



WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS  
AND  
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**SOCIAL PROBLEMS**

**SOCIOLOGY - 1306 – 0081**

**DR. CLAUDETTE JACKSON**

**NOTE: This is an Online course.**

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**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@mcclennan.edu](mailto:cjackson@mcclennan.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 3-4pm 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.mcclennan.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.

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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 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:**

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

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- **Social Responsibility** -- to include intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

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 Attendance/Participation Guidelines:**

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student’s financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who miss 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

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**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.

**Course Schedule:**

Week Beginning	Chapters	Assignments
<b>August 21</b>	Chp 1:How Sociologists View Social Problems: The Abortion Dilemma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Watch the course/expectations video</li><li>• Read the assigned chapter for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE August 27<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li><li>• Schedule your Zoom Discussion meetings/times (These should be scheduled between 9/4-10/6) <b>Everyone must schedule by 9/1.</b></li></ul>
<b>August 28</b>	Chp 2:Interpreting Social Problems: Aging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE September 3<sup>rd</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>September 4</b>	Chp 3:Social Problems Related to Sexual Behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE September 10<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>September 11</b>	Chp 4:Alcohol and Other Drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE September 17<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>September 18</b>	Chp 5:Violence in Society: Rape and Murder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE September 24<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>September 25</b>	Chp 6:Crime and Criminal Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE October 1<sup>st</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>

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<b>October 2</b>	Chp 7: Economic Problems: Poverty and Wealth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE October 8<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>October 9</b>	Chp 8: Racial-Ethnic Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE October 15<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>October 16</b>	Chp 9: Inequalities of Gender and Sexual Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE October 22<sup>nd</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>October 23</b>	Chp 10: Medical Care: Physical and Mental Illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE October 29<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>October 30</b>	Chp 11: The Changing Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE November 5<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>November 6</b>	Chp 13: The Environmental Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE November 12<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>November 13</b>	Chp 14: War, Terrorism, and the Balance of Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the assigned chapter(s) for the week.</li><li>• Complete assigned chapter quizzes in Revel for the week. <b>DUE November 19<sup>th</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>
<b>November 20</b>	Thanksgiving Week: No Class	
<b>November 27</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Turn in Social Problems Final <b>DUE December 1<sup>st</sup> by 11:59 pm</b></li></ul>

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**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 (13 @ 30 points each)	390 points
Zoom Discussions (2 @ 60 points each)	120 points
Final Project	100 points
	610 points

The grade distribution is as follows:

Points	Percentage	Final Grade
549-610	100% - 90%	A
488-548	89% - 80%	B
427-487	79% - 70%	C
366-426	69% - 60%	D
365 and Below	59% 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.

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**Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

In this course, we will discuss a variety of topics that require a mature approach. Students are expected to treat everyone with respect. Students should understand that disagreeing with the subject matter or peer is ok so long as it is 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>)**

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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Updated 07/18/2023



## **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 [www.mclennan.edu/disability](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability).

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

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu) 2542998122 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 acting Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center 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 <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>. Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at [www.mclennan.edu/titleix/](http://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/>

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email ([ast@mclennan.edu](mailto:ast@mclennan.edu)) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>).

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 either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing [crew@mclennan.edu](mailto:crew@mclennan.edu) or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing [SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu](mailto:SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu). Both are located in the Completion Center located on the second floor of the Student Services Center (SSC) which is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to [https://mclennan.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_07byXd7eB8iTqJg](https://mclennan.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_07byXd7eB8iTqJg). Both the Completion Center and Paulanne's 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](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf).

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Go to [www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity) for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

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

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teachingandlearning/FacultyandStaffCommons/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 (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. 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 [www.mclennan.edu/studentemail](http://www.mclennan.edu/studentemail).

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.