final	100 points
Total Possible	500 points

Grading and evaluation--In general, a course grade of a "C" represents an acceptable level of work. A course grade of "B" represents a substantial effort and achievement. It is clearly a grade for the better than average product and effort. An "A" is awarded only in the case of both outstanding efforts and quality in the required products. The grades will be awarded on the following basis:

A = 90% to 100% of possible points
B = 80% to 89% of possible points
C = 70% to 79% of possible points
D = 60% to 69% of possible points
F = 59% and below of possible points

Tests/Exams: There will be two tests (100 points each). Everyone must take the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, matching or definitions, and short essay questions. Make-up examinations, as a rule, will not be permitted, unless the student's absence is excused in advance. A grade of incomplete ("X") will not be given unless the student contacts the instructor to make special arrangements for making up required work. Only emergency situation that prohibit the student from completing the course as planned will warrant consideration of the grade of "X". Mid-term: October 8th Final: December 10th

Required Textbook(s):
Social Problems a Down-To-Earth Approach 17th ebook, Henslin, Pearson
ISBN Number: 978-013-52568-5

Recommended Reading(s): None

Minimum Technology Requirements:

Below are some technical requirements for using Blackboard that will help your experience in this course.

You will see the NTCC Tech Support email address and phone number below. Please contact them if you run into any technical problems during the semester. Please let your instructor know you are having difficulties as well.

 If you need further NTCC technical support services please contact IT at IT@ntcc.edu or 903.434.8140.

Blackboard will work on both a Mac and a PC. (Chrome Books are known to have issues with Blackboard.) It is best to access Blackboard through Fire-Fox or Chrome as your web browser. If you have trouble with any of the activities working improperly, you might change your web browser as your first solution. The Default Browser in Windows 10 in Edge. This browser does not do well with Blackboard! If you will go to Windows Accessories you will find Internet Explorer still on your computer, but is not your default browser. If you have any difficulties navigating with Edge, close it and

go to Internet Explorer. You can download Blackboard Student for your smart phone from the Play store or the App store. More information is available for Technology Requirements and Support under the Student Resources – Technical Support Tab in Blackboard.

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

1. Communicate via email including sending attachments 2. Navigate the World Wide Web using a Web browser such as Internet Explorer 3. Use office applications such as Microsoft Office (or similar) to create documents 4. Be willing to learn how to communicate using a discussion board and upload assignments to a   classroom Web site 5. Be comfortable uploading and downloading saved files 6. Have easy access to the Internet 7. Navigate Blackboard, including using the email component within Blackboard. Instructions and tutorials for this are provided in your course.

For more information or technical assistance on using the Learning Management System, please refer to the Home Page, Orientation Module, in the important technical requirement, information and support folder in Blackboard.

Course Structure and Overview:

In class, meetings will be reserved for lectures, speaking activities/drills, and speaker presentations. Students are expected to complete all the readings of the required e-book chapters, watch the instructional videos and complete the online chapter activities. You will see that the course is divided into 16 weeks in the Blackboard portion. Pay close attention to deadlines for all assignments. Assignments will not be accepted late! Technical difficulties are no excuse for late assignments. In class, participation is an essential element of this course. Each student will be expected to participate in speaking drills/activities which will occur during class time. These activities will allow students to sharpen their presentations and enhance delivery skills.

Tests/Exams:

Mid-term: October 9th
Final: December 1st
(SLO 1)

There will be two tests (100 points each). Everyone must take the final exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, matching or definitions, and short essay questions. Make-up examinations, as a rule, will not be permitted, unless the student's absence is excused in advance. A grade of incomplete ("X") will not be given unless the student contacts the instructor to make special arrangements for making up the required work. Only emergency situations that prohibit the student from completing the course as planned will warrant consideration of the grade of "X".

Assignments:

Social Problems Project (SLO 2, 4, & 5)
Grading: 300 points

Statement of Problem (SLO2):	*100 points*
Survey (SLO 3):	*100 points*
Presentation (SLO4):	*100 points*
Self & Peer Evaluation (SLO5):	*Total points*

Due Date: Assigned during class

Identify a social problem or issue that you are passionate about. Conduct a survey with a minimum of 15 questions regarding your topic of choice. Your survey should include questions regarding age, gender, ethnicity, and income. Survey at least 50 individuals either in-person or online. Summarize your findings and provide a chart/graph with your data results. What conclusion did you draw? Be prepared to present your problem, survey, and findings to the class. The project will be broken down into three separate sections. Findings will be presented via a PowerPoint presentation. Additional details were provided in class.

Examples of social problems

Abortion
Addiction
Affordable housing
Bullying
Childhood obesity
Civil rights
Divorce
Education
Gender
Gender equality
Government
Gun control
Health care
Homeless
Immigration
Income inequality
Marriage
Moral Decline
Overpopulation
Police Brutality
Pollution
Poverty
Prison
Privacy
Racism
Religion
Same-sex marriage
Sexual assault
Terrorism
Transgender issue
Unemployment

This assignment is broken into three sections:

Statement of Social Problem:
> review of current data
> why it is considered a social problem
> **Due October 2nd**

Survey
Due October 23rd

Final Project Presentation
November 8th

Self and peer evaluation are included in the social problems project**. It is very important that you are present for all presentations.**

Communications:

Emails will be responded to within 24 hours. If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, then the email was not received.   Posts in the Discussion Forum "Questions, Comments, and/or Concerns?" will be monitored by the instructor. Responses by the instructor will be within 72 hours of the post. The college's official means of communication is via your campus email address. I will use your campus email address and Blackboard to communicate with you outside of class. Make sure you keep your campus email cleaned out and below the limit so you can receive important messages.

Institutional/Course Policy:

No late work will be accepted without prior approval by the instructor. Students are always expected to be respectful toward classmates and professors! Review Student Conduct in the Student Handbook. It is the student's responsibility to check Blackboard for important information/announcements regarding the course. Students should be working on course material via Blackboard every week. Do not wait until the last minute to complete and submit assignments in case of technical issues.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements
In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (http://www.ntcc.edu/) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:
NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may   result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:
It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford the equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the

Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, and other information including major, the field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Student Social Support Resources:
At Northeast Texas Community College, we understand that students often have concerns that could lead to barriers to success.   If you are a student that needs support and/or guidance, NTCC offers EagleAssist.   EagleAssist is a comprehensive hub for students to access resources beyond the classroom.   Some of those services include but are not limited to classroom accommodations, mental health counseling, NTCC Care Center, Financial Literacy, and Emergency Assistance.   Included in those services are basic need services provided through the NTCC CARE Center, located in IA105. The NTCC CARE Center houses our Eagle Pantry, which provides food and hygiene products on a monthly basis for current students that express a need. NTCC believes that alleviating barriers will enable student value and success, regardless of a lived experience. To access services, please email eagleassist@ntcc.edu. In addition, if you need additional community resources, please www.ntcc.edu/carecenter.

Additional Information:

Appendix

Snapshot of Statement Problem

According to the Heritage Foundation, over 10 million undocumented individuals live in the United States with an estimated growth rate of 700,000 each year. Some societal problems that come along with undocumented individuals are a negative impact on US employment, national security, and the legal system. Many undocumented individuals imbed themselves into society by falsifying documents to gain legal work status, which is a profound security problem displaced onto the legal system. Undocumented individuals are often pushed underground to access documents that would allow them to gain employment. Often, fake social security numbers are used that lead to an increase in social security fraud and identity theft. In addition, the current US unemployment rate is at the highest at 10.3% as a reported at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Unemployment is a national crisis that should be addressed with Americans' first employment. Adding additional members outside the US society would put an unnecessary burden on the American people (NBLS, 2020).

Example Survey

Attitudes toward immigration

1. What is your gender?

   Male   Female   Other

2. What is your age?

   18-29   30-42   43-52   53-62   63-72   over 72

3. What is your religion?

   Christian   Islam   Atheist   Mormon   Other

4. What is your political association?

   Democrat   Republican   Independent   No association

5. Are you an American citizen?

   Yes   No

6. Do you think we need immigration reform?

   Yes   No

7. Do you think that immigrants commit more crime than non-immigrants?

   Yes   No

8. Do you believe that immigration strengths American?

   Yes   No

9. Children of immigrants have caused undue burden to our social welfare system?

   Yes   No

10. Overall, immigration negatively affects the United States economy?

    Yes   No

11. Immigrants do not share American values?

    Agree   Disagree

12. Immigrants should speak English?

    Agree   Disagree

13. The United States should create a work program to accommodate illegal immigrants?

Yes   No

14. Immigrants take jobs that most Americans want?
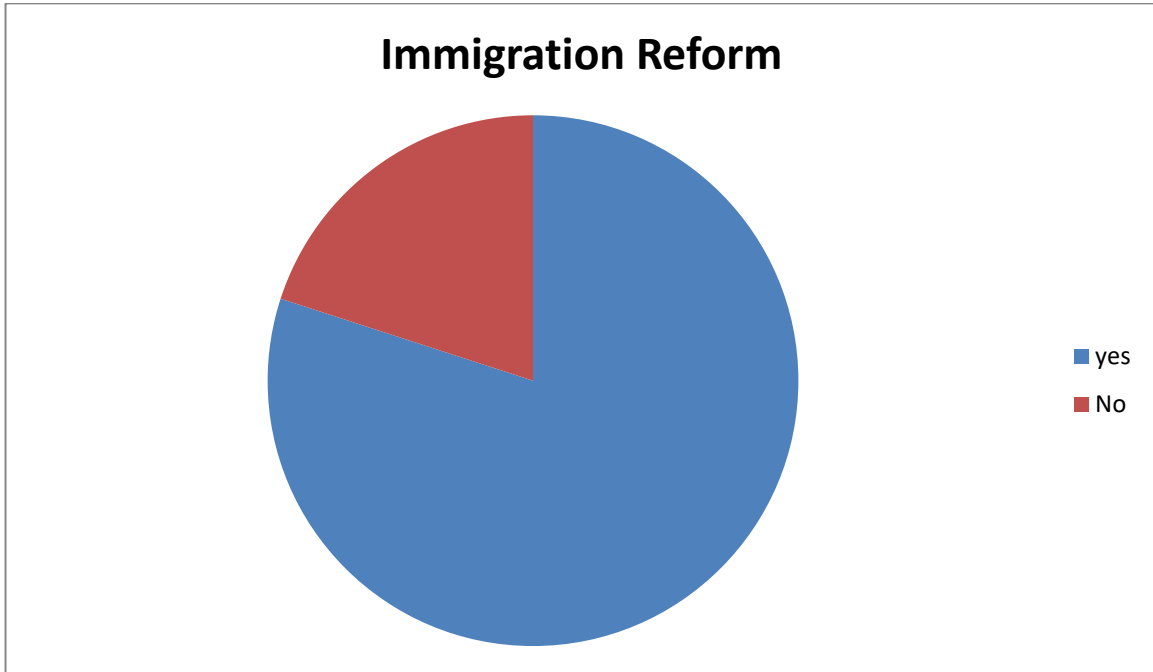
Yes   No

15. Do you feel proud to be an American?

Yes   No

Question #6

Do you think we need immigration reform?

Example Conclusion

Most of the people surveyed were young to middle age male Christians and who hold a republican political association. Student determined that most individuals in this survey want immigration reform. They believe that immigration is a drain to the United States and is bad for the economy. Most immigrants are taking jobs that Americans want and are a burden to our social welfare system. It is believed that they do not want to assimilate to our culture and learn the language. They do not share our values and it does not strengthen the United States.

Student concluded that the individuals surveyed were not open minded and their belief system was not consistent with recent data.   According to the Economic Policy Institute, there are an estimated 12 million unauthorized immigrants living in the US. They make up about 5.2% of the labor force and produces 15% of our output.   They are not filling jobs that Americans want and are working in lower paid jobs.

This project was very interesting and I learned a lot. Prior to my survey I had a negative view on immigration. After conducting my survey and researching the data, I concluded that my belief system is not consistent with the facts regarding immigration and the economy.