**St. Petersburg College**

**SYG 2010  Social Problems (on-line)**

**Dr. L. McDonnell**

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**Office Hours:**  Mon. 12-4  v, Tues. 10-12, 1:15-4:15, Wed, 5-6, Thurs. 10-12 1:15-3:15, Sunday 7-8 v.

*[Make an appointment via MyCourses email.]*

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**\*\*\*An e-mail in class is always the quickest way to reach me.  E-mails during the week will be returned within 24 hrs.\*\*\***

Academic Department: Social Sciences

Course Description:

Prerequisite: ENC 0020 or EAP 1695 or appropriate score on the SPC placement test. This course is an analysis of major social problems in the United States.  Emphasis is placed on the causes of social problems, approaches to the analysis of problems and the interrelationships of problems.  Course topics include: crime, poverty and inequality with respect to ethnic minorities, and men and women. Other topics include family and marital problems, problems in education, the old and the young, population and the environment. This course partially satisfies the writing requirements outlined in the General Education Requirements.  47 contact hours.

 Major Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will understand the sociological approach to social problems.
2. The student will demonstrate knowledge of data and basic research methods in the analysis of social problems.
3. The student will demonstrate knowledge of the social and behavioral aspects of deviant the problematic behavior.
4. The student will demonstrate knowledge on the stratification and structure of society, and how they contribute to inequality and discrimination.
5. The student will understand the principle problems in the major institutional areas of the United States.
6. The student will demonstrate knowledge of the causes and the effects of increases in population growth.
7. The student will demonstrate increased ability in writing.

**Course Objectives Stated in Performance Terms:**

         1.   The student will understand the sociological approach to social problems by:

               a.   defining sociology and recognizing its relationship to other behavioral sciences, and to social problems.

               b.   explaining the value-conflict, the deviant, and the social disorganization approaches to the study of social problems.

         2.   The student will demonstrate knowledge of data and basic research methods in the analysis of social problems by:

               a.   recognizing the use of social statistics.

               b.   identifying the methods of interviewing, participant observation, and the survey research.

         3.   The student will demonstrate knowledge of the social and behavioral aspects of deviant and problematic behavior by:

               a.   recognizing the relationship between social group involvement and deviant behavior.

               b.   defining the principle approaches used in sociology to explain social deviance.

         4.   The student will demonstrate knowledge of the major institutional problems of the United States by:

               a.   identifying the major problems of the modern family.

               b.   recognizing the major problems of political institutions.

               c.   defining the major problems of the economy.

               d.   identifying the key problems of American education.

               e.   recalling the major problem areas of modern religion.

         5.   The student will understand the stratification and resulting structure of society and how they contribute to inequality and discrimination by:

               a.   interpreting the structural-functional approach to the study of stratification.

               b.   interpreting the conflict-approach to the study of stratification.

               c.   summarizing the sociological usage and meaning of majority and minority groups in society.

         6.   The student will demonstrate knowledge of the causes and the effects of increases in population growth by:

               a.   recognizing changes brought about by the industrial revolution.

               b.   identifying basic demographic and ecological processes in population growth.

               c.   distinguishing key problems associated with the physical environment as a result of material technology and population increase.

         7.   The student will demonstrate increased ability in writing by planning and writing one or more of the following (all of which are evaluated):

               a.   research, analysis, outline, evaluation or other types of papers completed outside of the direct classroom experience.

               b.   research, analysis, outline, journal, evaluation or other types of essays completed during the direct classroom experience.

               c.   any type of expository, evaluative, persuasive or personal response writing as described in the college publication entitled " A Resource Manual for Writing Across the Curriculum."

D.     Criteria Performance Standard:

         Upon successful completion of the course the student will, with a minimum of 70% accuracy, demonstrate mastery of each of the above stated objectives through classroom measures developed by individual course instructors.

**Required Text:**

**Social Problems and Quality of Life 15th edition 2023 LAUER with Connect Access, McGraw Hill.** Connect Access Card : LAUER CNCT AC SOC PROB & QLTY LIFE.    ISBN: 9781265746179

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**Questions?** Contact your SPC Bookstore First Day Team

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