

McLennan C O M M U N I T Y C O L L E G E

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

SOCIOLOGY - 1306 - 88

DR. CLAUDETTE JACKSON

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

NOTE: This is a fully Online course.

COVID 19 Notice:

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at <https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html> on any changes to these guidelines.

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Sociology 1306.88 (Online), Fall 2022

Course Description:

Application of sociological principles and theoretical perspectives to major social problems in contemporary society such as inequality, crime and violence, substance abuse, environmental issues, deviance, or family problems.

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

None

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

All course materials for SOCI 1306 can be accessed through our Brightspace course page.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Claudette Jackson

MCC Email: cjackson@mclennan.edu (or use the email link in Brightspace)

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8465

Office Location: Student Services Center 319

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: M-W 8-9am, Th-F 4-5pm or call/email to make an appointment.

Other Instruction Information:

Required Text & Materials:

Title: *Social Problems A Down-to-Earth Approach*

Author: James M. Henslin

Edition: 13th

Publisher: Pearson

ISBN: 978-0-13-516470-9

Revel: As part of the McLennan IncludEd Access program

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/included/index.html>), your textbook is included in the tuition and fees that you pay for this course. You will have access to the textbook from the first day of class.

1. REVEL is an online software that provides an interactive e-textbook. Access to Revel is embedded within Brightspace. I will assign chapter quizzes in Revel as part of your course requirements and grade.
2. You will need access to word processing software. (MCC provides Microsoft Office 365 free to all students: <http://www.mclennan.edu/tech-support/software>). If you use something other than Microsoft Office software, you will need to convert your documents into Rich Text Format (.rtf) or Word format (.doc or .docx). If you are

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submitting something using Google Docs, you will have to give me access before I can open your document.

3. As this is an online course, access to a reliable internet connection is required. If you do not have reliable home internet, you are welcome to come to campus and utilize the wi-fi (and computers). You may also opt for public wi-fi available at restaurants, public libraries, etc.

MCC Bookstore Website: <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Typically, I engage students using a variety of methods that appeal to all learning styles (visual, aural, read/write, and kinesthetic). As a summer course, we have limited time to explore the material with a variety of methods. As such, we I will still try to make this course as engaging as possible.

This course is organized by chapter. All required chapters are available in the Course Schedule section below. Each chapter has a required quiz. You will have unlimited opportunities to take the quiz prior to each weekly due date. The quizzes are not timed. In addition to quizzes, you will be interacting directly with me on your choice of three chapters. Our dialogue will help me gauge your understanding of the material and also serve as an opportunity to engage directly with you and field questions you may have. More instruction on this is provided in Brightspace.

Additional resources such as chapter PowerPoints are provided in Brightspace. Please feel free to utilize this as a study tool. Working ahead is permitted and encouraged.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human. Courses involve the exploration of behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

- **Critical Thinking** -- to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communications Skill** -- to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Empirical & Quantitative Skills** -- to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Social Responsibility** -- to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

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As a transferable course within the state of Texas, this course introduces sociology and social problems and develops specific information and skills about a social scientific approach to social problems. Students successfully completing this course will be able to meet each of these transfer Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

- SLO 1: Describe how the sociological imagination can be used to explain the emergence and implications of contemporary social problems.
- SLO 2: Explain the nature of social problems from at least one sociological perspective, e.g., critical, functional, interpretive, etc.
- SLO 3: Identify multidimensional aspects of social problems including the global, political, economic, and cultural dimensions of social problems.
- SLO 4: Discuss how “solutions” to social problems are often contentious due to diverse values in society.
- SLO 5: Describe how the proposed “solutions” to a social problem, including social policies, may bring rise to other social problems.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Keep in mind that the schedule is **tentative** and subject to change, though you will be given advanced notice of any modifications. Notice is typically in the form of announcements in Brightspace and/or emails to the MCC student email account.

Week Beginning	Chapters	Assignments
August 22, 2022	Chp 1:How Sociologists View Social Problems: The Abortion Dilemma	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Watch the course/expectations video• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by August 28th 10:59pm• Schedule your Discussion Board/Zoom Discussion meetings/times (These should be scheduled between 8/22-11/14) Everyone must schedule by 8/29.
August 29, 2022	Chp 2:Interpreting Social Problems: Aging	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by September 4th 10:59pm
September 5, 2022	Chp 3:Social Problems Related to Sexual Behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by September 12th 10:59pm
September 12, 2022	Chp 4:Alcohol and Other Drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by September 19th 10:59pm
September 19, 2022	Chp 5:Violence in Society: Rape and Murder	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by September 25th 10:59pm

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September 26, 2022	Chp 6: Crime and Criminal Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by October 2nd 10:59pm
October 3, 2022	Chp 7: Economic Problems: Poverty and Wealth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by October 9th 10:59pm
October 10, 2022	Chp8: Racial-Ethnic Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by October 16th 10:59pm
October 17, 2022	Chp 9: Inequalities of Gender and Sexual Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by October 23rd 10:59pm
October 24, 2022	Chp 10: Medical Care: Physical and Mental Illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by October 30th 10:59pm
October 31, 2022	Chp 11: The changing Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by November 6th 10:59pm
November 7, 2022	Chp 12: Urbanization and Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by November 13th 10:59pm
November 14, 2022	Chp 13: The Environmental Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by November 20th 10:59pm• Completion of all Discussion Board/Zoom Discussion Meetings. Due November 14th by 5pm
November 21, 2022	HOLIDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HOLIDAY
November 28, 2022	Chp 14: War, Terrorism, and the Balance of Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read assigned chapter(s) for the week.• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. DUE by December 4th 10:59pm
December 5, 2022	Final Due	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Turn in Social Problems Final DUE December 5th by 5:00pm

Course Grading Information:

In order to assess students' progress in learning the material and to aid in the development of a sociological imagination, the course will include the following:

Chapter Quizzes (10 @ 30 points each)	300 points
Final Project	100 points
Discussion Board/Zoom Discussions (3 @30 points each)	90 points
	490 points

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The grade distribution is as follows:

Points	Percentage	Final Grade
490-441	100% - 90%	A
440-392	89.5% - 80%	B
391-343	79.5% - 70%	C
342-294	69.5% - 50%	D
293 and Below	49.4% and Below	F

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

1. **Is there any extra credit?** No. It is your responsibility to complete assignments on time. By doing so, there is not a need for extra credit.
2. **May I make up missed work?** Generally, No (truly extenuating circumstance will be considered). So, it would be wise to work ahead and stay ahead just in case.
3. **May I turn in my work early?** Absolutely! Any of these assignments may be turned in early! These assignments just cannot be turned in late.
4. **May I email my assignments?** Please pay attention to the method of submitting each assignment. Note: It is very important that you keep an electronic copy of your submitted work. Technical problems happen; keep in mind that your work is your responsibility.
5. **How is my attendance counted?** Your attendance is counted by logging in each week and completing your quizzes on time.

Student Involvement/Attendance: Students are expected to be active participants in the course by logging into the course and interacting with the course's weekly readings, discussions, and graded work. Course involvement is an essential element to the learning experience. It is proven that students learn better and have a tendency to do better in courses if they are involved. If lack of involvement occurs, then this can result in a decline of your overall course grade.

Student Behavioral Expectations:

In this course, we will discuss a variety of topics that require a mature approach. Students are expected to treat everyone with respect. Students are also to understand that disagreeing with the subject matter or peer is ok so long as it done respectfully in an academically appropriate manner.

[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)
<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>

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Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

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ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit <https://www.mclennan.edu/disability/>.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Chief of Staff for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/Title IX) at (254) 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <https://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/incidentLandingPageV2-MCC.asp>.

Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at <https://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/>. It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you

or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>.

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity/> for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy regarding college email, which can be found at <https://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/student-email/>.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support Cheat Sheet](#) or email helpdesk@mclennan.edu.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.