



Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number and Name: SOCI 1040 Social Problems

Section ID: 80505.202380

Semester and Year: Fall 2023

Credit Hours: 3

Start Date: August 21, 2023

End Date: December 08, 2023

Course Format: WEB - Web Classes

Catalog Course Description: An examination of the development of social problems, how they confront the dominant society and occasionally become deviant groups. The consequences of deviant conduct are also included. **S**

General Education Course Designation: General Education Course

Meeting Details: TBD

Course Drop Deadline: October 27, 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Chris Baker

Office Location: MBSS 112

Office Hours: All Virtual: Monday - 8 AM to 1 PM, Wednesday - 8 AM - 1 PM; Friday 8 AM to 1 PM

Office Phone: 423-318-2578

Email: chris.baker@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Whitney Jarnagin

Supervisor Phone: 423-585-2636

Secretary Name: Lisa Horner

Secretary Phone: 423-585-2633

Required Textbook(s) and Materials

Understanding Social Problems 10th ed. Cengage

ISBN: ISBN: 9781305576513

Authors: Linda A. Mooney, Ph.D./David Knox, Ph.D./Caroline Schacht, M.A.

Publisher: Cengage

Publication Date: 2017

Edition: 10th

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- 1. Identify how social problems are identified and defined by members of society and the scientific community.
- 2. Explain how the sociological perspective contributes to an understanding of social life and the social origin of beliefs, values, and behaviors.
- 3. Explain how social institutions are interrelated and how they affect individual values and behavior, especially deviant and criminal behavior.
- 4. Analyze research methods, emphasizing their strengths and weakness.
- 5. Explain the processes of social change and social movements in relation to solutions to social problems.

Instructional Approach and Methods

1. Students will be expected to read the required text material.

2. Students will be expected to perform satisfactorily on the scheduled

examinations and assignments.

Instructional Methods:

Students in Sociology 1040 are required to take tests, engage in discussions, write a course term paper, and complete reflexive writing assignments. In addition each module contains a self-assess quiz.

Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

Quizzes – 10 - (20 Points Each)	200 Points
Research Paper	200 points
Module Reflexive Assignments: 10 - (20 Points Each)	200 points
Discussions: 10 - (200 Points Each)	200 points

Midterm Exam	100 Points
Final Exam	100 Points
Total	1000

Grading Scale

A	900 - 1000
B	800 – 899
C	700 - 799
D	600 - 699
F	599 or Lower

Assignments

Course Assignments/Schedule

Course assignments include:

- 1) Module Quizzes 10 (Located in weekly modules)

The 10 quizzes assist you to understand course material and prepare students for the two tests. The quizzes need to be written in Word and posted to the Quizzes dropbox. Some modules contain self-directed Quizlets. (Quiz assignment Droxboxes are located under Assessments at the top of the course home page)

Some modules contain self-directed Quizlets. Email me your best score.

2) Module Reflexive Assignments (Located in weekly modules)

Ten module Reflexive Assignments apply course material to local social problems. The assignments need to be written in Word and posted to the Reflexive Assignment dropbox. (Reflexive assignment Droxboxes are located under Assessments at the top of the course home page)

3) Module Discussions (Located under Assessments and then Discussions)

Ten discussions assist students to apply course material to concrete issues and interact with other students. The goal of the discussion assignments for this course is to create awareness of and analyze examples of local and regional social problems. Grading is based on the discussion rubric under content.

4) Term Paper and Paper Proposal (Located under Term Paper Instructions and Support Material under Course Information)



Testing Information

The two tests are essay and short answer and also include introspection.

Students have 5 days to complete the tests.

Class Participation

Assignment Schedule

Note: All Due Date Times are at 11:59 p.m. of the date indicated.

Orientation Assignments

Orientation Assignment	Orientation Discussion	Course Pretest	Email Professor	
Due Aug 25	Due Aug 27	Due Aug 27	Due Aug 27	

Module Assignments

Week	Module	Reflexive Assignment	Quizzes	Discussion
Aug 28 – S1	Module 1	Due Sept 3	Due Sept 1	Due Sept 2
Sept 4 - 8	Module 2	Due Sept 10	Due Sept 10	Due Sept 9
Sept 11 - 15	Module 3		Due Sept 18	Due Sept 15
Sept 18 - 22	Module 4	Due Sept 23	Due Sept 22	Due Sept 23
Sept 25 - 29	Module 5	Due Oct 1	Due Sept 29	Due Sept 20

Oct 2 - 6	Module 6	Due Oct 8	Due Oct 6	Due Oct 7
Oct 9 - 13	Module 7 – Fall Break	No Assignments		
Oct 16 - 20	Module 8 - Midterm	No Assignments		
Oct 30 – N3	Module 9	Due Nov 5	Due Nov 3	Due Nov 6
Nov 6 - 10	Module 10	Due Nov 12	Due Nov 10	Due Nov 11
Nov 13 - 17	Module 11/12	Due Nov 13	Due Nov 12	Due Nov
Nov 20 - 24	Module 13/14	Due Nov 26	Due 4/21	Due 4/21-23
Nov 27 – D1	Module 15	Due Dec 1	Due Dec 1	

Testing Information

Tests are essay and short answer submitted in a word document to the Dropbox. Students have six days to complete the test.

Test	Date	Test Chapters		
Midterm	The midterm is open from Oct 16 - 20 Due 10/20	The Midterm covers chapters 1 - 8		
Final	The final is during finals week	The final covers chapters 9 - 15		

Course and Class Policies/Procedures

Instructor Email Response Time

I respond to emails within 24 hours 7 days a week unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Grading/Draft Response Time

All weekly assignments including discussions are graded by the end of the day the following Monday while tests, paper drafts, and

term papers are graded or reviewed within 48 hours.

Office Hour Appointments

Students are welcome to contact me and set up a meeting both within or outside of posted office hours. (See office hour schedule above). Office hour appointments are scheduled through email with me. Scheduled advising appointments can be met through office visits, on Teams, or through email.

Student Course Standing Reviews

In addition to regular weekly contact, I will be providing feedback on every student's standing in the course during the weeks of February 6 -10 and March 27 - 31 following the Midterm.

Academic Honesty

Faculty expect all students to refrain from acts of academic misconduct including but not limited to:

1. Plagiarism - refers to using another person's ideas or writing without giving proper credit to the original source. Indulging in this type of conduct will subject the student to disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures of Walters State Community College as outlined in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for the paper/exam/presentation. Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions contained in the college Catalog/Student Handbook apply (see policy 04:18:02 Disciplinary Sanctions).

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following:

- a. Using cut/paste tool from original document with no references given.
 - b. Copying another student's work and submitting it as one's own.
 - c. Forging or otherwise altering signatures.
 - d. Giving or falsifying academic documents or materials.
2. Cheating - construed as attempting to deceive or mislead which includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Utilizing old tests, projects, notes or written papers.
 - b. Providing unauthorized information to a fellow student about exam content.
 - c. Receiving unauthorized aid from any source with quizzes, examinations, or other assignments.
 - d. Seeking information in an unacceptable manner during/preceding an exam or other assigned work (cheat sheet, verbal exchange, looking at another person's paper or electronic device, utilizing headphones, using textbook when the test/quiz is not an open book test/quiz, using textbook test bank etc.).
 - e. Consulting with a classmate or others when taking a computerized test.
 - f. Disregarding other specific policies and procedures outlined for a particular class.
 - g. Utilizing unapproved technology/electronic equipment during testing (i.e.: mobile devices such as cell phones, smart devices, or tablets, etc.).
 - h. Using the same Internet Protocol network address (IP address) as another student for testing without approval from the course faculty.
 3. The use of any generative artificial intelligence (AI) tool, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google's Bard, or any other pre-trained language model (commonly referred to as "chatbot"), must be cited for any assignment where it has been used and may not be used unless specifically allowed by your instructor. Please see your instructor or the course policies within the syllabus if you have questions.

Student Resources

TUTORING SERVICES

Students in need of tutoring assistance are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Tutoring located as follows:

- Morristown Campus - Student Services Building Room L107 - (423) 585-6920
- Niswonger Campus - GRNV 226 - (423) 798-7982
- Sevierville Campus - MMH Room 210 - (865) 286-2787
- Claiborne Campus - Room 123A - (423) 851-4761

Specific tutoring assistance in mathematics and writing is available in-person and online as follows:

- Morristown Campus - English Learning Lab - HUM 120 - (423) 585-6970

[Walters State English Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](#)
ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab

- Morristown Campus - Mathematics Lab - MBSS 222 - (423) 585-6872

[Walters State Mathematics Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](#)
ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Students who need assistance with computing and technology issues should contact the IET Helpdesk by phone at Morristown: (423) 318-2742; Niswonger: (423) 798-8186; or Sevierville: (865) 286-2789 or on-line access.

[Walters State Helpdesk \(opens in new window\)](#)
helpdesk.ws.edu

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES

Students with disabilities must register with Student Support Services each semester in the Student Services Building, Room U134 (phone (423) 585-6892) if they need any special facilities, services, or consideration.

[Walters State Student Support Services \(opens in new window\)](#)
ws.edu/student-services/disability/

SUICIDE PREVENTION STATEMENT

Walters State is committed to and cares about all students. Support services are available for any person at Walters State who is experiencing feelings of being overwhelmed, hopelessness, depression, thinking about dying by suicide, or is otherwise in need of assistance. For immediate help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 9-8-8 or the Trevor Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. Veterans may also contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or Text 838255.

Walters State has a relationship in place with the following community agencies to provide services (may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, etc.):

- Cherokee Health Systems 423-586-5032
- Frontier Health 423-467-3600

College Policies

STUDENTS HANDBOOK AS OFFICIAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT

This class is governed by the policies and procedures stated in the current Walters State Community College Student Handbook. All students attending Walters State Community College, regardless of the time, location, or format of the class, must abide by the rules and regulations outlined in the current Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook and the current Walters State Timetable of Classes.

[Walters State Catalog \(opens in new window\)](https://catalog.ws.edu/)
catalog.ws.edu/

[Walters State Timetable of Classes \(opens in new window\)](https://ws.edu/admissions/registration/)
ws.edu/admissions/registration/

PURPOSE, LIMITATIONS AND MODIFICATION OF SYLLABUS

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to change at any time. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time with written notification to the students. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus for the semester/year specified in the Course Information section of the syllabus. This syllabus is only valid for the semester/year specified and course requirements are not guaranteed for future semesters.

COURSE GROUND RULES

- Students must attend the first day of on-ground class or contact the instructor prior to the first class. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class. Excessive absences may substantially lower the course grade.
- Regular class attendance is a student's obligation for any course regardless of format. (See the Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook). If a student misses class, it is his or her responsibility to contact the instructor regarding missed assignments and/or activities and to be prepared for the next class assignment.
- Students enrolled in web courses must follow the course attendance policy defined for online attendance during the first week of class and throughout the term. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class during week one OR may result in the accrual of absences which may negatively impact the student's grade in the course.
- Students who have not paid fees on time and/or are not correctly registered for this class and whose names do not appear on official class rolls generated by the Walters State student information system (MyWS) will not be allowed to remain in class or receive credit for this course.
- Electronic devices must not disrupt the instructional process or college-sponsored academic activity. Use of electronic devices is prohibited unless use of the device is relevant to the activity and use is sanctioned by the faculty member in charge. Electronic devices that are not relevant to the activity or sanctioned by the faculty member in charge should be set so that they will not produce an audible sound during classroom instruction or other college-sponsored academic activity.

FINANCIAL AID

Students receiving any type of financial aid or scholarship should contact the Financial Aid Office before making any changes to their schedule. Schedule changes without prior approval may result in loss of award for the current term and future terms.

All forms of student Financial Aid may be jeopardized or lost due to the lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress in one or multiple courses. Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress may negatively impact a student's degree/certificate completion pace and further jeopardize Financial Aid eligibility.

CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

For information related to the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather or other events, please check the Senators Emergency Text system or the college's Web site at:

[Walters State Homepage \(opens in new window\)](http://www.waltersstate.edu/home/)
[ws.edu/home/](http://www.waltersstate.edu/home/)

[Walters State Facebook page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/>

[Walters State Twitter page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://twitter.com/waltersstate>

or call the college's student information line, 1-800-225-4770, option 1; the Sevier County Campus, (865) 774-5800, option 7; the Niswonger Campus (423) 798-7940, option 7; or the Claiborne County Campus, 423-636-6200, option 7. Also, please monitor local TV and radio stations for further announcements.

When an event or disaster interrupts the scheduled operations of the college and the ability to proceed with the academic course activities as planned, the college and your instructor may alter the course plan outlined in the syllabus. Should an event occur, students should refer to their course e-Learn pages and/or class materials previously delivered to receive guidance from their instructor. Students should continue to monitor the official college channels of communication listed in the above paragraph. If you would like to sign up for the Senators Emergency Text system, please go to the following Web site:

[Senator Emergency Text System \(opens in new window\)](#)

<ws.edu/set/>

Dual Enrollment students attending on a high school campus should refer to the high school inclement weather cancellations.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Brightspace (commonly known as eLearn or D2L) is the college's Learning Management System (LMS).

Brightspace is committed to accessibility by "deliver[ing] a learning experience that meets the needs of all people, regardless of age or ability." [Brightspace Accessibility Standard \(opens in new window\)](#)

Brightspace is also committed to guarding student data and privacy. [Brightspace Privacy Policy \(opens in new window\)](#)