

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: SOC-162: Social Problems

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: Fall 2022

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face to Face

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

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For COVID-19 information please visit <https://camosun.ca/about/covid-19-updates>.

*Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.*

## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

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NAME: Peter Ove

EMAIL: [ovep@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:ovep@camosun.bc.ca)

OFFICE: Paul 226A

HOURS: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00 - 2:00pm (or by appointment)

*As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.*

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

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Poverty, racism, sexism, homophobia, crime, and sustainability are some of the social problems affecting Canada. Students will analyze the way such social problems are constructed and addressed within contemporary Canadian society. Within this context, students will learn to employ a sociological lens to understand the realities and contexts of inequity and inequality both in Canada and the world at large.

### PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

### CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

### EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

Describe significant theoretical perspectives on the study of social problems.

Describe the contexts of a selection of social problems and their effects on Canadian society.

Explain the social, cultural, political, and economic relationships among a selection of social problems.

Apply a sociological lens to the study of social problems to help interpret issues and events in the broader framework of societal structure.

Critically evaluate attempts to address social problems in contemporary Canadian society.

Clearly communicate information about, and perspectives on, social problems in a discipline-appropriate manner.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

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1. Power and Resistance: Critical Thinking about Canadian Social Issues. 2022. Eds. Jessica Antony, Wayne Antony, and Les Samuelson. 7th Ed. Halifax: Fernwood. (Available in the bookstore or online)
2. Additional readings as listed below. (Available for download from the course website)

## COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

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The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	Readings
Sept. 7, 12, and 14	<b>The sociological study of social problems</b>	Chapter 1
Sept. 19 and 21	<b>The critical constructionist approach to social problems</b>	Heiner
Sept. 26 and 28	<b>The contemporary context of social problems</b>	Chapter 2
Oct. 3, 5, and 12	<b>Poverty and Inequality</b> Case studies: Capitalism and poverty; Determinants of health	Chapters 7 and 15
Oct. 17, 19, and 24	<b>Racism and Ethnocentrism</b> Case studies: Anti-Blackness; Immigration	Chapters 5 and 4

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	Readings
Oct. 26	<b>Exam #1</b>	
Oct. 31, Nov. 2, and 7	<b>Assimilation and Colonialism</b> Case studies: Impacts of colonialism; Indigenous rights	Chapters 3 and 6
Nov. 9, 14, 16	<b>Sexism, Homophobia, Transphobia and Cis-Heteropatriarchy</b> Case studies: Sexual assault on campus; Gender and sexual minority youth	Chapter 11 and 13
Nov. 21, 23, and 28	<b>Sustainability and Environmental Collapse</b> Case studies: Climate justice; Corporate food regime	Chapters 10 and 8
Nov. 30, Dec. 5, and 7	<b>Crime and Deviance</b> Case studies: Crime as a social problem; Overdose epidemic	Chapter 14 plus Boyd
Exam Period	<b>Exam #2</b>	

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

## EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<b>Exams</b>	50
<b>Case Study Presentations</b>	30
<b>Participation</b>	20

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<p>Before each of these small group discussions, you must submit a reflection about the course material in preparation for the in-class discussion. More information on this assignment will be provided on the course website. Completing this reflection is a requirement for receiving a group grade for your in-class discussion.</p>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information. <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

## COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

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### Class Attendance

While attendance is not taken every class, attendance over the course is expected, and a significant portion of your grade is linked to your participation in small group discussions. Medical or other legitimate reasons for missing class will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Please contact me directly if you have to miss a class where there is a participation mark (see below for the procedure for missed assignments).

### Missed Exam or Assignment Procedure

If you miss an exam or do not hand in your case study presentation assignment on time and you have a reasonable excuse (illness, accident, family affliction, religious obligations, etc.), please contact me as soon as possible to discuss options to make up your work. If you do not have a reasonable excuse, a missed exam or assignment will receive a grade of zero.

If you miss the in-class group discussion and you have a reasonable excuse, please let me know and your participation in that week's discussion will be waived (it will not count for or against you and the remaining discussions will simply be worth a little more).

Please note: If you do not complete all required work for this course, you may be denied a passing grade.

## SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

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Since I am currently the Chair of Social Sciences, you are welcome to bring up any concerns with the course directly with Dean or Associate Dean of the School of Arts and Science.

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

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Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

## SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

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Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	<a href="http://camosun.ca/advising">http://camosun.ca/advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning">http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="http://camosun.ca/counselling">http://camosun.ca/counselling</a>
Career Services	<a href="http://camosun.ca/coop">http://camosun.ca/coop</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="http://camosun.ca/financialaid">http://camosun.ca/financialaid</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="http://camosun.ca/help-centres">http://camosun.ca/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/indigenous">http://camosun.ca/indigenous</a>
International Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/international/">http://camosun.ca/international/</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="http://camosun.ca/learningskills">http://camosun.ca/learningskills</a>
Library	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/library/">http://camosun.ca/services/library/</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/oss">http://camosun.ca/oss</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="http://camosun.ca/ombuds">http://camosun.ca/ombuds</a>
Registration	<a href="http://camosun.ca/registration">http://camosun.ca/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/its">http://camosun.ca/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="http://camosun.ca/writing-centre">http://camosun.ca/writing-centre</a>

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

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### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course

instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

### Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

### Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

### Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

### Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

### Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

### Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures" (<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

### Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

### Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them

understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/sexual-violence](http://camosun.ca/sexual-violence). To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

### Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

**Changes to this syllabus:** Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.