



**SOCIAL PROBLEMS**  
**SOC 201 (5 credits)**  
 Chris Portmann  
 cportman@ghc.edu  
 538-4014  
 Homepage <http://ghc.ctc.edu/Socsci/cportmann/>

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Prerequisite: SOC 110 or instructor permission.**

This five-credit course examines social, economic, environmental, and political cases of contemporary social problems. Emphasis is placed upon examining contemporary social problems at international, national, community, and individual levels.

**INTENDED COURSE OUTCOMES & DESIRED ABILITIES**

<b>Intended Course Outcome</b>	<b>Desired Student Ability</b>
Develop an understanding of the sociological perspective.	Disciplinary learning, Literacy, Critical Thinking, Social & Personal responsibility
Develop an understanding of substance abuse,	Critical Thinking, Disciplinary learning
Develop an understanding of the various types and contexts of violence,	Literacy, Using Resources
Develop an understanding of globalization,	Disciplinary learning, Social & Personal responsibility
Develop an understanding of racism, sexism, and ageism,	Disciplinary learning, Critical Thinking
Develop an understanding of family related problems,	Disciplinary learning, Social & Personal responsibility
Develop an understanding of relevant environmental issues, and	Critical Thinking
Develop an understanding of deviance	Disciplinary learning, Social & Personal responsibility

**TEXTS**

TBD

**METHOD OF INSTRUCTION**

Course material will be presented in a discussion format and supplemented by lecture when appropriate. Reading assignments and other relevant issues will be discussed in class. Keep up with the reading assignments! If extra help or any reasonable accommodations are needed, please contact the instructor or the office of Disabled Student Services (538-4068).

**CLASSROOM NORMS**

"Everything we do in a class conveys something about ourselves and our moral values. If we're teaching brilliantly, but in the classroom uncivil behavior occurs and we ignore it, then we're also teaching something else - that those behaviors are permissible. By default, we encourage the behavior" (Gerald Amada in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*).

1. If assessments are missed, there will be no makeup unless prior arrangements were made.
2. Inappropriate language and behavior will not be tolerated.
3. Late work will not be accepted unless prior arrangements were made.
4. Cases of plagiarism and inappropriate behavior will be reported to the Vice President for Student Services.

**METHODS OF EVALUATION – GRADING**

1. There will be a short answer/essay mid-term exam worth 40 points.
2. There will be a short answer/essay final exam (comprehensive) worth 50 points.
3. Ten points for participation.
4. An APA style research paper/project is required; it is worth 50 points. See the Final Project Handout and grading rubric.

The final grade for the course will be based on the percentage of total points.

A	95 to 100 %
A-	94 to 90 %
B+	89 to 87 %
B	86 to 83 %
B-	82 to 80 %
C+	79 to 77 %
C	76 to 73 %
C-	72 to 70 %
D+	69 to 67 %
D	66 to 60 %
F	Below 60 %