



MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

A. SOCI 1103 Social Problems

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course focuses on the nature, dimensions, causes, and characteristics of selected social problems in modern society. The sociological perspective and critical thinking will be emphasized in examining theories, research, and programs for the prevention and reduction of social problems.

MnTC (Goals 5/SS and 9/EC); (3 Cr – 3 lect, 0 lab)

C. *Core Theme: Ethical and Civic Responsibility **Discipline Area (if MnTC): History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

D. RIVERLAND INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course addresses the following Riverland Institutional Learning Outcome(s):

- ILO 1: critical thinking (*Core Theme Goal 2*)
- ILO 2: awareness of the larger global community (*Core Theme Goal 7 or 8*)
- ILO 3: ethical, engaged citizenship (*Core Theme Goal 9 or Goal 10*)
- ILO 4: communication and collaboration (*Discipline Goal 1 and by any learning outcome(s) involving communication or collaboration*)

E. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

- Sociological perspectives in defining and analyzing social problems
- Sociological research to study specific social problems
 - Problems of inequality
 - Social institutions and social problems
 - Other factors contributing to social problems
 - Social problems as a violation of social norms

F. GOAL TYPE, OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

<u>GOAL</u>	<u>OBJECTIVES</u> Students will be able to	<u>OUTCOMES</u> Students will successfully
<u>MnTC Goal 5a</u>	employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.	1. compile a list of sociological methodology and perspectives used to analyze and solve historical and current social problems.
<u>MnTC Goal 5b</u>	examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.	1. demonstrate mastery of social terminology. 2. demonstrate mastery of concepts of the social problems in past and contemporary society in various cultures.
<u>MnTC Goal 5d</u>	use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.	1. compare and critique alternative sociological perspectives in explaining and suggesting solutions for a specific social problem.
<u>MnTC Goal 9b</u>	understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights, and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues.	1. demonstrate an understanding of the conflicts between social responsibility and individual freedom, as well as personal moral responsibility and the law.
<u>MnTC Goal 9c</u>	analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.	1. demonstrate the complexity of solving social problems legally, socially, or scientifically.
<u>MnTC Goal 9d</u>	recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.	1. explain how differing political philosophies can complicate the understanding of social problems and the necessity of compromising and merging the varying perspectives to achieve social progress.
<u>CS</u>	analyze the meaning and types of social problems, critically assess the myths and realities of social problems and examine the nature and various causes of social problems.	1. demonstrate how sociological theories and concepts could reduce the impact of a specific social problem.
<u>CS</u>	understand the social and political nature of social problems and identify programs or develop innovated solutions that may correct or reduce the scope of social problems.	1. develop creative solutions to a current social problem. 2. compare and contrast historical solutions to innovative suggestions.

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION:

This course may require use of the Internet, the submission of electronically prepared documents and the use of a course management software program. Students who have a disability and need accommodations should contact Accessibility Services at the beginning of the semester. This information will be made available in alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or current media, upon request.

H. COURSE CODING INFORMATION:

Course Code A/Class Maximum 48; Letter Grade

Revision date: 07/22/10; 09/01/16; 03/03/26

AASC Approval date: 09/20/16; 03/17/26

*These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Core Themes. Every course in the Riverland Community College curriculum shall meet outcomes from one of these themes.

**These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Disciplines. Riverland’s MnTC courses also shall meet outcomes from a Discipline Area.

NOTE: The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum “10 Goal Areas of Emphasis” are reflected in the five required discipline areas and five core themes noted in the Riverland Community College program of study guide and/or college catalog.

*Riverland Community College Core Themes	MnTC Goal Number
Critical Thinking (CT)	2
Human Diversity (HD)	7A, 7B, 7A/B
Global Perspective (GP)	8
Ethical and Civic Responsibility (EC)	9
People and the Environment (PE)	10

**Riverland Community College Discipline Areas	MnTC Goal Number
Communication (CM)	1
Natural Sciences (NS)	3
Mathematics/Logical Reasoning (MA)	4
History and the Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS)	5
Humanities and Fine Arts (HU)	6