

**BELLEVUE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Soc 201**  
**Social Problems (5Cr)**  
(Previously Soc 170, Contemporary Social Problems)



**Quarter & Year:** Fall 2008  
**Sections:** Section B [5853] (T&Th 05:30PM - 07:40PM)  
**Room:** C164  
**Instructor:** Michael Woo, MSW, Ph.D., LICSW, NHA.  
**Office:** B106  
**Office Hours:** T&Th 05:00 to 05:30PM or by appointment  
**Phone:** (425) 564-3317 (leave message)  
**Email:** mwoo@bcc.ctc.edu

**Course Description:** This class focuses on understanding the social-structural basis of, and solutions to some of the contemporary social problems. We will look at issues such as crime, poverty, racism, education, health care, aging and population. This class is intended for the entering student who has limited academic training in sociology.

**Text:** Macionis, John J.. 2008 Social Problems, Prentice Hall: New Jersey

**Course Objectives**

At the conclusion of the course, it is my hope that students will be able to:

1. have a better understanding of sociology as an academic discipline;
2. understand the basic premises of the major sociological perspectives/theories and to apply them to the understanding of social problems;
3. examine the potential solutions to those social problems.

**General Education Ratings**

3 in Critical Thinking, 2 in Reading, 2 in Ethics, 2 in Historical and Intellectual Perspectives, and 3 in Cultural Diversity.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all classes. In order to be eligible for a "D" grade or above, students must have attended at least 80% of all the lecture classes. The instructor may discuss materials that are not covered in the text or make special announcement that are not mentioned in the syllabus.

**Tests and grading policy:** Students' grade will be based on attendance, class participation, performance in the four closed-book in-class examinations and one class project. The break down of the points is as follow:

Examinations	200 points
Project	075 points
Class Participation	025 points
Total	300 points

Each of the four examinations worth 50 points. The examinations are not cumulative. The examination is primarily in the form of multiple choices and essays. Students are expected to take the examinations on the date indicated on the course syllabus, or as announce in class when there is a change. No late papers will be accepted and no make-up examinations will be granted except under extenuating circumstances as determined by the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to ask for official proof if such situation arises. Make-up examinations, if granted, may be in a different format.

Grading Scale (%)*:	≥ 90	= A	65-69 = C
	85-89	= B+	60-64 = C-
	80-85	= B	55-59 = D+
	75-79	= B-	40-54 = D
	70-74	= C+	00-39 = F

\* Based on the percentage of total possible points from examinations and paper.

#### Course Outline

Date	Topic	Text: "Social Problems"	
09/23	Orientation/Introduction		
09/25	Sociological Perspectives	Chap. 1	
09/30	Poverty and Wealth	Chap. 2	
10/02	Aging	Chap. 5	
10/07	Racial and Ethnic Inequality	Chap. 3	
10/09	<u>Exam I</u>		
10/14	Crime and Violence	Chap. 6	
10/16	Gender Inequality	Chap. 4	
10/21	Health Care	Chap. 10	
10/23	Health Care	Chap. 10	
10/28	<u>Exam II</u>		
10/30	Family	Chap. 13	
11/04	Education	Chap. 14	
11/06	Urban Life		
11/11	<u>Exam III</u>	Chap. 15	
11/13	Globalization	Chap. 16	
11/18	Population	Chap. 16	
11/20	Environment & Econ. Development	Chap. 17	
11/25	Technology and Social Change	Chap. 17	
11/27	<i>No Class</i>		
12/02	<i>Presentation</i>		
12/04	<i>Presentation</i>		
12/09	<u>Final Exam</u>		

## PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

### Revised Spring 2008

#### Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing\*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue Community College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue Community College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

#### Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

#### F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

#### Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BCC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

#### Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

#### Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

#### Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the [Disability Resource Centre](#) (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with [Disability Resource Centre](#), and review those needs with the instructor as well.

#### Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BCC Web site.

#### Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

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*\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue Community College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*