

LABETTE COMMUNITY COLLEGE BRIEF SYLLABUS

SPECIAL NOTE:

This brief syllabus is not intended to be a legal contract. A full syllabus will be distributed to students at the first class session.

TEXT AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS USED IN THE COURSE (if any):

Please check with the LCC bookstore <http://www.labette.edu/bookstore> for the required texts for this class.

<u>COURSE NUMBER:</u>	SOCI 203
<u>COURSE TITLE:</u>	SOCIAL PROBLEMS
<u>SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS:</u>	3
<u>DEPARTMENT:</u>	Sociology
<u>DIVISION:</u>	General Education
<u>PLACEMENT TEST LEVEL:</u>	General Education Course Placement
<u>PREREQUISITE:</u>	None
<u>REVISION DATE:</u>	October 2013

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines well defined social problems in both theoretical and practical ways. The social problems studied will give the student a base for analyzing and understanding social problems prevalent in society today. A wide variety of topics are discussed including poverty, race and ethnic relations, gender and social inequality, crime and sexual deviance.

COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:

**The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this course outline or syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups project for this course as approved by the Kansas Board of Regents.
Kansas Regents Shared Number Course SOC 2010**

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

1. Identify and explain the foundations of social problems.
 - Differentiate between what constitutes a “social” problem versus an individual problem.
 - Examine the concept of the social construction of social problems.
 - Explain and illustrate the roles of claims, claims makers, the media, the public, and policymakers in the social problems process.

- Understand the complexity of social problems that arises out of competing problem definitions.
- Evaluate the role of service learning in facilitating the understanding of social problems and solutions.

2. Analyze the micro and macro dimensions of social problems utilizing sociological perspectives.

- Distinguish between micro and macro level dimensions of social problems.
- Compare and contrast the major theoretical perspectives as they apply to social problems.
- Identify and describe research methods and ethical issues in studying social problems.

3. Evaluate the relationships between social problems and the policies and practices of social institutions.

- Assess the social problems associated with work and the economy.
- Assess the social problems associated with the family.
- Assess the social problems associated with the healthcare system.
- Assess the social problems associated with the criminal justice system.
- Assess the social problems associated with the education system.

4. Describe how social problems are associated with patterns of social inequality.

- Analyze the social problems that arise from social stratification.
- Explain and illustrate the relationship between social class and social problems.
- Examine social problems related to race/ethnicity, sex/gender, and sexual orientation.

5. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of solutions to a social problem utilizing sociological perspectives.

- Critique public policy as an avenue of addressing social problems.
- Assess the role of collective action and social movements in addressing social problems.
- Apply the functionalist, conflict, and interactionist perspectives to various solutions.

6. Consider the social problems arising from social change.

- Assess the social problems associated with the environment.
- Assess the social problems associated with globalization
- Compare and contrast various solutions to these problem areas.