



## Social Problems of the Modern World

SOC 230, Fall 2024

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Instructor	Jianjun Ji
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Course Meeting Days and Time	T and TH 9:30-10:45am
Required Experiential Learning Dates	
Office Hours	M and W 9:00-10:30am, and by request

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### Catalog Description:

Focuses on major social, economic, political, and environmental issues confronting the modern world. Covers both global and U.S. issues. UE Outcome 9.

### Credit Hour Policy Statement:

#### Standard lecture:

"This class meets the federal credit hour policy of 1 hour of class with an expected 2 hours of additional student work outside of class each week for approximately 15 weeks for each hour of credit, or a total of 45-75 total hours for each credit." (Def 1)

### General Education Requirements:

This course meets the General Education requirements for Outcome 9 Overlay C Social Responsibility-Civic

### Course Learning Objectives:

- 1 Understand the theories of social problems and the issues of definition.
- 2 Identify and examine major social problems in American society and the world.
- 3 Explore and analyze the roots of the social problems.
- 4 Apply theoretical perspectives to solutions to these social problems.

### Methods of Instructions:

Lecture, discussions, group activities, research

### Textbooks and Required Reading:

Social Problems. 2018. D. Stanley Eitzen; Maxine Baca Zinn; and Kelly Eitzen Smith. 14<sup>th</sup> edition. Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-13-4-63683-2

Students are expected to read the book chapter materials during the week of the lecture. In addition, reading assignments for selected chapters are required as indicated in the syllabus.

# HARLAXTON



**Course Schedule:**

<b>Month/Date</b>	<b>Chapter and Assignment</b>
9/2	Introduction, syllabus, reflections
9/5-9	Chapter 1 The Sociological Approach to Social Problems Quiz 1 Discussion 1 Your views on the two types of social problems Reading Chapter 5 Problems of Place: Urban, Suburban, and Rural
9/12-16	Chapter 2 Wealth and Power: The Bias of the System Quiz 2 Discussion 2 Three conditions of pure capitalism: does it exist in the real world?
9/19-23	Chapter 3 World Population and Global Inequality Quiz 3 Discussion 3 What are the three ways to reduce fertility? Reading Chapter 10 Disability and Ableism
9/26-30	Chapter 4 Demographic Changes in the United States Quiz 4 Discussion 4 Potential problems of "Graying of America"
<b>10/3</b>	<b>Test 1 Chapters of 1, 2,3 and 4. To be completed and submitted in class.</b>
10/7-10	Chapter 6 Threats to the Environment Quiz 6 Discussion 6 Cultural and Structural bases for the abuse of the US environment Reading Chapter 11 Crime and Justice
10/14-17	Chapter 7 Poverty Quiz 7 Discussion 7 Compare the explanations for poverty: Individual, Cultural, and Structural



<b>10/18-27</b>	<b>10-Day Break</b>
10/28-31	Chapter 8 Racial and Ethnic Inequality Quiz 8 Discussion 8 Explain racial inequality from different theoretical perspectives, deficiency, bias, and structural. Reading Chapter 12 Drugs
11/4-7	Chapter 9 Gender Inequality Quiz 9 Discussion 9 Compare the nature versus Nurture arguments regarding gender differences in behavior.
<b>11/11</b>	<b>Test2 Chapters of 6, 7, 8, and 9; To be completed and submitted in class</b>
11/14-18	Chapter 13 The Economy and Work Quiz 13 Discussion 13 Compare pure capitalism and socialism: source of a social problem. Reading Chapter 15 Education
<b>11/21-25</b>	Chapter 14 Families Quiz 14 Discussion 14 Understand the divorce rate and the consequences of divorce.
<b>11/28-12/2</b>	Chapter 17 National Security in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Quiz 17 Discussion 17 The threats of domestic and international terrorism. Reading Chapter 16 The Health care System
<b>12/5-9</b>	Chapter 18 Progressive Plan to Social Problems Quiz 18 Discussion 18 Principles to reduce or eliminate social problems.
<b>12/12</b>	<b>Final Chapter of 13, 14, 17, and 18. To be completed and submitted in class</b>



Note	All assignments of Quizzes, Discussions, and Readings are required to be submitted within the week of the chapter as scheduled.
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**Grading Criteria:**

Assignment Weight

Quiz	10%	A quiz is given after each chapter and composed of multiple choice and true or false questions.
Discussion	20%	Discussions will be conducted and evaluated within each chapter.
Reading	10%	Readings of assigned chapters are required: two pages or more, in double space, with a font of 12, focusing on the major themes of the chapter.
Exam	60%	Three exams are given for the entire course: multiple choice and true/ false.

Grading System

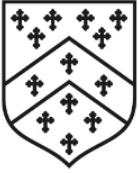
A	92-100
A-	88-91
B+	85-87
B	74-86
B-	71-73
C+	68-70
C	65-67
C-	62-64
D+	59-61
D	55-58
D-	60-54
F	59 or below

**Withdrawal and Attendance policies:**

Harlaxton College expects regular class attendance by all students. Students are considered sufficiently mature to appreciate the necessity of regular and punctual attendance, to accept this personal responsibility and to accept the consequences of failure to attend. When absences occur due to emergency or medical reasons, students are expected to notify their instructors of the absence prior to class or to seek the assistance of the College nurse or a member of the Student Experience Team for help in notifying instructors.

Instructors have the authority to grant excused absences for medical, psychological, or personal reasons upon review of appropriate documentation and professional recommendation supporting such a request. In the event of long-term illness, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow a student to complete a course. In these cases, the Dean will need to approve the long-term nature of the accommodation.

The Dean of Harlaxton College has the authority to grant excused absences for medical, psychological, or personal reasons.



Each instructor is expected to maintain an attendance policy in keeping with the nature of the Harlaxton program and may consider it in evaluating performance in their courses.

### **Policy Governing Unexcused Absences:**

Harlaxton College operates an attendance policy that is binding on all faculty and students. The number of unexcused absences that are allowed before incurring a penalty is related to the number of times a class meets each week. For courses which meet three times a week, students are allowed a maximum of three unexcused absences during the semester without attracting penalty points. For courses meeting twice a week two such absences are permitted, and for courses meeting once a week a single absence is allowed. Additional unexcused absences will attract a grade penalty.

### **Policy Governing Excused Absences.**

- Excused absences are not given to facilitate student travel independent of college-sponsored travel.
- Students may be permitted to miss class because of participation in academic field trips.
- Instructors must co-ordinate and confirm academic fieldtrips with the Dean, prior to the commencement of the Semester to ensure their inclusion in the Semester timetable.
- Where authorization for an academic fieldtrip is requested after the commencement of the semester, the request must be submitted to the Dean.

The following information is required:

- Purpose and brief description of the official Harlaxton event or academic fieldtrip.
- Dates, location, and times (as applicable).
- Alphabetical list of students involved [Last Name/First Name] along with their student identification number.

If approval is granted:

- Instructors affected will be notified at least one week prior to the class period during which absence is anticipated, or as soon as possible.
- Missed class time due to student participation is to be considered an excused absence.
- The grade of a student may not be lowered in any class due to excused absences.
- It is the student's responsibility - to take the initiative by consulting with their instructors before the absence occurs, and - to do what is required by the instructor to make up all missed assignments and/or examinations.
- Instructors are required to assist students in these occasional situations of excused absences.

### **Honor Code:**

All students at the University of Evansville agree to the University honor code: *I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid, nor will I tolerate an environment that condones the use of unauthorized aid.*



**AI may be used only with prior permission or direction by the instructor.**

- All work submitted in this course must be your own.
- The use of generative AI composition tools, such as those offered by ChatGPT, Google Bard etc. is prohibited in this course except for specific assignments and subject to the instructor's guidelines.
- Work generated by such tools without proper attribution is plagiarism and, thereby, a breach of the University's Plagiarism and Academic Honesty policy.

**Disability Policy:**

It is the policy and practice of the University of Evansville to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Students should contact Disability Services within the Office of Counseling Services by calling 812-488-2663 to seek services or accommodations for disabilities. Written notification to faculty from Disability Services is required for academic accommodations.

The University of Evansville Disability Services office will share the request for academic accommodations with the Academic Support team at Harlaxton College. Staff members at Harlaxton will meet individually with students to discuss needs and provide additional information related to examinations or other assessments.

Students from partner institutions should provide the appropriate letter of accommodation from their institution to the Academic Support team at Harlaxton College.

**Non-Discrimination Statement**

The University of Evansville expects all members of its community to treat each other with respect and civility. Harassing behaviors directed towards any member of our community will not be tolerated. As part of its commitment to non-discrimination, the University specifically prohibits harassment based on any other characteristics set forth in its nondiscrimination statement as follows: including race, color, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, creed or religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran status and all federally protected groups/classes. Any form of harassment undermines the mission of the University and negatively impacts the University community as a whole.

**Prohibited Conduct and Confidentiality**

The University of Evansville is committed to fostering an atmosphere free from harassment and discrimination. This commitment includes identifying problems that may lead to sexual harassment and misconduct, as well as other forms of harassment and discrimination, by creating an atmosphere in which the entire University community is sensitive to preventing prohibited conduct. Additionally, the University is committed to providing support and resources to individuals who have experienced prohibited conduct. This commitment includes effectively responding when a student, visitor, guest or program participant is the victim of prohibited conduct.

All campus employees, students, and guests are required to abide by the Title IX and Other Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy, the Harassment and Discrimination Policy, and the Consensual Sexual or Romantic Relationships Between Employees and Students Policy. Violation of these policies could result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion for students and termination for employees.



Faculty members at the University of Evansville are considered “Responsible Employees” under the applicable federal guidelines and the University’s policies. This means that I am unable to offer you confidentiality if you report any incidence of prohibited conduct to me as defined by Title IX statute. If I am made aware of a violation, I am required to report any known information to the Office of Institutional Equity.

You may choose to report the violation yourself the following ways:

Email: • Annie Sills, Assistant Director of Institutional Equity and Title IX Coordinator:

[cs175@evansville.edu](mailto:cs175@evansville.edu) •

Keith Gehlhausen, Executive Director of HR and Institutional Equity: [kg77@evansville.edu](mailto:kg77@evansville.edu) •

Title IX: [titleix@evansville.edu](mailto:titleix@evansville.edu)

Phone: 812-288-5261

Online: <https://www.evansville.edu/safety/report.cfm>

You may also choose to speak with a Confidential Resource. Confidential Resources are required to maintain confidentiality and cannot report violations to the Office of Institutional Equity:

#### **University of Evansville**

- Counseling Services: [counselingservices@evansville.edu](mailto:counselingservices@evansville.edu), 812-488-2633
- Health Center Professionals: [healthcenter@evansville.edu](mailto:healthcenter@evansville.edu), 812-488-2033
- University Chaplain: [chaplain@evansville.edu](mailto:chaplain@evansville.edu), 812-488-5262

#### **Harlaxton College**

- College Nurse: Lesley Selby, RGN, +44 01476 403027, [l.selby@harlaxton.ac.uk](mailto:l.selby@harlaxton.ac.uk)
- Counselling Services: [counselling@harlaxton.ac.uk](mailto:counselling@harlaxton.ac.uk)