SOCS 1402: Social Problems

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION
   Credits: 3
   Lecture Hours/Week: 3
   Lab Hours/Week: *.*
   OJT Hours/Week: *.*
   Prerequisites: None
   Corequisites: None

   MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 07 - Human Diversity

   This course meets Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) goal areas 5 and 7. This course is an examination of social problems in a global context with emphasis on causes, conditions, consequences, and alternative methods of intervention. Much of the course focuses on a topical problem that students analyze and become actively involved in resolving. Issues may include poverty, racism, sexism, environmental challenges, violence, drug use/abuse, homelessness, physical and sexual abuse, and global issues.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 05/31/2005 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS
   1. Define and understand the historical and theoretical foundation of social problems.
   2. Examine and understand how inequality contributes to social problems.
   3. Examine and understand inequality within social institutions.
   4. Examine and understand social topics through political perspectives.
   5. Examine and understand social topics through primary theoretical perspectives.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)
   1. The learner will understand the political economy of social problems.
   2. The learner will understand problems of inequality, the environment, and location.
   3. The learner will understand how social movements contribute to social change.
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci
1. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
2. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
3. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

Goal 07 - Human Diversity
1. Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
3. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
4. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.
5. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
None noted