



#### **COURSE SYLLABUS**

Please read the following course syllabus carefully, especially the course dates, times and location. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to communicate with the IDEAL Program office, your academic advisor, or the instructor.

The IDEAL degree-completion program is designed with the adult learner in mind. Adult learners approach learning with specific goals, want to be able to directly apply new learning to their work and personal lives, and tend to learn best when the coursework is problem-centered so that they are actively engaged in the learning process. In addition, adults bring rich and varied experience to the classroom, which becomes a valuable learning resource for other students.

The IDEAL Program assumes joint responsibility in the learning process. The activities and assignments in the courses build on the shared experience of all learners in each class. This is why each student's preparation, participation and interaction in class activities and discussions are critical to the success of each course. The accelerated format of each course requires a significant amount your time outside the classroom to prepare for and complete the course assignments. This varies between students and courses; however, students typically spend nine-twelve hours per week on course material.

To participate in the IDEAL Program, it is expected that you will do the following:

- 1. Attend every class session. Be on time.
- 2. Obtain the required course materials prior to the first class session.
- 3. Complete the first assignment prior to the first class session and all subsequent assignments to the best of your ability.
- 4. Participate in the class discussions and demonstrate respect and consideration to the instructor and other students when they express themselves in discussion.

If you cannot perform these four expectations, it is recommended that you drop the course. We look forward to your academic success in each course and the ultimate completion of your degree.

Course No. & Title: SOC 102 RB3 Social Problems

**Semester and Term**: Summer 2014

**Day and Dates**: Wednesdays, 7/23/2014 – 8/20/2014

**Time**: 6pm − 10pm

Campus Location: Stamford

## **Course Description**:

Analysis of major problems in modern society; existing methods for dealing with these problems.

**Prerequisite Courses: None** 

Course Code: HS-PE, LA, SS, SsC, HSM

## **Instructor & contact information:**

Prof. MaryAnn Gardner

mgardner@bridgeport.edu

### **Required Textbook:**

Leon-Guerrero, Anna. (2013). <u>Social Problems: Community, Policy, and Social Action</u>. 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. SAGE Publications, Inc. ISBN: 9781452205434

To order textbooks, go to the bookstore website at http://bridgeport.textbooktech.com/ Select IDEAL Campus and login to the bookstore. Select the course and follow instructions.

#### **Learning Outcomes**:

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Understand the basic overarching sociological problems involving culture, socialization, and stratification.
- Explain how society functions as a dynamic process in which social structure, institutions, organizations, formal and informal groups are created, maintained and sustained through social interactions.
- Analyze how class, race, and gender impact group and have an affect on social problems.
- Identify theoretical frameworks for analyzing social problems and policies, and critical empirical questions about society and human behavior.

\*I reserve the right to make modifications to the syllabus and assignments should the need to arise.

## **Please READ OVER the entire SYLLABUS!**

## **First Assignment Prior to the First Class:**

Due \* Week 1 - Wednesday 7/23/14

## **Define and discuss the following 11 terms:**

Functionalist Perspective; Conflict Perspective; Feminist Perspective; Interactive Perspective; Absolute poverty; Relative Poverty; The Dream Act; Ethnocentrism; sexism; LGBT; GLSEN 7 Discussion Questions:

- 1. What is the systematic study of individuals, groups, and social structures?
- 2. Who coined the term,
- "Sociological imagination"? What does it mean?
- 3.The concept of the "Social Construction of Reality" was coined and greatly explored by \_\_\_? What does it mean?
- 4. How would you describe a middle- class lifestyle? What are its characteristics housing, vacations, cars, and life style? Estimate what it takes to lead this middle class life?.
- 5. In what ways does your college encourage or celebrate racial and ethnic diversity among students and staff? Consider specific clubs, activities, or events that highlight diversity on your campus?
- 6. How do sociologists explain the wage gap between men and women? Do you think it is possible to reduce or eliminate the gap?
- 7. Define and discuss Ageism. Identify the societal consequences of population aging.

Assignments: \*Description of Weekly Sessions: - All Discussion Question Assignments must be typed, double spaced with a cover page, using APA format and in complete question and answer form.

If you miss a class or leave before the homework assignment is discussed it is your responsibility to get the assignment to me. For **full credit** the homework is due in class on that given **due date**. IF you hand in a homework assignment late, \* 2 Points will be deducted for each day the assignment is late.

## **Description of Weekly Sessions:**

Date	Topic	Assignments
Week 1 7/23/14	READ & REVIEW:	**This is DUE the first week in class!
	Part 1. Social Problems Personal Troubles or Public	Define the following terms:
	Issues. Chapter 1 Sociology and the study of Social Problems	Functionalist Perspective; Conflict Perspective; Feminist Perspective; Interactive
	Part 11. The Bases of Inequality Chapter 2 Social Class and Poverty	Perspective; Absolute poverty; Relative Poverty; The Dream Act; Ethnocentrism; sexism; LGBT; GLSEN
	Chapter 3 Race & Ethnicity	Answer The Discussion Questions:
	Chapter 4 Gender Chapter 5 Sexual Orientation	1. What is the systematic study of individuals, groups, and social structures?
	Chapter 6 Age & Aging	2. Who coined the term, "Sociological imagination"?
		3.The concept of the "Social Construction of Reality" was coined and greatly explored by ?
		4.How would you describe a middle- class lifestyle? What are characteristics — housing, vacations, cars, and life style? Estimate what it takes to lead this middle class life?
		5. In what ways does your college encourage or celebrate racial and ethnic diver among students and staff? Consider specific clubs, activities, or events that

Week 1 -Continued		highlight diversity on your campus?
		6. How do sociologists explain the wage gap between men and women? Do you think it is possible to reduce or eliminate the gap?
		7. Define and discuss Ageism. Identify the societal consequences of population aging.
Week 2 7/30/14	READ & REVIEW	
	Part 111. Our Social Institutions	Define the following terms: Extended families; Elder abuse; Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993;
	<b>Chapter 7 Families</b>	Cohabiting; Social Capital;
	<b>Chapter 8 Education</b>	Stereotype threat; Public School Choice; Underemployment;
	Chapter 9 Work and the Economy	
	Chapter 10 Health and Medicine	
	Chapter 11 The Media	Answer the Discussion Questions:  1. According to the author, political and religious forces uphold and encourage a(n) family form as the standard for what all families should be like.
		2. No-fault divorces were introduced in what year?
		3. What country was specifically mentioned where there is still a strong negative stigma

Week 2 - continued		attached to unwed motherhood.  4. According to the textbook, what are 3 reasons believed to increase the likelihood of child maltreatment?  5. Why and are how are woman disadvantaged in the workforce in both the types of jobs they occupy and their salary level?
Week 3 8/06/14	READ & REVIEW  Part 1V. Our Social And Physical Worlds. Chapter 12 Alcohol and Drug Abuse  Chapter 13 Crime and criminal Justice  Chapter 14 Cities and Suburbs	Define the following terms: Violent crime; juvenile delinquent; white collar crime; cyber crime; crime; Urban Sociology; Human Ecology; migration; immigration; emigration; domestic migration mechanical solidarity; Demography
	Chapter 15 The Environment  Chapter 16 War & Terrorism	Answer the following Questions:  1. What is Drug abuse? 2. What is Drug addiction? 3. Describe alcoholism and the four symptoms associated with it. 4. Is drinking a problem among teens and young adults? Why or Why not? 5. Explain how stereotypes of drug use and abusers influence how specific individuals and groups are labeled abusers and how society responds to them.

Week 4	8/13/14	READ & REVIEW  Part V. Individual Action And social Change  Chapter 17 Social Problems and Social Action	Define the following terms: Reform movements; revolutionary social movements; instruments movements; expressive movements; New social movements; Political Process Model; Cognitive liberation Answer the following Discussion Question:  1.Describe and discuss the two factors social movements are classified by.  2. Describe the Occupy Movement. Would you characterize it as a social movement? Why or why not?
Week 5	8/20/14	Final Project- You will be assigned a social problem Week 1. Please come to class prepared to present your final project.	Final Project  You will have an opportunity to choose a social problem that concerns you. If could change and bring progress to that social problem what would you do to make a positive change?  Do the research!

	Make sure you include	Put your sociological
Week 5	photos, facts and cite your	imagination to work and see
	sources. You can create an 8	where change is possible.
	slide PowerPoint or a photo	
	story video with music in the	
	background and info on	
	slides.	

# **Grading Criteria:**

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	10
1- A4	
ework Assignment	10
ework Assignment	10
•	40
ents are expected to their text to class and ent all projects and ework assignment ions in class. Engage in activities and class ssion. Show up on time	20 100 Points = A  TOTAL = 100 Point = A
	ework Assignment  Project Participation!!  ents are expected to getheir text to class and ent all projects and ework assignment cions in class. Engage in activities and class ssion. Show up on time attend every

## Letter Grading Scale:

% of Points Earned	<b>Letter Grade</b>
100-94	A
93-90	A-
89-87	B+
86-84	В
83-80	B-
79-77	C+

% of Points Earned	<b>Letter Grade</b>
76-74	С
73-70	C-
69-67	D+
66-64	D
63-60	D-
Below 60	F

#### **ACADEMIC POLICIES**

#### **Attendance Policy**

Classroom attendance is an integral part of the academic experience; therefore, students are expected to attend all class sessions. If an absence is unavoidable, the student, prior to class, should communicate with the instructor. Arrangements should be made at that time for submission of any missed assignments. It is also expected that students arrive on time and not leave until the class is dismissed. Tardiness will result in a reduced grade for the course. If you cannot attend every class session you should consider dropping the course.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

- Missing one class session will drop the final grade by one letter grade (for example if a student earns a grade of "B" in the course, the final grade would be a "C").
- Missing two or more class sessions will be cause for a failing grade.
- Note: For 15-week courses; missing two class sessions will result in a letter grade drop and three or more will cause a failing grade.

## **Drop Procedures**

To drop a course, you must complete and submit a Schedule Change Request Form. The form can be accessed at the IDEAL Course Schedule webpage: <a href="http://www.bridgeport.edu/academics/continuinged/ideal-academic-degree-programs-and-certificates/ideal-course-schedule/">http://www.bridgeport.edu/academics/continuinged/ideal-academic-degree-programs-and-certificates/ideal-course-schedule/</a>.

Please print and complete the form and fax the form to the IDEAL Office: 203-576-4537. Prior to dropping a course, the student should contact their IDEAL Academic Advisor to understand the implications to financial aid and/or degree plan progress.

Please review the drop fees and tuition refunds at the Academic Calendar; accessed at the IDEAL Course Schedule webpage (same link above).

#### **Cell Phones**

Cell phones must be turned off (or placed on "vibrate") while in the classroom. A cell phone call is disruptive and disrespectful to the other students in the class.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

The IDEAL program prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is normally defined as, but not limited to, the following two categories:

Cheating – Using inappropriate sources of information in an assignment or on a test. The following are examples of cheating taken from real student experiences:

Case #1: A student is enrolled in an introductory psychology course. He has co-workers who have taken the same course. As the end of the course approaches, he wonders how he will find the time to get the research paper finished, and asks one of his co-workers for help. His co-worker hands him a research paper that he submitted in a

similar course. The student makes minor modifications to the paper, and submits it under his own name.

Case #2: A student enrolled in a humanities course is unsure about how to structure an essay. She is doing research on the World Wide Web, and comes across an essay written by a student from another university. Using her computer mouse, she copies and pastes the essay into her word processor. She goes to great lengths to re-word the paper in her own style, but essentially leaves the content and organization the same.

Plagiarism – Intentional as well as unintentional failure to acknowledge sources as well as the use of commercially available so-called "research papers" without full recognition of the source. Presenting as one's own, the ideas, words, or products of another. The following are examples of plagiarism taken from real student experiences:

Case #3: A student is conducting research for a Civil War research paper. He has reviewed work on the Internet. Finding helpful information, he has summarized his findings without citing his sources. He believes that minor paraphrasing is all that is necessary.

Case #4: A student is writing a paper that requires her to address specific topics and problems in the assigned course textbook. She takes the information directly from the textbook with slight modification, without giving any citation. She thinks that since it is the course textbook, she doesn't have to use quotations or citations.

Academic dishonesty applies to all courses, assignments or exams completed by students and submitted as their own original work, whether in person or by electronic means. The University does not tolerate cheating in any form. It is a serious breach of conduct with serious consequences. Instructors have the right to determine the appropriate penalty for academic dishonesty in their own courses; generally, however, such acts will result in a failing grade for the assignment and/or the course. The penalty for subsequent acts of academic dishonesty may include expulsion.

More information on how to recognize plagiarism can be found at this site: http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/plagiarism\_test.html

## **Ethics Statement of Confidentiality**

An integral component of an IDEAL course is student and faculty expression of personal experiences for the purpose of facilitating coursework. Students enrolled in the program are expected to honor confidentiality as it pertains to student disclosure. Shared information, comments, or opinions expressed by another student or the faculty member during the course of classroom discussion should never be used in a manner which is intended to humiliate, embarrass, harass, damage, or otherwise injure other students in their personal, public, or business lives. In addition, confidentiality must be upheld by not disclosing any information that would identify any particular individual.

#### ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

The Academic Resource Center is available for IDEAL students seeking help in their studies. The Center is staffed by writing professionals and peer tutors. More information can be found at: <a href="http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2209.asp">http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2209.asp</a> The Center is located on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Wahlstrom Library. Make an appointment or walk-in: Telephone: 203-576-4290. **Online** 

**Tutoring** is available at: <a href="https://www.etutoring.org">www.etutoring.org</a>. To use this free service you must have a UBNet account.

## **Obtaining a UBNet Account**

Every registered student should obtain a UBNet Account. The account allows you to access MyUB; the portal for grades, library services, Canvas online learning system. Also, the account allows you access to computers in the Library and computer labs, and provides an email account in which the University sends out information. Go to: <a href="http://www.bridgeport.edu/ubnet-click">http://www.bridgeport.edu/ubnet-click</a> on "New UBNet Account" and follow the instructions.

The @bridgeport.edu email address is the official email the University uses to send information to you. You can have your bridgeport.edu email forwarded to any other private email account you use. Following the activation of your UBNet account (takes 24 hours), login at: <a href="http://www.bridgeport.edu/email">http://www.bridgeport.edu/email</a> and click on "forwards" at the top of the page. Follow the directions to forward email messages to your other account.

## **Learning Management System (LMS) - Canvas**

For all courses that use Canvas, you can access Canvas through the portal by using the myUB link. Faculty post class documents on Canvas e.g. syllabus, power points, discussion questions, case studies, current event articles, papers, reports etc. (save some trees). All students have access, and can download and copy the documents.

Canvas Tutorial For Students: <a href="https://bridgeport.instructure.com/courses/985903">https://bridgeport.instructure.com/courses/985903</a>
For assistance contact the UB Help Desk at 203-576-4606 or email <a href="helpdesk@bridgeport.edu">helpdesk@bridgeport.edu</a>
<a href="https://bridgeport.instructure.com/courses/829447/">https://bridgeport.instructure.com/courses/829447/</a>

## **Accessing Your Grades & Schedule Online**

The WebAdvisor online information system allows students to search for available classes, check grades, view semester class schedule and verify your personal profile. Grades are generally posted 2-3 weeks following the end of a course. To access WebAdvisor, login in to MyUB and follow the WebAdvisor menu on the right. If you are carrying a financial balance, access to WebAdvisor will be restricted.

#### **Using the Library**

Access to the Digital Library is through MyUB. On the MyUB home, in the central column, click on "myEureka Digital Library." Research tools available:

- Search for books held at the library.
- Search the online databases for your academic field; business, counseling, human services, psychology, etc.
- Send questions to the Reference Librarian for assistance in research topics and searching strategy.

#### **Using Computers**

Open access computer labs are available at three locations:

- Bridgeport 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Wahlstrom library. Check library hours of operation at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/library.
- Stamford Room D; Check open hours at: http://www.bridgeport.edu/stamford
- Waterbury Computer Lab; Check open hours at: <a href="http://www.bridgeport.edu/waterbury">http://www.bridgeport.edu/waterbury</a>

#### **Course Cancellations**

Any emergency necessitating the canceling of courses will be announced by the University through the Emergency Notification Telephone Line, (203) 576-4159. Please call this number for information on course cancellations. Also, information will be posted under "Latest News" on the UB home page, (<a href="www.bridgeport.edu">www.bridgeport.edu</a>). Canceled classes will be made up either the week following the end of the course or in consultation between the instructor and the students as to day and time availability. Course cancellations are also announced on television and radio stations.

#### **IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Office	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport Campus Security	(203) 576-4911	ubsecurity@bridgeport.edu
Bursar	(203) 576-4692	bursar@bridgeport.edu
Cashier	(203) 576-4682	cashier@bridgeport.edu
Financial Aid	(203) 576-4568	sfs@bridgeport.edu
Registrar	(203) 576-4635	registrar@bridgeport.edu
Emergency Notification Phone	(203) 576-4159	
IDEAL Office	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu

#### **CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION**

Campus	Address	Telephone	Email
Bridgeport	126 Park Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06604	(203) 576-4800	idealinfo@bridgeport.edu
Stamford	5 Riverbend Drive Stamford, CT 06750	(203) 358-0700	ubstamford@bridgeport.edu
Waterbury	84 Progress Lane Waterbury, CT 06705	(203) 573-8501	ubwaterbury@bridgeport.edu

Directions to IDEAL Campus locations	http://www.bridgeport.edu/pages/2260.asp

To fill out your financial aid report to the Federal Government, please go online to <a href="https://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a>. The school code for the University of Bridgeport is <a href="https://www.fafsa.ed.gov">001416</a>. Federal Student Aid Information: 1-800-433-3243