

**Core Curriculum
Course Proposal Cover Sheet**

Department	History, Sociology, and Geography and GIS
College	College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Department Head	Dr. Opeyemi Zubair
Course Prefix & Number	SOCI 1306
Course Title	Social Problems
Course Description	Application of sociological principles and theoretical perspectives to major social problems in contemporary society such as inequality, crime and violence, substance abuse, environmental issues, deviance, or family problems.

SOCIAL and BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

FOUNDATIONAL COMPONENT AREA JUSTIFICATION FORM

Rationale: Please provide a rationale for the course which explains how the course being proposed fits into this component based on the component's description. For your convenience, the overall description and rationale for this component are included below.

Social and Behavioral Science (from THECB Chapter 4: 4.28)

- Courses in this category focus on the application of empirical and scientific methods that contribute to the understanding of what makes us human.
- Courses involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture.

The following four Core Objectives must be addressed in each course approved to fulfill this category requirement: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills and Social Responsibility.

- Critical Thinking Skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information;
- Communication Skills: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication;
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Rationale for Inclusion in this Category:

SOCI 1306 Social Problems is an appropriate fit for the Social and Behavioral Science core component area as it provides students with an introduction to the scientific methodologies underlying sociological investigation and the ways in which these methodologies help us understand the causes, impacts, and potential solutions to challenging social problems. Students will examine social problems and the ways in which social and cultural factors help to ameliorate or exacerbate the conditions groups face. These investigations are highly interdisciplinary as the social problems investigated impact a wide range of social institutions and groups. As part of these investigations, students will learn how to effectively interpret social data to make

informed understanding of factors related to social problems and how to effectively communicate this understanding to a wider audience.

The general appropriateness of this course for the Social and Behavioral Science core component area is demonstrated by the fact that this course is currently in the Social and Behavioral Science core component area of thirty-nine colleges and universities in the state of Texas. This course is also part of the Field of Study of both Sociology and Social Work.

Instructions for the Student Learning Outcomes Alignment Form

The core objectives that are listed are those that must be addressed in each course in this category. You can add additional as you wish, however you may not delete any that are listed.

You may choose to use your own student learning objectives for the course as long as they somewhat match those adopted at Tarleton which are those shown. If it is a stretch to see how they fit, they may get rejected.

Make sure the learning activities and means of assessment match the objectives. Perhaps embedded multiple choice questions may not be useable to grade oral communication. If you are going to use a rubric to grade an essay then please include it with your submission.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME ALIGNMENT FORM
Social and Behavioral Science

Course Prefix/Number:

Course Title:

Core Objective: Critical Thinking CT1: Students will be able to evaluate evidence in analysis, interpretation or arguments

Course SLO(s): Students will effectively analyze the sociological factors shaping key social problems.

Learning Activities: Student will develop these skills through the use of classroom lectures, assigned readings, class discussions, and practical assignments.

Means of Assessment: This SLO will be assessed using embedded objective questions and written assignments.

Core Objective: Critical Thinking CT2: Students will be able to synthesize varied components of information to form a rational conclusion.

Course SLO(s): Students will effectively compare and contrast the sociological factors shaping social problems to determine common factors and inputs that connect these problems.

Learning Activities: Student will develop these skills through the use of classroom lectures, assigned readings, class discussions, and practical assignments.

Means of Assessment: This SLO will be assessed using embedded objective questions and written assignments.

Core Objective: Communication C1: Students will express ideas in written, visual or oral forms to a range of diverse audiences in multiple settings.

Course SLO(s): Students will write well-argued, accurate sociological analysis of important social problems.

Learning Activities: Student will develop these skills through the use of classroom lectures, assigned readings, class discussions, and practical assignments.

Means of Assessment: This SLO will be assessed using written assignments.

Core Objective: Empirical and Quantitative Skills EQS1: Students will gather, interpret or use numerical data/observable facts to arrive at an informed conclusion.

Course SLO(s): Students will interpret statistical survey data to accurately identify trends and patterns in social attitudes towards social problems.

Learning Activities: Student will develop these skills through the use of classroom lectures, assigned readings, class discussions, and practical assignments.

Means of Assessment: This SLO will be assessed using embedded objective questions and written assignments.

Core Objective: Social Responsibility SR1: Students will demonstrate an understanding of different cultural perspectives.

Course SLO(s): Students will recognize the disparate impact social problems have on specific groups in society and the different ways in which groups understand social problems as a result of the unique social-historical contexts those groups have experienced.

Learning Activities: Student will develop these skills through the use of classroom lectures, assigned readings, class discussions, and practical assignments.

Means of Assessment: This SLO will be assessed using embedded objective questions and written assignments.

Additional objectives at the discretion of the department.

Core Objective: (

Course SLO(s):

Learning Activities

Means of Assessment

Core Objective:

Course SLO(s):

Learning Activities

Means of Assessment

As department head, I will ensure that all faculty that teach this course are aware of the requirements that these core objectives and learning strategies be incorporated into the above referenced course. This action is taken so that Tarleton State University will be in compliance with Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board foundational component area and core objective requirements for the General Education Core Curriculum.

Signature _____

We, the undersigned faculty, support the proposed changes to this course and agree to incorporate them into our section of the above referenced course. This action is taken so that Tarleton State University will be in compliance with Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board foundational component area and core objective requirements for the General Education Core Curriculum.

(Signed document should be kept in department office, listing names below on the electronic document implies acceptance)