

	<p><i>School of Arts &amp; Science</i>  <b>SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT</b></p> <p><b>SOC 162-01</b>  <b>Social Problems</b>  <b>2007F</b></p>
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## COURSE OUTLINE

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**The Approved Course Description is available on the web @**  
<http://www.camosun.bc.ca/calendar/current/web/soc.html#SOC162>

Ω *Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only.  
It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.*

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### 1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Dr. Paul Brady		
(b)	Office Hours:	M/W 10:30-12:00/ Tues 5:00-6:00 or by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Paul 334		
(d)	Phone:	3288	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	brady@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

*(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)*

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

1. Critically assess the major theoretical perspectives on social problems.
2. Apply various sociological theories to the analysis of contemporary social problems, to see patterns and processes rather than isolated facts, and to interpret events in the broader framework of societal structure.
3. Demonstrate an ability to think critically and to communicate ideas effectively in writing.

### 3. Required Materials

(a)	Texts	Dianna Kendall, Vicki Nygaard and Edward Thompson, Second Canadian Edition, <i>Social Problems in a Diverse Society</i> . 2004. Pearson Education Canada. ISBN: 13: 978-0-205-48260-3; ISBN:10: 0-205-48260-0
(b)	Other	

## 4. Course Content and Schedule

### TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE IN SEQUENCE

Week 1: Sept 4 Introduction to Social Analysis Read: Chapter 1

Week 2: Sept 11 Wealth and Poverty Read: Chapter 2

Week 3: Sept 18 Wealth and Poverty Read: Chapter 2

Week 4: Sept 25 Racism and Ethnic Inequality Read: Chapters 3  
September 28 Thursday Debate Unit 1: Prepare 3 questions from the article: "Federal tax relief for low income people". [http://www.napo-onap.ca/en/issues/tax\\_cuts.php](http://www.napo-onap.ca/en/issues/tax_cuts.php)

Week 5: Oct 2 Racism and Ethnic Inequality Read: Chapters 3

Week 6: Oct 9 Crime Read: Chapter 9

**Mid Term #1: Thursday October 12 includes chapters 1, 2, 3 and lectures**

Week 7: Oct 16 Crime Read: Chapter 9  
October 19 Thursday Debate Unit 2: Prepare 3 questions from the article: "The Effect of Prison on Criminal Behaviour" [http://ww2.ps-sp.gc.ca/publications/corrections/199911\\_e.asp](http://ww2.ps-sp.gc.ca/publications/corrections/199911_e.asp)

Week 8: Oct 23 Gender Inequality Read: Chapter 4

Week 9: Oct 30 Sexual Orientation Read: Chapter 6

Week 10: Nov 6 Family Read Chapter 11

**Mid Term #2: Thursday November 9 includes chapters 4, 6, 9 and the lectures**

Week 11: Nov 13 Family Read Chapter 11  
November 14 Thursday Debate Unit 3: Prepare 3 questions from the article: "Growing Up to Be Boys"  
<http://www.alternet.org/mediaculture/33801/>

Week 12: Nov 20 Global Problems Read: Chapter 17

Week 13: Nov 27 Can Social Problems be solved? Read: Chapter 18

November 29 Debate Unit 4: Prepare 3 questions from the article: "University tuition fees"  
<http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/040902/d040902a.htm>

Week 14: Dec 4 Final Examination (T.B.A.) includes remaining chapters and lectures

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR DEBATE QUESTIONS

These are classes where students meet in smaller units to discuss questions prepared by each student in the unit based on the assigned readings for that day. You should aim to produce a satisfactory set of questions to enable a fruitful discussion of the assigned reading. Please note that students must complete this assignment working on their own so that duplicate questions are minimized.

Please read carefully:

1. Read the article and record the central points or themes raised by the author(s).
2. Prepare three questions on the central points or themes of the reading(s), which you can pose to students in your unit. Your questions must be genuine questions not statements. Keep your questions concise, use your own words, and avoid quoting directly from the reading. Please note also that you do not have to keep your questions directly focused on the reading but can also create debate questions as a result of applying concepts or ideas from the reading to other areas of social life. For example, a reading may argue that the mass media promotes negative stereotypes about welfare recipients in order to explain their poor living conditions as due to individual problems rather than the result of social inequality and discrimination. Your question could expand on that idea to ask about if any other modern day organizations (police, churches, the state) use that same kind of ideology to legitimate the negative living conditions of others in society (ethnic minorities, women, non-heterosexuals)?
3. Remember to phrase your question in an open-ended format or in such a way as to invite debate. Be careful to AVOID questions:
  - that can be answered with a simple "yes" or "no" (obvious questions; Are there homeless people living in Canada?)
  - that ask what the author(s) wrote (content question)
  - that are the same questions the authors raise
  - that simply ask others if they agree or disagree with what the author(s) have written.
  - that begin with "explain", "compare", "list", "describe", "how", "why", "where", "what", "discuss" or any other questions that ask the respondent to provide you with information or an explanation rather than a debate.
  - that are based on fantasy, stick to the facts of the article, for example; 'If aliens from space invaded would the witch craze still have happened in Europe'? Stick to the historical facts; do not ask what if this had not happened would that still have happened? Remember debate questions lead to the expression of a variety of viewpoints.Your questions should begin with words like "should", "does", "will", "do", "has" "would" or other words that evoke debate. Make sure that you are not simply asking a question that the authors of the article raise but rather create your own debate questions.
4. Make a TYPED COPY of your written questions and bring the original and a copy to class. Your questions are your admission ticket to the debate unit classes. Debate can begin as soon as the groups are formed. Each student in turn should pose a question that is followed by a discussion. The purpose of the debate is NOT to win arguments

but rather to help each other understand the material better and hopefully in an enjoyable manner. It is essential to have a useful exchange of views in which each member of the unit participates fully. You cannot participate meaningfully unless you are prepared. This is why **YOU WILL NOT BE ADMITTED** unless you have prepared your questions. This rule will be strictly enforced to avoid students being unprepared and hindering the efforts of other students. Towards the end of the class, one student from each group will be selected to provide the class with a brief oral summary of your debates.

5. Students will receive a mark out of 5 for each of the three debate units. Grading will be based on the quality of the questions according to the advice given above. In order to be fair to all students the following conduct will be penalized:
  - depositing your questions with the instructor or sending them with another student and not participating in the debates.
  - not attending a debate unit.
  - the late submission of questions without a satisfactory excuse.
  - failing to complete the assignment on your own.
  - having questions that are not typed

### **STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY/ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

There is a Student Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on College web site in the Policy Section. See:

<http://www.camosun.bc.ca/policies/Education-Academic/E-2-Student-Services-&-Support/E-2.5.pdf>

### **TAPE-RECORDING IN THE CLASSROOM**

In order to ensure free and open discussion of controversial ideas by the students, tape-recording of the proceedings is not permitted in the class. Exceptions, however, will be made for students who are visually impaired or are unable to write due to physical disability.

### **PROCEDURE CHANGES**

In order to deal with the day-to-day management of the course, new procedures may be implemented from time to time throughout the semester. Such procedures will be announced in class for two consecutive sessions before they are implemented. It is the responsibility of the student to keep informed of such developments. Official college policies and procedures govern all other matters that are not covered by this course outline.

### **EXAMINATION PROCEDURES**

The dates of the first and second examinations are indicated above. The third examination will be held during the exam week. Students are strongly advised not to make travel plans until after the Christmas final examination schedule is posted. I cannot schedule other examination times for students who make travel plans that disregard the examination schedule set by Camosun College. All examinations must be written in the section of the course in which the student is officially registered. A grade of Zero will be granted for absence during examination, unless the student produces a medical certificate

from a physician (MD) confirming serious illness and writes the substitute exam within the proscribed period after recovery.

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a)	Assignments	Discussion Unit Questions and Attendance	20%
(b)	Quizzes		
(c)	Exams	Mid-term # 1 Thursday October 12 Mid-term # 2 Thursday November 9 Final Examination TBA	25% 25% 30%
(d)	Other (eg, Attendance, Project, Group Work)		

## 6. Grading System

*(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)*

### Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

### Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca) for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.

<b>IP</b>	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3<sup>rd</sup> course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
<b>CW</b>	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

**7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course**

**LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS**

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at [camosun.ca](http://camosun.ca).

**STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY**

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED**