



## COURSE OUTLINE

### Course Description (from calendar)

A critical discussion of the nature of social problems in modern society. Issues at the regional, national and global levels will be analyzed, as chosen by the instructor. Various theoretical approaches will be considered and alternative solutions addressing these issues will be presented.

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only. It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records. You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

### 1. Instructor Information

- (a) Instructor: Dr. Peter Ove
- (b) Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:00pm – 2:00pm or by appointment
- (c) Location: Paul 230
- (d) Phone: 250-370-3369                      Alternative Phone: n/a
- (e) Email: ovej@camosun.ca
- (f) Website: <https://online.camosun.ca/>

### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

**Text:** *Power and Resistance: Critical Thinking about Canadian Social Issues*. 2017. Eds. Wayne Antony, Jessica Antony, and Les Samuelson. 6<sup>th</sup> Ed. Halifax: Fernwood. (available in the bookstore)

**Additional readings:** As listed below and available for download from the course website

### 4. Course Content and Schedule

(subject to change with appropriate notice to students; please check course website for up-to-date information)

TOPIC	READINGS	CLASS	ASSIGNMENTS
<b>The sociological study of social problems</b>	Text: Chapter 1		
	Heiner: pp. 7-12 from <i>Social Problems</i>	Sept. 5, 7, 12, 14, and 19	
	Fleras: pp. 21-29 from <i>Social Problems in Canada</i>		

<b>The contemporary context of social problems</b>	Text: Chapters 8 and 9 Naiman: "Neoliberalism and Globalization" from <i>How Societies Work</i>	Sept. 21, 26, 28, and Oct. 3 and 5	<b>Exam 1: Oct. 10</b>
<b>Poverty and social inequality</b> Case studies: Poverty in Canada; Social determinants of health	Text: Chapters 6 and 7	Oct. 12, 17, 19, and 24	<b>Presentations start: Oct. 19</b>
<b>Racism and ethnocentrism</b> Case studies: First Nations; Canadian immigration	Text: Chapters 3 and 4	Oct. 26, 31, and Nov. 2	
<b>Sexism/homophobia and heteropatriarchy</b> Case studies: Sexual assault on campus; Sexual minority youth	Text: Chapters 11 and 13	Nov. 7, 9, and 16	<b>Exam 2: Nov.14</b>
<b>Sustainability and environmental collapse</b> Case studies: Alberta tar sands; Politics of food	Text: Chapters 10 and 15	Nov. 21, 23 and 28	
<b>Crime and Deviance</b> Case studies: Crime in Canada; Drug use	Text: Chapters 5 and 14	Nov. 30, Dec. 5, and 7	<b>Exam 3: Final exam period</b>

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a) Exams (60%):	There will be three in-class exams; each exam is worth 20% of your final grade. Exams will consist of multiple-choice, short answer, and long answer questions and will test your knowledge of assigned readings and lecture material. The exams will be held at the beginning of class on the dates listed above. More information will be provided in class prior to the first exam.
(b) Case Study Presentations (20%)	<p>Presentation (10%): Twice during the term, you will be required to prepare a summary and assessment of one of the case studies covered in class. You will present this to a small group of students and then facilitate a discussion of the case study. More information on this assignment will be provided in class. Each presentation is worth 5% of your final grade.</p> <p>Participation (10%): You will receive participation marks for taking part in each of the case study discussions (1% each).</p>
(c) Social Problem Discussions (20%)	After each section, you must submit a short discussion on the social problem covered in class. Each discussion will be about 300 words and will focus on ways to address the problem. More information on this assignment will be provided in class. Each discussion is worth 5% of your final grade (your lowest discussion mark will be dropped).

## 6. Grading System

### Missed Assignment Policy

If you miss an exam or presentation or do not hand in a discussion on time and you have a reasonable excuse (illness, accident, family affliction, religious obligations, etc.), please contact me as soon as possible to schedule a make-up assignment or to arrange a new due date for the missed assignment. If you do not have a reasonable excuse, a missed exam or presentation will receive a grade of zero and late discussion will be penalized at 5% per day.

If you do not complete all required work for this course (e exams, presentations, and discussions), you may be denied a passing grade.

### 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.
IP	<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. (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.)
CW	<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 the College web site in the Policy Section.

