

APPLIED ARTS DIVISION
School of Liberal Arts
Winter, 2018



COURSE OUTLINE

SOCI 104

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

3 CREDITS

PREPARED BY: Shawkat Shareef, Ph.D. DATE: November 26, 2017

APPROVED BY: Andrew Richardson, Ph.D. DATE:

APPROVED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL DATE:

RENEWED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL DATE:



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SOCIAL PROBLEMS

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Shawkat Shareef

OFFICE HOURS: M/W 12:00-1:00 pm

OFFICE LOCATION: A2303

CLASSROOM: TBA

E-MAIL: sshareef@yukoncollege.yk.ca

TIME: M/W 10:30-12:00 pm

TELEPHONE: (867) 456-8604

DATES: January 3 - April 25, 2018

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Using a wide range of sociological theories, students will explore factors that lead to the construction and continuation of social problems. The course employs a multi-dimensional analytical framework, emphasizing the socio-cultural, economic, and historical forces that perpetuate poverty, class, ethnic and gender inequality, racism, crime, addiction and the sex trades. There will be a specific focus on mainstream Canadian society, and northern First Nation and other indigenous communities. Students will also reflect on policy options for the remediation of social problems.

PREREQUISITES

None.

RELATED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

None.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

In progress.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Analyse and compare research on social problems in Canada and abroad;
- Explain of social problems in Canada focusing on northern First Nations and indigenous socio-cultural, historical, and political contexts;
- Critically analyze their own views about different aspects of social problems in the postmodern Canadian society engulfed by various globalization factors;

- Objectively apply sociological perspectives and theoretical approaches to their knowledge of the linkages between Northern indigenous, Canadian national, and global societies in the creation and perpetuation of social problems.

COURSE FORMAT

Classes will consist of lectures on and discussions of the texts, readings and films/video clips specified in the course syllabus.

ASSESSMENTS

PARTICIPATION

Participation in class is essential to the development of class unity and the learning process for everyone. Group discussion offers students a forum in which to express ideas and be educated through the ideas of others. We will create together a respectful environment where everyone will feel safe and encouraged to speak. This means that students and instructor must monitor their speech so as not to contribute more than their fair share.

Students will also write a number of short assignments demonstrating their understanding of theories about social problems and the practical implications of those theories in the understanding of indigenous, non-indigenous and immigrant populations in Canada. There are no points assigned to these assignments, but performance on these short assignments (both completion and quality) will be added to the overall participation grade as a percentage. Also, these assignments will help stimulate the discussions the class.

Assignments

Students will write one research paper on a self-chosen topic about Canadian First Nations and/or immigrant related social problems. The paper topic must be approved by the instructor. The paper should be documented and formatted according to APA style and be 10 double-spaced pages in length, excluding references.

Deadlines

Marks will be deducted for late assignments: 1 mark, out of 30, per day up to 5 days, at which time the assignment will not be accepted for marking. If delays are unavoidable because of extenuating circumstances (e.g., illness or bereavement), students must consult with the instructor and receive permission for an extension.

Paper Submission

The research paper should be submitted to the Applied Arts Office or in the hallway drop box (outside the Applied Arts Office) for after-hours delivery. Office staff will date stamp the receipt of the assignment and make sure it gets to the instructor. Do not slip assignments under the instructor's office door, as they will not be dated and can go missing. Also, electronic submission of assignments to the instructor will be accepted.

Tests

There are three exams in this course, two mid-terms and the final exam.

Other

None

EVALUATION

Class participation	10% (20 marks)	Ongoing
First mid-term	20% (40 marks)	February 7
Second mid-term	20% (40 marks)	March 14
Research Paper	20% (40 marks)	Due date - March 28
Final Exam	30% (60 marks)	TBA
Total	100%	

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

Kendall, D., Nygaard, V. L., & Thompson, E. G. (2016). Social problems in a diverse society (4th Canadian Ed.). Canada: Pearson.

Supplementary materials: videos, excerpts from peer-reviewed journals, papers, and discussions from various sources will be used in this class. The titles and topics of videos and video clips may be announced in advance in class. Hardcopies will be distributed in class whenever journals and papers are unavailable on the Internet. If materials are available online, web links will be provided.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

Attendance is integral to student success. Discussion and participation are particularly important in this class, and students are expected to attend regularly and punctually. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and to complete any work assigned.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when students present the words of someone else as their own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person's writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Resubmitting a paper which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the College.

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Yukon College recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon College program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see <http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/yfnccr>.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in Section 8.0 of the Yukon College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

TOPIC OUTLINE

Topic	Reading
Jan 3, 8: Studying Social Problems	Chapter 1
Jan 10, 15, 17: Poverty in the Canadian Context	Chapter 2
Jan 22, 24: Racism and Ethnic Inequality	Chapter 3
Jan 29, 31, Feb. 5: Gender Inequality	Chapter 4
Feb. 7: First Midterm	
Feb. 12, 14: Sex Trade In Canada	Chapter 7
Feb. 26, 28: Addictions	Chapter 8
Mar. 5, 7: Health, Illness, and Health Care as Social Problems	Chapter 10
Mar. 12: The Changing Family	Chapter 11
March 14: Second Midterm	
Mar. 19: The Changing Family (contd.)	Chapter 11
Mar.21,26 : Problems in Education	Chapter 12
Mar.28, April 2, 4: Population, Urbanization, and the Environmental Crisis	Chapter 15
April 9, 11: Global Social Problems	Chapter 16
Final Exam: TO BE DECIDED	

Other readings and materials may be assigned or advised. A detailed syllabus is provided on the course site and will be discussed in lectures.