

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

SOCI 201

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of social dilemmas such as crime, pollution, war, poverty, drug addiction, and racial discrimination. Course content is both theoretical and practical.

RATIONALE

Many of us go through our lives without really understanding the many social problems that plague our world. There is a great need to study social problems because they arise out of human need or perceived need. These need-based behaviors and situations interlock to cause other social problems. A careful description and understanding of the causes of these problems will help to facilitate solutions.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. RECOMMENDED RESOURCE PURCHASE

American Psychological Association. *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. Washington, DC: Author.

IV. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Word
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)
- E. *The Holy Bible*

V. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Recognize, discuss, and write about social problems and their historical development in the United States and around the world.
- B. Discuss social problems from a biblical worldview perspective.
- C. Research various social problems and present facts, trends, and possible solutions in written APA format.
- D. Identify current group phenomena which are problematic in society.
- E. Describe specific problems in the following fields, but not limited to: poverty, sexual behaviors, prejudice and discrimination, family systems, crime and violence, mental health and health care, war and terrorism, and technology and environment.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

Discussion Board Forums will be included for Modules 2, 4, and 6. Initial thread will be due Thursday night with 350 word count, replies due Monday night 250 word count. Initial posts and replies will be supported using APA citations and scripture where appropriate.

- D. Essay Assignment

Each student will write a 4-page essay which will include (2) primary resources using APA citations. A title page, body of content for essay, and reference page will be included.

- E. Article Review

Each student will choose a journal article and write a 2–3-page paper reviewing it. The selected article should be published within the last five years, related to the research paper topic, and found in a scholarly journal. The paper should include a summary of the article, an analysis of all the main points, and a reflective conclusion. The article review is due by the end of Module/Week 3.

F. Observation Assignment or Annotated Bibliography

Each student will choose Part A or Part B for Module 5 assignment. Choice A is an observational study where the student will choose a topic to observe and study using resources of their community per careful evaluation of the instructions. Choice B is a detailed Annotated Bibliography which will consist of research articles pertaining to the topic the student has chosen for their final research project. The Annotated Bibliography will be developed carefully per the instructions and research.

G. Research Paper

Each student will write an 8-page research paper that addresses a specific social problem and investigates possible solutions to the problem. The paper should include at least 5 scholarly sources and should be formatted in proper current APA style. The paper will be submitted in the following 2 stages:

1. Topic

By the end of Module/Week 2, the student should submit their chosen research topic to the instructor. The topic should be focused on a specific social problem and should be easily researchable.

2. Final Submission

By the end of Module/Week 7, the student should submit the final version of the research paper. The paper should thoroughly address the chosen social problem.

H. Tests (4)

Tests will be taken in every even-numbered module/week. The tests are comprised of 50 multiple-choice questions that cover information from the course materials. The tests are open-book, open-notes, and have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes.

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Boards (3 at 70 pts. ea)		210
Essay Assignment		70
Article Review		100
Observation Study/Annotated Bibliography		90
Research Paper Assignments		
Topic		10
Final Submission		120
Test 1	(Modules 1–2)	100
Test 2	(Modules 3–4)	100
Test 3	(Modules 5–6)	100
Test 4	(Modules 7–8)	100
	Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact the Liberty University Online Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

SOCI 201

Textbook: Henslin, *Social Problems: A Down-to-Earth Approach* (2018).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Henslin: chs. 1–2 3 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Essay Assignment	10 0 70
2	Henslin: chs. 3–4 2 presentations	Discussion Board Forum 1 – Thread and Replies Research Paper: Topic Test 1	70 10 100
3	Henslin: chs. 5–6 2 presentations	Article Review	100
4	Henslin: chs. 7–8 2 presentations	Discussion Board Forum 2 – Thread and Replies Test 2	70 100
5	Henslin: chs. 9–10 2 presentations	Observation Study/ Annotated Bibliography	90
6	Henslin: ch. 11 1 presentation	Discussion Board Forum 3 – Thread and Replies Test 3	70 100
7	Henslin: ch. 12 1 presentation	Research Paper: Final Submission	120
8	Henslin: chs. 13–14 3 presentations	Test 4	100
TOTAL			1010

NOTE: Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.