

SOCIAL PROBLEMS: SYG 2010-B51
FALL 2014

Instructor: Joanna Dennis
 Class Meets: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:00 AM - 109:50 AM
 Office Hours: AC2 Room 115
 Room: Academic 1, Arts and Sciences Dept.
 Dept. Office #: (305) 919-5859
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Text: Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Social Issues, 17th Edition, Kurt Finsterbusch

Evaluation: For this course there will be several in class and out of class papers, in class debates, midterm, a final project and final exam. For the final project, you will be required do a presentation on a topic to be announced in class. Presentations are in a group format. Your group's topic must be approved before you begin. Presentations will be at the end of the semester. Details about the project will be announced in class

Grades are determined based on the papers/debates, exams and final project. In addition, attendance, participation & HW will increase or decrease your final grade.

The format of the exams may consist of multiple choice, matching, short answer; fill in the blank, short essays and/or true/false. **There will be no makeup for the midterm or final exam.**

GRADING

Grades are determined as follows:

Midterm	25%
Final	25%
Debates	25%
Final Presentation	25%

Homework, attendance & participation will increase or decrease your final grade.

COURSE SCHEDULE

INTRODUCTION TO COURSE

AUGUST 25

CULTURE AND VALUES

AUGUST 27 – SEPTEMBER 22

September 1, Monday, Labor Day - University Closed

Issue 1	Does the News Media Have a Liberal Bias?
Issue 2	Is Third World Immigration a Threat to America's Way of Life?
Issue 15	Should Biotechnology Be Used to Alter and Enhance Humans?
Issue 17	Should Laws Against Drug Use Remain Restrictive?

GENDER AND AGE STRATIFICATION

SEPTEMBER 24 – OCTOBER 24***

Issue 3	Does Divorce Have Long Term Damaging Effects On Children?
Issue 4	Are Professional Women "Opting Out" of Work by Choice?
Issue 5	Should Same Sex Marriages be Legally Recognized?
Issue 8	Has Feminism Benefited American Society?
Issue 9	Is the Gender Wage Gap justified?

MIDTERM

OCTOBER 27

STRATIFICATION AND SOCIAL CLASS OCTOBER 29 – NOVEMBER 19

- Issue 6 Is increasing Economic Inequality a Serious Problem?
- Issue 10 Is Government Dominated by Big Business?
- Issue 11 Does Capitalism Undermine Democracy?
- Issue 12 Should Government Intervene in a Capitalist Economy?
- Issue 13 Was the Welfare Reform the right Approach to Poverty?

RACE AND ETHNICITY

NOVEMBER 21

- Issue 7 Is America Close to being a Post Racial Society?

CLASS PRESENTATIONS

NOVEMBER 24 - DECEMBER 3

FINAL

DECEMBER 5

Other Topics May Include...

- The Family
- Education
- Religion
- Politics & The State
- Economics And The World Of Work
- Health & Medicine
- Population & Urbanization
- Social Movements & Social Change
- Deviance and Social Control

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