COURSE DESCRIPTION

Applies sociological concepts and methods to analysis of current social problems. Includes delinquency and crime, mental illness, drug addiction, alcoholism, sexual behavior, population crisis, race relations, family and community disorganization, poverty, automation, war, and disarmament. Lecture 3 hours per week.

GENERAL COURSE PURPOSE

This course investigates the various theories of the causes of social problems in contemporary America. A survey of social theories will be followed by an in-depth study of selected areas of social problems.

ENTRY LEVEL COMPETENCIES

None

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Demonstrate the analytic concepts and thinking skills needed to respond to real life social problems that the student will encounter as citizens, workers, victims, family members, friends, etc., by being able to discuss each of the major theories. Discuss the various major contemporary social problems found in modern American society.

MAJOR TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED

Sociological theory accounting for prejudice and discrimination and subsequent patterns of conflict, competition, and accommodation will be applied to minority status for:

A. Poverty  
B. Crime  
C. Discrimination  
D. Human Ecology  
E. Impact of the World System

EXTRA TOPICS (optional)

A. Drug and alcohol abuse  
B. Automation and bureaucracy  
C. War and Peace